



## ***EnglishUSA, TESOL International Association and UCIEP Response to the Formation of the U.S. for Success Coalition and a Coordinated Approach to International Education (12/8/2023)***

On behalf of the English language program industry and our members, our three associations believe the launch of the U.S. for Success Coalition is a step forward in the longstanding call for a coordinated approach to international education. The Coalition recognizes that if the U.S. is to remain the top international study destination, we must do more to attract a greater and more diverse population of international students and ensure their success.

The Coalition will work in collaboration with the U.S. government, higher education institutions, the business sector, and other key partners to foster supportive federal policies and practices that allow the U.S. to compete and cooperate effectively on the global stage. America's share of international students is declining, while other countries with more favorable visa and immigration policies are increasingly attracting more students. An [example of this trend](#) is that the U.S. has fallen to the third most popular English Language Training (ELT) destination globally as other ELT countries gained market share. In terms of student weeks, the U.S.'s market share as an ELT destination has declined from 31% in 2015 to 23% in 2019 and further down to 19% in 2022 (Bonard, 2023). The global market for all international students, including ELT students, is more competitive than ever, which underscores the need for coordinated U.S. action.

English Language Programs (ELPs) can play a role in strengthening, supporting, and diversifying the community of students choosing to come to the United States. A coordinated approach to international education in the U.S. should recognize and value English language training as an important component that has consistently made the U.S. an attractive study destination. This inclusion entails formulating federal policies and practices that acknowledge and support the diverse reasons why students elect to study English here and the educational institutions supporting these students' success.

ELPs serve various roles, acting as gateways to the U.S. higher education system for some and offering short-term English learning opportunities for others to enhance personal or professional development during temporary stays. The diverse landscape of post-secondary, accredited U.S. ELPs across the country, including proprietary programs, university and college-governed programs, pathway programs, and community college ELPs, meet the diverse English language training needs of international students, scholars, and visitors. Integrating English language training into a national international education strategy can bolster the capacity to attract and support international students, scholars, and visitors.

EnglishUSA, TESOL International Association, and UCIEP (University and College English Language Programs) stand together to support ELPs and English language training as part of a coordinated approach to international education. Our associations are committed to working with the U.S. for Success Coalition in developing a vision for U.S. international education that supports English language training as one of its essential facets. ACCET (Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training) and CEA (Commission on English Language Program Accreditation) join our association colleagues in highlighting the important role accredited ELPs can play in developing study/travel opportunities, enhancing global citizenship, and helping the U.S. stay a top education destination for students and visitors. Together, we can achieve these goals.

Submitted by:

EnglishUSA <http://englishusa.org>; TESOL International Association, <http://tesol.org>; UCIEP, Consortium of University and College Intensive English Programs, <https://www.uciep.org/>

In agreement: ACCET (Accrediting Council for Continuing Education & Training) <https://accet.org> and CEA (Commission on English Language Program Accreditation) <https://cea-accredit.org>