



# General Catalog

2021

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The Intercultural Institute of California (IIC) is a private non-profit institution accredited by the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA), which is an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education. The Intercultural Institute of California is a private institution that is approved to operate by the Bureau for Private Post Secondary Education. Approval to operate means the institution has met the minimum standards set for by the California Education Code and Title 5, Division 7.5 of the California Code of Regulations

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## MISSION STATEMENT AND PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

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The Intercultural Institute of California (IIC) is a non-profit institution incorporated with the mission of providing post-secondary students with affordable, quality, non-degree extension study programs through establishment of formal curricula and regular faculty. More specifically, these educational programs are designed to fulfill our students' varied learning needs, and to empower them with the necessary skills to understand and communicate with people from different cultures.

Our English as a Second Language (ESL) General English program has been designed with the objective of improving students' knowledge and usage of English in all the major skill areas: reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar, and vocabulary.

Our Business English program has the objective of improving students' knowledge and use of business-related English and of making students more effective at workplace communication.

Our ESL TOEFL program has the objective of improving students' performance on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) through a focus on the test's major components.

Our GRE/GMAT program has the objective of improving students' performance on either the Graduate Records Examination (GRE) and/or the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) through a focus on the test's major components.

## **I. Course Descriptions**

### **1. ESL General English Program**

IIC offers five levels of General English (General English Levels A2 through C2). In General English classes, students focus on learning new grammar structures and reviewing old ones within the context of the four main English skills -- speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Class time will be divided between teacher lectures on grammar structure, practice of those structures within the different skill sets, and engaging in other communicative activities to deepen language learning.

To attain a certificate of completion, students must complete sixteen weeks at a given level, at 18 hours per week for a total of 288 clock hours. They must also pass all the section tests for that level. Below is a description of each level offered.

#### **General English A2 (Pre-Intermediate)**

This course focuses on all major English skill areas: reading, writing, listening, speaking, grammar, and vocabulary. The course aims to raise students' fluency, comprehension, and accuracy in these skill areas. Students will engage with high-elementary level texts, listening, material, conversation, grammar, and vocabulary.

#### **General English B1 (Intermediate)**

This course focuses on all major English skill areas: reading, writing, listening, speaking, grammar, and vocabulary. The course aims to raise students' fluency, comprehension, and accuracy in these skill areas. Students will engage with low-intermediate level texts, listening, material, conversation, grammar, and vocabulary.

#### **General English B2 (High Intermediate)**

This course focuses on all major English skill areas: reading, writing, listening, speaking, grammar, and vocabulary. The course aims to raise students' fluency, comprehension, and accuracy in these skill areas. Students will engage with high-intermediate level texts, listening, material, conversation, grammar, and vocabulary.

#### **General English C1 (Advanced)**

This course focuses on all major English skill areas: reading, writing, listening, speaking, grammar, and vocabulary. The course aims to raise students' fluency, comprehension, and accuracy in these skill areas. Students will engage with low-advanced level texts, listening, material, conversation, grammar, and vocabulary.

#### **General English C2 (High Advanced)**

This course focuses on all major English skill areas: reading, writing, listening, speaking, grammar, and vocabulary. The course aims to raise students' fluency, comprehension, and accuracy in these skill areas. Students will engage with high-advanced level texts, listening, material, conversation, grammar, and vocabulary.

ESL General English classes are held at IIC's Post Building (1362 Post Street) and Bush Building (1610 Bush Street).

## **2. ESL Business English Program**

The Business English Program is designed to give students exposure to English in a business context. Students will practice writing business-related documents, engaging in business-related conversations, and learning vocabulary and grammar that is helpful in a business or workplace environment. Students will be given the opportunity to practice English reading, writing, speaking, and listening in business and workplace contexts, and will be exposed to a range of relevant vocabulary and grammar structures.

There are two levels for the Business English program: Business English Intermediate and Business English Advanced. To be able to enter the IIC Business English program at the Intermediate Level, students must demonstrate an English proficiency level of B2 or higher during their initial placement test.

