



Volunteer opportunities to help Newcomers improve their English skills at Mosaic:

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with Mosaic Newcomer Family Resource Network. Your contribution of time and expertise is valued by our agency. We want to ensure that your experience volunteering with us is beneficial for us and for you, and that we meet your expectations. Please look over the information below. We think you will find it helpful as you begin your volunteer work with us.

Volunteering is a great way to meet new people, gain new skills and work experience, and make a difference in the community. We offer a variety of fun and rewarding opportunities to teach English to Newcomers, depending on your availability, preferences and background.



Classroom Volunteers:

Most of our volunteers are classroom volunteers.

Classroom Volunteers are important to our students because they can help to differentiate instruction so stronger and weaker students can both learn at a level or pace that is right for them. Volunteers serve as cultural role models. When volunteers are in the classroom, students will develop a sense of the importance that our society places on volunteering.

How will I be asked to help in a Mosaic ESL classroom? Our teachers will guide you in the classroom. The teacher prepares each lesson and will let you know how they want you to help. Here are some examples of the things you may be asked to do:

- Pass out papers and distribute materials,
- Sit at a particular table with a group to help them with conversation or other activity,
- Work with two or three students to help them with a writing activity or worksheet, -
- Read with students individually, -
- Float around the room helping students with their writing, spelling or other work as needed,
- Assist with filing assessments in binders,
- Help create materials (cutting, laminating etc.)

Qualifications & Skills:

- Interest in adult education
- Friendly and approachable
- Experience teaching or interacting with newcomers to Canada is an asset

Starting February 2025 we would like to offer additional online volunteer opportunities:



Online Conversation Circle Facilitator

Mosaic is looking for volunteers to lead online conversation classes for adult newcomers.

As a conversation circle facilitator, you provide a group of immigrants (5-10 people) with opportunities such as:

- To practice speaking English in a casual and stress-free environment
- Deepening their understanding of Canadian culture and workplaces
- A diverse learning environment

Clients are assigned to 'Circles' based on their CLB level. Teaching experience is not required. Successful candidates will receive training in best teaching practices for adult newcomers, using virtual tools and cultural sensitivity.

Qualifications & Skills:

- Interest in adult education
- Friendly and approachable
- Comfortable using a computer to conduct online classes
- Experience teaching or interacting with newcomers to Canada is an asset

Responsibilities:

- Plan and facilitate conversation-based lessons for multi-level learners (lesson materials will be provided)
- Engage and encourage participation from students
- Listen actively and ask relevant questions
- Provide a safe, inclusive atmosphere for learners to practice their English
- Applicants must commit to at least three 1-hour conversation circles in the 8-week period. Scheduling is flexible and done on a first-come, first-serve basis.



One-on-one Online Language Partner

As an online Language Partner, you will be matched with a newcomer student to practice spoken English or any other language skill the student would like to focus on, for example reading. Participating students can have lower or higher English levels and are matched according to the wishes of the volunteer. Both students

and volunteers benefit from sharing about cultures and making connections.

As a language partner you must commit to at least 8 online meetings with your mentee.

In one-one-one sessions, you will:

- Facilitate speaking English in a casual and stress-free environment
- Help your mentee practice specific language skills they wish to work on

Qualifications & Skills:

- Fluent in written and spoken English
- Friendly and open to meeting new people
- Comfortable using a computer to conduct online virtual meetings

Responsibilities:

- Be responsive to the needs of the mentee
- Manage their time and coordinate their own meeting schedules



Online Language Facilitator

As an Online Language Facilitator, you will provide a group of immigrants (5-10 people) with language training focusing on specific language skills such as grammar or writing. Participants will have CLB 3 and up.

You will be responsible for:

- Addressing specific language related questions
- Deepening their understanding of the English Language

Qualifications & Skills:

- Teaching or tutoring experience
- Comfortable using a computer to conduct online classes
- TESL Certificate (or equivalent) is an asset

Responsibilities:

- Plan and facilitate level-appropriate skills-based lessons (materials provided)
- Engage and encourage participation from students
- Listen actively and ask relevant questions
- Provide a safe, inclusive atmosphere for learners to practice their English
- Applicants must commit to teaching at least eight 1-hour online classes

This is our Volunteer Application Process:

Requirements:

- Valid criminal record check (6 months or newer)
- Intake interview with our volunteer coordinator
- Must sign Mosaic's Respect & Confidentiality Agreement

Step 1

Fill out the online volunteer application form.
Wait for our phone call and/or email!

Step 2

After a successful phone interview, you can now apply for a criminal record check (if required).

Step 3

Once we receive your criminal record check, we will schedule an in-person or virtual interview to go over the best placement for you.

Time Commitment

- **Conversation Circle Facilitator:** Applicants must commit to at least three 1-hour conversation circles in the 8-week period. Scheduling is flexible and done on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- **One-on-One Language Partner:** Applicants must commit to at least 8 sessions with their mentee. Scheduling can be flexible.
- **Language Facilitator:** Applicants must commit to at least eight 1-hour sessions and completion of Mosaic's asynchronous, online volunteer training course.