

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – ADMISSION PROCESS **PROGRAM: MASTER’S IN SECOND LANGUAGE LEARNING**

I. General Information about the Program

1. What degree does the program award?

The program awards the academic degree of Master’s in Second Language Learning.

2. What is the duration of the program?

It has a total duration of 2 years (1500 hours / 60 SCT-Chile credits).

3. What is the main focus of the master’s program?

The program focuses on training specialists in the teaching and learning of second languages in institutionalized contexts, with emphasis on the school system, critical reflection, and the informed use of theories and technologies.

4. Is the program accredited?

No. The program is new and will undergo a self-assessment process during its first year of implementation.

5. Will this program teach me English? Is this a program to learn English?

While incidental improvement in language proficiency—particularly in academic writing—is expected, this program does not teach English. It is intended for individuals who already possess an intermediate to advanced command of the language and wish to specialize in its teaching as a second language.

6. What is the program’s modality?

The modality is blended, combining synchronous and asynchronous virtual activities with intensive in-person components.



7. Who delivers the program?

The program is delivered by the Faculty of Educational Sciences at the University of Talca.

II. Schedule and Modality

8. What does it mean that the program is blended?

It combines virtual classes (synchronous and asynchronous) with intensive in-person weeks on campus.

9. What are the schedules for synchronous classes?

Classes are held in the evening. In 2026, they will take place on Fridays from 18:00 to 22:00 and Saturdays from 09:00 to 13:00 Chile Continental Time.

10. When should I travel for the in-person component?

In-person weeks are scheduled in advance. Typically, there is one intensive week per year. The first year is at the end of the 2nd semester, and the second year at the end of the 1st semester.

11. Does the university cover travel expenses for attending in-person classes?

In the first year, the program covers accommodation and meals. In the second year, these costs are borne by each student.

12. Can I work and study at the same time?

Yes. The program is designed for working professionals and is compatible with part-time or full-time jobs.

III. Costs, Scholarships, and Financial Aid

13. Are there scholarships for the program?

Yes. There is an internal benefit funded by the program consisting of a partial tuition waiver. Specifically, four 25% discount scholarships will be granted based on the weighted evaluation of the application once enrollment is complete.

IV. Application and Admission Requirements

14. What documents do I need to apply?

- CV in institutional format
- Copy of ID/passport
- Legalized copy of degree certificate
- Transcript
- English proficiency certificate (if applicable)

15. Can I apply if I don't yet have my degree certificate?

Yes, but you must prove that you are in the process of graduation or that the certificate is being processed.

16. Can I apply if I have a professional or undergraduate degree from abroad?

Yes. The degree must be recognized by the Chilean state or be in the process of validation.

17. Can I apply if I am an international applicant?

Yes. The program accepts international applicants, provided they meet academic and language requirements.

18. What level of English is required?

Level B2+ of the CEFR (equivalent to IELTS 6.5 or similar).

19. What if I don't have a certificate to prove my English level?

You may take an internal diagnostic test or demonstrate your proficiency during the admission interview, if approved by the committee.

20. Who is required to attend the admission interview?

All applicants who meet the academic requirements will be invited to an interview conducted in English.

21. What are the steps to apply?

Applications are submitted online through the postgraduate website: <https://postgrado.utalca.cl/programa/masters-in-second-language-learning-msll/>

It includes: submission of documents, committee review, interview, and notification of admission.

22. How is the final application score calculated?

- Academic background: 30%
- Professional experience: 20%
- English level: 20%
- Motivation letter: 10%
- Personal interview: 20%

23. Will I know my score in each stage?

The program reserves the right to keep detailed scores confidential. Applicants will only be informed whether they are accepted or not.

24. Can I apply if my academic background is not in language teaching?

Yes, as long as your background is related to fields such as linguistics, education, translation, psychology, or other areas connected to language teaching and learning.

25. Is previous professional experience required?

It is not a mandatory requirement but will be positively considered during the selection process.

V. In-Person Components

26. What do the intensive in-person weeks consist of?

They include classes, workshops, academic advising, sessions with guest lecturers, and hands-on practical activities.

27. Can I miss an in-person week?

Attendance is mandatory. Any absence must be justified and approved by the academic committee.

28. What type of academic or professional profile does the program seek in its applicants?

The program values applicants with a strong background in fields related to language teaching and learning, along with a clear commitment to educational improvement, inclusion, and pedagogical innovation. Applicants should show an interest in critically reflecting on teaching practices, developing applied research skills, and contributing ethically and contextually to the strengthening of the educational system, particularly in diverse school settings.