To be able to enter the IIC Business English program at the Advanced level, students must demonstrate an English proficiency level of C1 as well as previous experience with Business English or completion of the Business English Intermediate Program. Students can demonstrate their prior Business English knowledge by writing a letter of intent along with showing a transcript of prior coursework in Business English at another institution or a resume with work experience related to business.

To attain a certificate of completion for one level, students must complete sixteen weeks in one of IIC's Business English Program, at 18 hours per week, for a total of 288 clock hours. They must also pass all section tests, and show substantial improvement in their practice test scores over the course of this time.

The ESL Business English Program is held at IIC's Post Building (1362 Post Street) and Bush Building (1610 Bush Street).

## **3. ESL TOEFL Preparation Program**

IIC's intensive iBT TOEFL Preparation Program is designed to help students acquire the skills and confidence necessary to achieve a high iBT TOEFL score. IIC students study all four skill areas of the new iBT TOEFL: Speaking, Reading, Writing, and Listening. These skills are designed and instructed to help students acquire a high score within a short period of time. IIC instructors give special emphasis on iBT TOEFL test-taking strategies for the new iBT TOEFL test. Students will learn strategies for tackling the TOEFL iBT and get hands-on experience with real examples that integrate speaking, reading, writing, and listening in the characteristic style of the TOEFL iBT.

To be able to enter the IIC TOEFL Preparation Program, students must have an English proficiency level of B2 or higher during their initial placement test.

To attain a certificate of completion, students must complete sixteen weeks in IIC's TOEFL program, at 18 hours per week, for a total of 288 clock hours. They must also show substantial improvement in their TOEFL practice test scores over the course of this time.

The ESL TOEFL Preparation Program is held at IIC's Post Building (1362 Post Street) and Bush Building (1610 Bush Street).

#### 4. GRE/GMAT

IIC's intensive GRE/GMAT Program is designed to help students acquire the skills they need in order to perform well on the GRE and GMAT tests. Skill areas targeted include reading, writing, and math skills. The course will also focus on test-taking strategies useful for the GRE and GMAT tests. Students will learn strategies for performing well on these tests, and get hands-on experience with real examples that integrate reading, writing, and math in the characteristic style of the GRE and GMAT tests.

The GRE/GMAT Program is held at IIC's Post Building (1362 Post Street) and Bush Building (1610 Bush Street)

#### II. Language Proficiency Scale

The following proficiency scale is used by IIC and is based on the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) scale. Students should use the table below to better understand their English proficiency level.

*IIC Language Proficiency Scale with Interpretation*

<b>CEFR Reference Level</b>	<b>CEFR Scale</b>	<b>Offered at IIC?</b>	<b>Level Title</b>	<b>Descriptors</b>
Basic User	A1	No	Elementary	<p>-Can understand and use very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type</p> <p>-Can introduce him/herself and others. Can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has.</p> <p>-Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly, clearly and is prepared to help.</p> <p>-Can write simple sentences about myself, for example where I live and what I do.</p> <p>-Can very slowly read very short, simple texts by understanding familiar names, words, and basic phrases.</p>
Basic User	A2	Yes	Pre-Intermediate	<p>-Can have short conversations with friends and ask and answer simple questions about familiar topics (e.g., weather, hobbies, pets, music, sports)</p> <p>-Can understand the main points in short newspaper or magazine stories, especially when they are illustrated</p>

