

INTRODUCTION TO THE ISLPR®
(INTERNATIONAL SECOND LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY RATINGS)
INTENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR INSTITUTIONS

GENERAL ORGANISATION

The program consists of 20 contact hours for each participant. If the number of participants does not exceed 12, the contact is generally spread over three or three and a half days. If the number of participants is between 13 and 24, the participants do their practicum in two 'shifts', which extends the total duration of the program by up to one day.

Participants are expected to spend time before the program in the preparation of a personal testing kit and time outside contact hours in other 'homework' tasks.

PARTICIPANTS AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

It is expected that participants will be teachers, curriculum developers, case managers and administrators in second language programs, or applied linguists with an interest in second language development. Participants should have a degree in a language-related field or a degree plus experience in second language teaching or testing. If not native speakers of the focal language, they need to be close to native-like proficiency (at least ISLPR 4 in all macroskills).

GOALS

By the end of the program, participants will have developed

- an understanding of
 - . the concept of proficiency underlying the ISLPR
 - . the scale itself
 - . the purposes for which it can be used
- the ability to
 - . select and prepare test materials
 - . elicit behaviour in the macroskills of Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing
 - . rate the proficiency of second language learners for in-house, low-stakes purposes.¹

ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION

There is no formal assessment of participants' performance but feedback is given to individuals on the quality of their elicitation and the accuracy of their ratings. All participants receive a certificate stating the program date and duration.

FEES (as at January 2012)

The fee for a standard intensive program (for a maximum of 12 participants) is AUD 4,500 plus GST if applicable. The fee covers provision and postage (within Australia) of the ISLPR scale and hand-outs for each participant. Fees for numbers over 12 will be provided on request. Travel and subsistence costs are extra.

CLIENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The client is responsible for providing

- facilities for plenary sessions, including equipment for presenting material on DVDs or computer files
- facilities for the practicum, including break-out areas for interviews and equipment for playing Listening materials
- facilities for any incidental photocopying that may be required by participants during the program
- morning and afternoon break refreshments for participants and (desirably) refreshments for volunteer students as well as participants on the practicum day.
- volunteer students as required for the practicum.

¹ Information will be provided on request about the licensing of institutions to use the ISLPR® trade mark and the quality assurance measures (i.e. accreditation of testers) that the authors, Ingram and Wylie, have introduced for higher-stakes contexts.