



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
PROGRAMS**

*The World is
Your Classroom*

English Language
Specialist Program
1991 • 2021

30
— YEARS —

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dr. Katie Welch Selected by U.S. Department of State for Prestigious English Language Specialist Project

The U.S. Department of State announced the selection of Katie Welch, Ph.D. of Texas for a 1 month English Language Specialist virtual project focusing on differentiation in online learning in Poland at the U.S. Embassy. Welch is part of a select group, as her project is one of approximately 200 that the English Language Specialist Program supports each year.

The English Language Specialist Program is the premier opportunity for leaders in the field of teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) to enact meaningful and sustainable changes in the way that English is taught abroad, and is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) with funding provided by the U.S. government. In 2021, the English Language Specialist Program celebrates its 30th anniversary. Since 1991, over 800 English Language Specialists – representing the best of America's educators from all 50 States – have encouraged critical thought and erudition, celebrated their cultural diversity, and showcased their professional and civic engagement strategies to millions of educators and students to millions of educators and students through in-country, virtual, or mixed projects.

During their projects, English Language Specialists may conduct intensive teacher training, advise ministries of education or participate in high-level educational consultations, and offer plenary presentations at regional, national or international TESOL conferences. These projects are challenging and those selected represent the best of the U.S. TESOL community. In return, the program provides professional development opportunities to help participants experience different cultures and build skills that can greatly enhance their TESOL careers at home.

English Language Specialists are counted among the more than 50,000 individuals participating in U.S. Department of State exchange programs each year. The Specialist Program is administered by the Center for Intercultural Education and Development at Georgetown University.

For further information about the English Language Specialist Program or the U.S. Department of State, please visit elprograms.org/specialist, contact us by telephone at [202-632-6452](tel:202-632-6452), or e-mail ECA-Press@state.gov.