				<p>-Can follow the main points of TV news, if people talk slowly and clearly, if the student is familiar with the subject, and if the TV pictures help him or her to understand the story</p> <p>-Can understand short, simple texts on familiar subjects, which consist of high frequency, everyday or job-related language.</p> <p>-Can write about oneself using simple language. For example, information about family, school, work, hobbies.</p>
Independent User	B1	Y	Intermediate	<p>-Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc.</p> <p>-Can deal with most situations likely to arise while traveling in an area where the language is spoken</p> <p>-Can understand simplified versions of novels, and follow the storyline in short stories with a clear structure, with some effort and regular use of a dictionary</p> <p>-Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes, and ambitions, and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.</p> <p>-Can write short, comprehensible connected texts on familiar subjects.</p> <p>-Can understand the main points in straightforward factual texts on subjects of personal or professional interest well enough to talk about them afterward.</p>
Independent User	B2	Y	High Intermediate	<p>-Can understand the main idea of complex texts on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialization</p> <p>-Can interact with native speakers quite easily without strain for either party</p> <p>-Can write at length about topical issues, even though complex concepts may be oversimplified, and can correct many of my mistakes in the process.</p> <p>-Can understand the main ideas of complex speech on concrete and abstract topics delivered in a standard dialect.</p>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Can produce clear, detailed texts on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options</li> </ul>
Proficient User	C1	Y	Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts and recognize implicit meaning</li> <li>-Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions</li> <li>-Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic, and professional purposes</li> <li>-Can understand enough to follow extended speech on abstract and complex topics of academic or vocational relevance.</li> <li>-Can write clear, well-structured texts on complex topics in an appropriate style with good grammatical control.</li> <li>-Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed texts on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organizational patterns, connectors, and cohesive devices</li> </ul>
Proficient User	C2	Y	High Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read.</li> <li>-Can understand any kind of text including those written in a very colloquial style and containing idiomatic expressions or slang.</li> <li>-Can produce written work that shows good organizational structure, with an understanding of the style and content appropriate to the task. Can produce text which is proofread and laid out in accordance with relevant conventions.</li> <li>-Can summarize information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation</li> <li>-Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations</li> </ul>



### III. Tuition and Fees

All fees are subject to change. Tuition covers the cost of all classroom instruction. For all of the programs described above, the tuition charges for an entire educational program (which is 16 weeks to 80 weeks in length) is between \$2000 and \$10000, depending on the course and chosen schedule of payment. Students paying for four weeks at a time pay \$500 for 4 weeks. Students paying for eight weeks at a time pay \$1000 for 8 weeks. Students paying for all sixteen weeks at once pay \$1900 (there is a \$100 discount for students who pay for 16 weeks at once). This information is summarized below:

<u>Payment schedule</u>	<u>Cost per payment period</u>	<u>Total tuition for entire program</u>
Every 4 weeks	\$500	\$2000
Every 8 weeks	\$1000	\$2000
Full 16 weeks  The STRF is \$0.50 per \$1000 collected for the state of California in the list of total charges and fees.	\$1900*	\$1900*

*\*Price reflects a \$100 discount given to students who pay for the full 16-weeks.*

In addition to the tuition charges, students must pay a one-time application fee of \$110 (Non-Refundable), and a \$50 materials fee (Non-Refundable) that is charged every session (every 4 months). Students who are over 5 days late on their tuition payment must pay an additional late fee of \$30. Students whose personal checks bounce must pay a Service Charge for Insufficient Funds of \$50. Also, if a student is STRF-eligible (see "Payment-Related Policies" in the General Policies section below), they must pay an STRF assessment fee (Non-Refundable) amounting to \$0.50 per \$1,000 of institutional charges.

Cashier's check, credit cards, debit cards, money order, or first-party personal check (California only and written for the exact amount owed) will be accepted as payment.

A student who refers a new student will be given a \$50 gift card (per referral). Students can refer up to 3 students per academic session.

### IV. Admissions Policy

Students applying must be 18 years old or older, and must complete an application form either online or in-person at the school and submit a copy of their high school diploma, or equivalent, or higher diploma. If this is unavailable then the student must take an ability-to-benefit test (CELSA test). Students must score 95 to be eligible to apply to the Intercultural Institute of California.

If the student is an international student holding an F-1 visa, they must submit to us all relevant documents required by U.S. law, i.e. a copy of their passport and a copy of their latest bank statement dated within the last three months (or, if they have a sponsor, a certificate of sponsorship filled out by the sponsor along with the

sponsor's bank statement dated within the last three months). F-1 students applying from another school must also submit a copy of their former school's I-20 form.

