



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Citizenship Classes Start in March at Westside Community Center

New Braunfels, TX — With a course start date of March 22nd, the Westside Community Center is hosting Education Service Center (ESC), Region 20's ESL/Citizenship Preparation Academy, a program designed to prepare adult immigrants at the low/beginning to high/intermediate English as a Second Language level to successfully complete the naturalization process.

Registration and orientation for the classes begins at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 20th, in the Westside Community Center lunchroom, and students must attend four hours of registration and orientation prior to attending classes. ESC-20 recommends arriving at least 30 minutes early.

Classes will then be held every Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Westside Community Center for a total of 12 sessions.

“Region 20 has been holding sessions at the Westside Community Center for several years,” said Outreach Coordinator Jennifer Hernandez. “Our evening ESL classes are provided through a partnership with Region 20. We’re really fortunate to have such a good working relationship with them, and they always send us great instructors who work well with the local community.”

According to information provided by ESL-20, the course will follow a sheltered instruction approach in which civics lessons from the USCIS Citizenship Resource Center are used. ESL and naturalization instruction are integrated into the lessons and course activities.

Students can expect to be speaking, reading and writing in English in every class; gaining civics content knowledge; preparing for the written test; learning about the Form N-400; preparing for the naturalization interview; and receiving education and career counseling.

The ESL/Citizenship Academy classes are free, but there are eligibility requirements that must be met: students must be 19 years or older, or 17-18 years of age with withdrawal forms from the last school attended and parent/guardian permission (parent/guardian must be present at registration); and students must bring a valid photo ID with their name and date of birth or an official document with their name and date of birth.

For more information or questions about ESC-20's ESL/Citizenship Preparation Academy, contact Jennifer Hernandez in the Westside Community Center office at 830-221-4630. For more information about services led by ESC-20 call 210-370-5348 or 210-370-5498 or visit www.esc20.net/adulteducation.

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