Maine, known as “Vacationland,” has much to offer the summer visitor. Its lakes, woodlands, coastline, and safe cities make it a popular tourist destination for visitors from the U.S. and abroad.

What do our students say?

“Maine is so beautiful, and I learned so much! I will recommend this program to my friends.”

-Paula, Colombia, 2012

“I learned a lot in my English program at USM. My reading and writing are much better. I applied and got accepted as an undergraduate at USM now, and I feel better prepared for my studies.”

-Kim, South Korea, 2014

“The teachers are so helpful and friendly. I learned a lot from them and enjoyed meeting new friends.”

-Ali, Saudi Arabia, 2013

Admissions Requirements

1) Completed and signed application form
2) Declaration of finances showing sufficient funds to cover program expenses
3) Financial sponsor’s signed letter of support
4) $190 application fee and deposit
5) Copy of passport photo page
6) If living off campus, applicant should also include a signed letter from local sponsor

Please Note

Upon receipt of application materials, the Office of International Programs will issue an I-20 Certificate of Eligibility, which needs to be presented to a U.S. Embassy or Consulate to obtain an F1 student visa.

Contact

For more information about the Intensive English Language Program, USM, or the visa application process, please visit our website: usm.maine.edu/esol

Email us at usmiep@usm.maine.edu

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Cover photo by Kaoru Phillips
**Our Program**

Our summer Intensive English Language Program (IELP) is for students who want to improve their academic English language skills...and have fun doing it!

We offer an excellent program which helps students reach higher levels of English language proficiency and prepare for academic programs at the university level.

**Schedule and Courses**

Classes: 9am-12 noon Monday-Friday

Lunch break

Classes: 1:30-3:30pm, Monday- Thursday (with additional time for some afternoon excursions)

*Friday afternoons and weekends are free for individual exploration and study.

**MORNING SESSIONS**

This portion of the program focuses on helping students to produce grammatically accurate, well-constructed English in the written form.

Reading materials include academic text selections as well as cultural readings. Emphasis is also placed on vocabulary acquisition and use.

**AFTERNOON SESSIONS**

The primary focus of the afternoon sessions is to help students improve in areas of spoken communication and listening comprehension.

Class activities include interactive pair and group work as well as excursions into the local community for authentic communication opportunities.

**MAINE COAST EXCURSIONS**

- Interact with local shop owners and tour Portland’s popular Old Port district
- Explore Maine’s marshland ecology on a guided canoe tour
- Experience sailing along Maine’s coast
- Visit Maine’s only beachfront amusement park
- Picnic at one of Southern Maine’s most popular light-houses
- Tour Casco Bay’s islands with knowledgeable local guides

**Program Highlights**

- 23 hours per week of English instruction
- Friendly, highly qualified instructors
- Planned social events and excursions
- Access to all university facilities, including gym
- Student housing available
- Save living and learning environment
- Assistance with student Visas
- Accredited by the American Association of Intensive English Language Programs (AAIEP)

The primary focus of our program is to help all students improve their skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening.

**Our Students**

Our students include admitted U.S. or foreign university students; individuals preparing for undergraduate or graduate study at USM or other U.S. universities; international business people and educators; age 18+ secondary school students; local non-native English speakers.

**Our Instructors**

All IELP classes are taught by highly qualified faculty. Because all classes are small (8-15 students), every student receives individual attention. Teaching approaches are highly interactive.