Students applying to the IIC must possess a basic knowledge of English (e.g. know the English alphabet, understand basic greetings, ask basic questions, etc.). Students should be aware of the following:

- a. Our ESL General English Program has five levels: Levels A2 – C2. We cannot accommodate students who are at Level A1. Students whose English is extremely low (e.g. without knowledge of the English alphabet) should consider applying to another school.
- b. Only students who test into Level B2 or higher on our initial placement exams are eligible to study in our ESL TOEFL program or ESL Business English program. Students who place into Level A2 or B1 are only eligible to study in our ESL General English program.

Please note that IIC has not entered into any articulation or transfer agreement with any other academic institution regarding acceptance of credits earned. IIC does not accept credits earned at other institutions as a replacement for taking our placement test, nor is there any guarantee that other institutions will accept credits earned at our school as a basis for admissions or exemption from required classes.

## **V. ESL Faculty**

All ESL Instructors employed by IIC hold either a bachelor's degree and a certificate in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)/CELTA (Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults)/TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language), OR a master's degree or higher in TESOL (or closely related field). Our current roster of ESL instructors (which is subject to periodic change) consists of:

**Stephen Argilla**, M.A. Theological Studies, B.A. Business Management, TESOL Certificate

**Raina Levesque**, Ph.D. French, M.A. TESOL, B.A. English

**Paul Reynolds**, M.S. Analytical Politics, B.A. Political Science, TESOL Certificate

**Niki Smith**, B.A. English, CELTA Certificate

**Rose Tang**, B.A. English Literature & Art History, TESOL Certificate

**Jeannine Toussaint-Caron**, M.A. Gerontology, B.A. Art, TESOL Certificate

**Briana Wall**, M.A. Education, B.A. English, TEFL Certificate

**Michelle Walsh**, M.A. TESOL, B.A. History

**Jason Warren**, M.A. TESOL, B.A. Business Management

**Melinda Wright**, M.A. TESOL *in progress*, B.A. English, TESOL Certificate

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## GENERAL POLICIES

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### **Course Schedules**

A schedule of all courses currently offered is available to students in paper format from the reception, and online on the school's website.

### **Policies on enrollment and registration**

Course registration and enrollment occur after the student has taken the placement test and the student's program and level have been determined by the Academic Director.

The first step is for the Administrative Staff to register the student on IIC's student database system into the appropriate level or program, so the student's name will show up on the class attendance roster.

The second step is for the student to be issued an enrollment agreement and school performance fact sheet by the Administrative Staff and asked to receive the initial receipt of the School Performance Fact Sheet and sign and date the enrollment agreement. These documents are filed in the student's physical file. Students who do not understand the terms and conditions of the Intercultural Institute of California's enrollment agreement have the right to request an individual from the institution to explain the terms and conditions of the enrollment agreement in their native language.

The third step, once the student is registered for classes and has signed the enrollment agreement, is for the school's DSO to register the student's record on the SEVIS database, and update the student's address and course session dates.

### **Standards of Student Achievement**

IIC keeps track of student achievement through the use of periodic testing. The curriculum for each of our programs is divided up into sections, and students are expected to pass each "section test" in order to ultimately receive a certificate of completion. Students who underperform on the tests and do not receive a certificate of completion are allowed to repeat the program one more time.

### **Student's Right to Cancel**

The student has the right to cancel under which it is explained that the student has the right to cancel the enrollment agreement and obtain a refund of charges (less application fee) paid through attendance at the first class session, or the seventh day after the enrollment, whichever is later.

### **Withdrawals, Cancellations, and Refunds**

Students may cancel their enrollment agreement with IIC and obtain 100% of the amount paid less the application fee and any non-refundable fees (not to exceed \$250) if the cancellation is made through

attendance at the first day of class, or the seventh day after enrollment, whichever is later. After that time, a student may apply for a partial (pro-rated) refund up until they have completed 60% of their payment block. After 60% of the student's payment block is completed, no refunds will be given.

To cancel their enrollment agreement, students must submit a refund request in writing, which can be done via IIC's Refund Request form available at the Reception in the Bush Building. IIC will pay refunds within 45 days of a student's cancellation or withdrawal.

