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**NEWS
RELEASE**

08/ 08/ 2023

Public Libraries Receives Grant to Provide English as a Second Language Classes

EL PASO, Texas — The City of El Paso is pleased to announce that the El Paso Public Libraries received a grant of approximately \$4,000 from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) that will provide free English as a Second Language (ESL) classes to residents.

Beginning this month, FREE ESL classes will be available from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the Irving Schwartz, Enrique Moreno, and Westside branch libraries.

“With this grant the Public Libraries further empowers our community by offering vital services such as these free ESL programs,” said El Paso Public Libraries Director Norma Martinez. “It is with these types of programs that we are able to foster inclusivity, education, and cultural enrichment for all, ensuring a brighter and more connected future not only for the individual, but the community as a whole.”

The library used part of the Texas Read Grant to train and certify six library staff members with the Teaching English as a Foreign Language certification (TEFL). The remaining funds will be used to purchase books to plan lessons for ESL classes.

For more information on the ESL program or other services provided by the El Paso Public Libraries, visit www.ElPasoLibrary.org or call (915) 212-7323.

This project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act.

About the Texas State Library and Archives Commission

Formed in 1909, TSLAC is committed to giving Texans access to information and programs to improve their lives and communities.

TSLAC provides historical and genealogical search assistance, federal and state government documents, electronic research, and library services to all Texans, including those who are unable to read standard print material because of physical or reading disabilities. For more information, visit www.TSL.Texas.gov.

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