



## PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE SUPPORT (PELS)

Florida Atlantic University



**PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE SUPPORT (PELS):**  
HELPING FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY'S MULTILINGUAL STUDENT  
POPULATION ACHIEVE THEIR ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL GOALS

**BE A PART OF PELS' FUTURE!**

# BE A PART OF **PELS' FUTURE!**

## Professional English Language Support (PELS):

Helping Florida Atlantic University's Multilingual Student Population Achieve their Academic and Professional Goals.

### Be a part of PELS's Future!

**Florida Atlantic University** (FAU) is a leading institution in degree completion and career outcomes for Hispanic and underrepresented minorities. FAU is also an Hispanic-serving institution with a growing international population. As an expanding public institution, FAU appeals to an increasing number of linguistically and culturally diverse students and is considered the most diverse public university in the Florida State University System.

### **SURVEY RESPONSES INDICATE THAT FAU STUDENTS REQUESTED HELP WITH:**

- Thesis and dissertation writing
- Academic discussion skills & peer review
- Oral communication and presentation skills
- English vocabulary training for second language learners
- English accent enhancement, pronunciation, and professional writing skills
- Interpersonal communication in English
- Commonly used English idioms



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW PELS CAN HELP MULTILINGUAL STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR CAREER GOALS, PLEASE VISIT THE PELS WEBSITE AT: [FAU.EDU/PELS](https://www.fau.edu/pels)



## Assessment of Multilingual Student Needs

A recent survey (2022) assessing emerging needs among FAU's student body found that many multilingual and multidialectal students expressed a need for greater support in field-specific writing and speaking than the university currently provides. Of the 332 responses, 94% indicated that they spoke languages other than English at home, and 80% indicated that they wrote in languages other than English. Further, 80% of respondents expressed an interest in specialized courses and workshops for multilingual students.

## The Development of PELS

The Professional English Language Support (PELS) program was recently established in 2022 to provide resources and instruction for domestic and international multilingual and multidialectal students to attain their academic and professional goals by enhancing their writing and speaking skills. PELS also provides faculty with support for teaching professional English writing to multilingual students. PELS courses are delivered by specialized instructors who are trained to address the needs of multilingual students.



## WHY INVEST IN PELS?

- **PELS serves the professional** and academic needs of graduate and undergraduate multilingual and multidialectical students across different fields of study.
- **PELS is modeled after Cornell University's** innovative and highly successful English Language Support Office.
- **PELS values multilingualism** in our diverse community and establishes points of contact across cultures.

## PELS Partners: How PELS Fits at FAU

Current FAU partners include the Graduate College, Center for Teaching and Learning, Center for Global Engagement, Career Center, Division of Research, Scholars Program, College of Engineering and Computer Science, College of Arts and Letters, College of Science, College of Business, and several other programs.

The primary units that provide support services are the University Center for Excellence in Writing (UCEW), Speaking Center, and Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC). While each of these services supports students and faculty to some degree, PELS introduced free seven-week courses, workshops for students and faculty, a wide range of resources on writing and teaching writing, and specialized faculty training that has never been provided at FAU. PELS' specialized writing center tutors are trained to address multilingual student needs.

# PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING NOW!

OUR STUDENTS NEED YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE  
GROWING THEIR LANGUAGE SKILLS.

## Initial Funding: The Present

PELS was initially grant-funded to support a three-semester pilot, targeting multilingual graduate students in Engineering with additional classes provided to graduate students across other disciplines.

Recent 7-week courses focus on the areas of academic research in the field of Engineering and principles of writing a thesis or dissertation. Enrolled students have expressed interest in taking additional PELS courses.

## Expanding the Reach of PELS at FAU: The Future

Based on the success of preliminary data collection from course participants and our growing wait list for future semesters, PELS has expanded the program to all graduate and undergraduate students. However, additional financial support is needed to make the program permanently sustainable.





## Permanent funding would allow PELS to pursue the following goals:

- **Foster growth** in FAU's international student population and help support workforce alignment and career readiness.
- **Continue offering a range of 7-week courses,** workshops, boot-camps on field-specific writing and research, peer writing and speaking cohorts.
- **Hire additional full-time instructors** and writing tutors who specialize in teaching writing and speaking to multilingual students and possess backgrounds in second language acquisition, TOEFL, technical writing, and professional writing.
- **Expand PELS courses** and workshops to target additional learning areas, such as professional presentations, participating in discussions, searching for academic and professional careers, and communicating in the workplace.



## YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

WILL GO DIRECTLY TO FUNDING THE FOLLOWING:



**\$130,000**

**2 FULL-TIME**  
INSTRUCTORS



**\$17,280**

**2 UNDERGRADUATE**  
WRITING CENTER  
CONSULTANTS



**\$48,000**

**5 GRADUATE STUDENT**  
CONSULTANTS  
*(10 hr/wk for 3 terms)*



**\$17,280**

**2 UNDERGRADUATE**  
SPEAKING CENTER  
CONSULTANTS

**OR**



YOUR NAME HERE

**TOTAL NEEDED FUNDS:**

**\$250,000**

PER YEAR TO FUND THE ENTIRE  
OPERATION AND FOR **NAMING**  
RIGHTS TO THE PROGRAM.

Please visit our website to donate any amount you prefer.

***fau.edu/pels***

# TRANSCEND TOMORROW

THE CAMPAIGN FOR  
FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY



## FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY™

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