#### Calculating the pro-rated tuition refund

IIC calculates the refund amount by following these steps:

The total amount owed to the student is equal to the daily charge for the program (total institutional charge divided by the number of days in the program), multiplied by the number of days the student attended (or was scheduled to attend) before withdrawing from the program. For example, for IIC's 4-day schedule, the daily charge is \$31.25 (\$500 divided by 16). If the student attended only two weeks and paid \$500, the total refund will be \$250. This same calculation is applied to the discounted 16 weeks tuition (\$1,900 for the 4-Day schedule) where the daily charge is \$29.68, which is then multiplied by the number of days not attended and this same method of calculation is applied to the refunds for the 2-day schedule costs.

### **Probation and Dismissal Policies**

Students who are over two weeks late on their tuition payment, or who engage in minor forms of misconduct (e.g. cheating on a test, being overly disruptive in class, making rude remarks to fellow classmates) will be placed on probation for 14 days. Students on probation will find themselves under increased scrutiny by teachers and administrators. Any repeat signs of misconduct will be considered grounds for dismissal. Students who are over 30 days late on their tuition payment, or who engage in more serious forms of misconduct (e.g. vandalism, violence against students or staff, sexual harassment) will be immediately dismissed from the institution and may face investigation by law enforcement officials, depending on the type and severity of the misconduct.

### **Attendance Policies**

All of our students are encouraged to maintain full attendance during the course of their program of study. Students who are absent from school without a valid excuse for any prolonged period of time will be withdrawn from the school. If a student's cumulative attendance rate falls below 80%, they will receive a first warning letter. If the student's cumulative attendance rate remains below 80% after this first warning, they will receive a second warning letter. If after this second warning, the student's cumulative attendance rate still remains below 80%, they will receive a third warning letter. If after this third warning, the student's cumulative attendance rate still remains below 80%, they will be dismissed from IIC. Students who have a valid excuse for being absent from class (e.g. to visit a doctor) will be excused for their absence if they present adequate proof to the program coordinator (e.g. a signed doctor's note).

### **Leave of Absence Policies**

Students who have a valid medical excuse can request a leave of absence from the school, provided they are able to provide adequate proof from medical authorities. In certain extreme non-medically related cases, e.g. the death of a close relative, a short leave of absence may be granted by the DSO, depending on the

circumstances.

### **Payment-Related Policies**

Please note that the Intercultural Institute of California does not participate in any federal or state financial aid programs.

Please also note that if a student obtains a loan to pay for their educational program, the student will have to repay the full amount of the loan plus interest, less the amount of any refund. If the student receives federal student financial aid funds, the student is entitled to a refund of the money not paid from federal financial aid funds.

Finally, please read the following important information regarding the Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF).

### **Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF)**

(a) The State of California established the Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) to relieve or mitigate economic loss suffered by a student in an educational program at a qualifying institution, who is or was a California resident while enrolled, or was enrolled in a residency program, if the student enrolled in the institution, prepaid tuition, and suffered an economic loss. Unless relieved of the obligation to do so, you must pay the state-imposed assessment for the STRF, or it must be paid on your behalf, if you are a student in an educational program, who is a California resident, or are enrolled in a residency program, and prepay all or part of your tuition. You are not eligible for protection from the STRF and you are not required to pay the STRF assessment, if you are not a California resident, or are not enrolled in a residency program. You may download a STRF claim application by visiting our website <http://www.bppe.ca.gov/applications/strf.pdf>.

It is important that you keep copies of your enrollment agreement, financial aid documents, receipts, or any other information that documents the amount paid to the school. Questions regarding the STRF may be directed to the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education at 1747 N Market Blvd, Suite 225, Sacramento, CA 95834 (mailing address: P.O. Box 980818, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818), [www.bppe.ca.gov](http://www.bppe.ca.gov), (916) 574-8900, toll-free telephone number (888) 370-7589 or by fax (916) 263-1897.

To be eligible for STRF, you must be a California resident or enrolled in a residency program, prepaid tuition, paid or deemed to have paid the STRF assessment, and suffered an economic loss as a result of any of the following:

1. The institution, a location of the institution, or an educational program offered by the institution was closed or discontinued, and you did not choose to participate in a teach-out plan approved by the Bureau or did not complete a chosen teach-out plan approved by the Bureau.
2. You were enrolled at an institution or a location of the institution within the 120 day period before the closure of the institution or location of the institution, or were enrolled in an educational program within the 120 day period before the program was discontinued.
3. You were enrolled at an institution or a location of the institution more than 120 days before the closure of the institution or location of the institution, in an educational program offered by the institution as to which the Bureau determined there was a significant decline in the quality or value of the program more than 120 days before closure.

4. The institution has been ordered to pay a refund by the Bureau but has failed to do so.
5. The institution has failed to pay or reimburse loan proceeds under a federal student loan program as required by law, or has failed to pay or reimburse proceeds received by the institution in excess of tuition and other costs.
6. You have been awarded restitution, a refund, or other monetary award by an arbitrator or court, based on a violation of this chapter by an institution or representative of an institution, but have been unable to collect the award from the institution.
7. You sought legal counsel that resulted in the cancellation of one or more of your student loans and have an invoice for services rendered and evidence of the cancellation of the student loan or loans.

To qualify for STRF reimbursement, the application must be received within four (4) years from the date of the action or event that made the student eligible for recovery from STRF.

A student whose loan is revived by a loan holder or debt collector after a period of non-collection may, at any time, file a written application for recovery from STRF for the debt that would have otherwise been eligible for recovery. If it has been more than four (4) years since the action or event that made the student eligible, the student must have filed a written application for recovery within the original four (4) year period, unless the period has been extended by another act of law.

However, no claim can be paid to any student without a social security number or a taxpayer identification number.

### **Facilities and Equipment**

IIC provides students with the facilities and equipment necessary to support their learning. The school has more than seven classrooms, two computer rooms, a lounge area, and a cafeteria space. Equipment used for educational purposes includes TVs, stereos, and wireless Internet capability to support streaming audio or video, as well as standard whiteboards, arrangeable tables, and comfortable chairs.

### **Student Library**

IIC has a range of books (mainly fiction, with some nonfiction as well) available onsite between the hours of 9am to 5pm Monday through Friday for student perusal and use. Students interested in borrowing a book from the school should approach the receptionist or administrative staff, who will ask them to write their name and date on a sign-out sheet.

### **Student Services**

IIC's student services include the following:

- Open-door counseling on visas and related matters
- Recommendations for housing & health insurance
- Weekly student newsletter
- School community Facebook page & blog

On occasion, IIC may provide additional services, such as recreational outings and holiday parties.

## **Housing**

### **IIC does not have any dormitory facilities and is not responsible for finding housing for students.**

However, IIC can recommend housing options to interested students. Students should ask the International Student Coordinator for the list of recommendations. The area surrounding IIC's facilities includes apartment housing as well as hotels offering long-term stay rates. The cost of housing in San Francisco varies from neighborhood to neighborhood; however, students should expect to pay at least \$1000-1500 per month for housing options in the area.

## **Visas and Related Issues**

IIC is authorized by the federal government to issue the I-20 form to prospective international students interested in obtaining a F-1 visa. Prospective international students who receive an I-20 from IIC must then apply for a F-1 visa from a U.S. consulate or embassy. Other than issuing the prospective student an I-20, the school cannot assist an overseas student in any other way in applying for an F-1 visa. Once an international student has been granted a F-1 visa and has entered the U.S., IIC offers open-door counseling to students free of charge on visa-related matters (e.g. explaining how to extend one's I-20, explaining the required procedures for students temporarily leaving the country). For prospective students who are already in the U.S. and do not have a F-1 visa but are interested in changing their status to an F-1 status, IIC recommends students to work closely with an immigration lawyer to assist the student with the change of status process. IIC only creates an I-20 for the change of status process. IIC does not help students with the change of status process.

## **International Student English and Foreign Language Requirements**

English language services are provided to all international students who place at the A2 English Level or above. No documentation of English language proficiency (e.g. TOEFL test score) is required for admission. Instead, students will be required to take two English language proficiency exams provided by IIC prior to enrolling in courses.

## **Policy on Award of Credit for Prior Experiential Learning**

IIC does not award credit to students for prior experiential learning.

## **Policy on Financial Aid**

IIC does not offer students financial aid, and does not participate in federal or state financial aid programs.

## **Students Rights**

IIC students have the right to access and review their academic records, and to request deletions or corrections to ensure:

- Fair and effective teaching and grading as outlined in the course descriptions
- Due process and an impartial hearing in any disciplinary matter
- Information privacy

IIC students also have the right to the release of their records as per the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

IIC students can request access to their files by sending a written request to the Academic Director.

### **Student Grievance Procedures**

If you believe you have been treated inappropriately by the administration or an IIC employee, or if you are dissatisfied with the quality of the schools' facilities or services, or if you are dissatisfied with your teacher or your class, you can submit a complaint. Please note all complaints are treated confidentially.

*IIC's definition of a formal complaint is an expression of dissatisfaction by one or more students of an institution's action or lack of action, or about the standard of service provided by the institution.*

#### Step One: Informal route

The first step, if you have a problem or issue, is to try to resolve the issue informally by talking to the person who is causing the issue and to try to find a satisfactory solution. You can ask the Academic Director to help you with this. They can also act as a go-between on your behalf if you do not wish to talk directly to the person involved. If you feel uncomfortable with this staff member, the student may approach other Administrative Staff, such as the International Student Coordinator. Informal or oral complaints will be dealt with immediately or as soon as possible. If you are still dissatisfied you can submit a formal complaint.

#### Step Two: Formal Complaint

You can submit a formal complaint by completing our complaints form. You can obtain a complaint form from the front desk in the Bush Building. This complaint form will go directly to the Academic Director. Formal written complaints will normally be dealt with within two weeks of submission.

### **Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE) Complaint Procedure**

A student or any member of the public may file a complaint about this institution with the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education by calling (888) 370-7589 toll-free or by completing a complaint form, which can be obtained on the bureau's internet web site [www.bppe.ca.gov](http://www.bppe.ca.gov).

### **Commission on English Language Program Accreditation Complaint Procedure**

A complaint can also be filed with our accrediting body (CEA) by following the following procedure.

#### **Filing a Complaint against a CEA Accredited Program**

A program or institution that is accredited by the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation must continue to meet the *CEA Standards for English Language Programs and Institutions* throughout its period of accreditation. To ensure such compliance, CEA offers the public the opportunity to report any evidence that the standards are not being met.

#### **Why file:**



- An accredited program must continue to meet the *CEA Standards*. Complaints may be filed for non-compliance.
- An accredited program must report any substantive change that affects its eligibility for accreditation. Complaints may be filed for failure to report substantive change.

#### **Who may file:**

Students, faculty members, staff members, and others outside the program who may have knowledge of an alleged failure by an accredited program to maintain the *CEA Standards*, may file.

#### **How to file:**

An accredited site must have a copy of the *CEA Standards* available for public view. If you have a concern, ask the site for a copy.

- Complaints for non-compliance of the *CEA Standards* must be written and contain the name and address of the complainant, must refer to a specific standard, and must document the nature of the non-compliance.
- Complaints for failure to report a substantive change must be written and contain the name and address of the complainant and should explain how, in process or content, the program has substantially changed from when it was accredited.

#### **Adjudication of complaints:**

CEA sends a copy of the complaint, without the name of the complainant, to the program for response. The complaint is adjudicated by the CEA Standards Compliance Committee, which reviews the complaint and the program's response. Complaints may be mailed or emailed to the address below. If you have questions, please contact CEA.

Commission on English Language Program Accreditation  
801 North Fairfax Street, Suite 402A, Alexandria, VA 22314  
703.519.2070

#### **Records Policy**

IIC keeps students' records onsite for a period of five years. Student transcripts are kept permanently.

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2021

Date	Holiday / School Break / School Event	Day of the week
January 4 <sup>th</sup>	Session 1 Begins	Monday
<b>January 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Martin Luther King Day (School Closed)</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>February 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Washington's Birthday (School Closed)</b>	<b>Monday</b>
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	End-of-Session Potluck Party (Oakland)	Tuesday
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	End-of-Session Potluck Party (San Francisco)	Wednesday
<b>April 26 - April 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Spring Break (School Closed)</b>	<b>1 Week</b>
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Session 2 Instruction Begins	Monday
<b>May 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Memorial Day (School Closed)</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>July 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Independence Day (School Closed)</b>	<b>Monday</b>
August 17 <sup>th</sup>	End-of-Session Potluck Party (Oakland)	Tuesday
August 18 <sup>th</sup>	End-of-Session Potluck Party (San Francisco)	Wednesday
<b>August 23<sup>rd</sup> - August 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Fall Break (School Closed)</b>	<b>1 Week</b>
August 30 <sup>th</sup>	Session 3 Begins	Monday
<b>September 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Labor Day (School Closed)</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>October 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Columbus Day (School Closed)</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>November 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Veterans Day (School Closed)</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
<b>November 25<sup>th</sup> - November 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break (School Closed)</b>	<b>Thursday - Friday</b>
December 14 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Party (Oakland)	Tuesday
December 15 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Party (San Francisco)	Wednesday
<b>Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Winter Break (School Closed)</b>	<b>2 Weeks</b>
January 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Session 1 2022 Instruction Begins	Monday

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## GOVERNANCE

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### **Executive Board of Directors**

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Chair – Korina Park  
Vice-Chair – Dr. Brad Williams, MD  
Treasurer – Christy Ahn, MBA  
Secretary – Phil Kang, MA

### **IIC Advisory Board**

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Dr. Brad Williams, MD  
Korina Park  
Sedique Popal, EdD  
Philip Kang, MA  
Sylvia Lee, EdD  
Eun-Joo Chang

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## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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David Fasold, PhD, Executive Director  
Lina Jurkunas, MA, Academic Director  
Ricardo Alves, International Student Coordinator  
Iuliia Tsydenova, Administrative Assistant

NOTICE CONCERNING TRANSFERABILITY OF CREDITS AND  
CREDENTIALS EARNED AT OUR INSTITUTION

The transferability of credits you earn at the Intercultural Institute of California is at the complete discretion of an institution to which you may seek to transfer. Acceptance of the certificate you earn in the Educational Program is also at the complete discretion of the institution to which you may seek to transfer. If the certificate that you earn at this institution is not accepted at the institution to which you seek to transfer, you may be required to repeat some or all of your coursework at that institution. For this reason you should make certain that your attendance at this institution will meet your educational goals. This may include contacting an institution to which you may seek to transfer after attending the Intercultural Institute of California to determine if your certificate will transfer.

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Please note that our institution updates its catalog annually and information within this catalog is subject to change.

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Please note that our institution does not provide any placement services.

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Please note that our institute does not offer distance education.

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The Intercultural Institute of California has no pending petition in bankruptcy. The Intercultural Institute of California is not operating as a debtor in possession. The Intercultural Institute of California has not filed a petition within the preceding five years, nor has had a petition in bankruptcy filed against it within the preceding five years that resulted in reorganization under chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code.

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This catalog and the institute's brochure are available on our web site at <https://iicesl.org/terms-policies/>. A copy of the institute's most recent annual report, school performance fact sheet, and a link to the bureau's Internet web site are available at <https://iicesl.org/terms-policies/>. These are also made available to prospective students and the general public by request at the institute.

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As a prospective student, you are encouraged to review this catalog prior to signing an enrollment agreement. You are also encouraged to review the school performance fact sheet, which must be provided to you prior to signing an enrollment agreement.

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A student or any member of the public may file a complaint about this institution with the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education by calling (888) 370-7589 toll-free or by completing a complaint form, which can be obtained on the bureau's internet web site [www.bppe.ca.gov](http://www.bppe.ca.gov).

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Any questions a student may have regarding this catalog that have not been satisfactorily answered by the institution may be directed to the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education at 1747 N Market Blvd, Suite 225, Sacramento, CA 95834 (mailing address: P.O. Box 980818, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818), [www.bppe.ca.gov](http://www.bppe.ca.gov), (916) 574-8900, toll-free telephone number (888) 370-7589 or by fax (916) 263-1897.