

"BUILDING ENGLISH LANGUAGE CAPACITY FOR ARMENIAN STUDENTS AND TEACHERS" PROGRAM

ANNOUNCEMENT for TRAINING OF ENGLISH TEACHERS AS MENTORS

Within its U.S. government funded, 4-year (2019-2023) "Building English Language Capacity for Armenian Students and Teachers" program PH International (<u>https://www.ph-int.org/</u>) is announcing a rigorous, merit-based nation-wide competition for recruiting 10 Armenian teachers/trainers of English for involvement in an **intensive and multi-stage professional development initiative** to become mentor teachers.

To build a genuinely strong cadre of English mentor teachers in Armenia, PH will work with these 10 selected teachers/trainers throughout all 4 years of the program until mid-2023, in different stages of the program involving them in a series of capacity building activities.

- As the 1st training activity of this professional development initiative, the selected 10 teachers will participate in a 50-hour, 10-day online (Zoom-based) training program facilitated by a U.S trainer throughout August 10-22, 2020.
- As the 2nd activity of this professional development initiative, the 10 trained teachers will work with local English trainers to further develop their competences for training and mentoring other 40 in-service English teachers recruited by PHI throughout October-November 2020. The timing for this activity is conditionally planned for December 2020 or January 2021 but based on COVID19 developments it will be finalized in agreement with the U.S. Embassy in Armenia and the participating 10 mentors as well as 40 new teachers.
- As the 3rd activity of this professional development initiative, each of the 10 mentor teachers will be matched with 4 in-service teachers (trained during the 2nd activity) to serve as their mentor throughout the end of the "Building English Language Capacity for Armenian Students and Teachers" program:
 - ✓ All 10 mentors will be contracted by PHI and will receive an honorarium for their regular mentoring activities with their assigned mentee teachers (in person as well as online observations of mentee teachers' classes for the contractual months by providing feedback and by conducting master classes for them).

- ✓ In close cooperation with PHI's program staff, develop a schedule of site visits and online observations, follow it during the contractual period and on timely basis submit to PHI appropriate reports (based on provided templates) on their mentoring activities and recommendations on their mentees' performance.
- ✓ In line with regular site visits and provision of advice and feedback to the trainees, provide their mentees with information and guidance regarding new interesting resources on teaching English and available professional development opportunities.
- As the 4th activity of this professional development initiative, in the summer of 2022 the 10 mentor teachers, while they are serving as mentors, will be invited to participate in a 5-day offline training on "Incorporation of ICTs in Teaching English as a Foreign Language".

WHO CAN APPLY TO THIS MULTI-STAGE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

To apply to this intensive and multi-stage professional development initiative, the interested candidates should have the following professional and personal qualifications, skills and arrangements:

- Should be Armenian citizens, currently living in Armenia and having no plans to leave the country throughout the duration of the program,
- Currently be employed as an English teacher in any public school, an English trainer in an educational institution/program in Armenia (including Yerevan),
- At least five years' of experience of teaching English in school/s or educational institutions in Armenia or internationally;
- History of previous participation in professional development trainings or in other programs that promoted the applicant's personal growth,
- Good ICT skills,
- Sense of responsibility, proven leadership and teamwork skills,
- Excellent problem solving and communication skills,
- Excellent organizational skills, ability to effectively work under pressure and in new environments,
- Previous experience in conducting trainings, seminars, workshops or other such events will be considered as a plus.
- An enabling professional schedule with employers, commitments and arrangements with family members as well as general ability to travel throughout Armenia in their role of a mentor teacher to transfer their skills and knowledge to their other Armenian colleagues.

In addition, the applicants should have the following resources and logistical support for the 1st training activity taking place throughout August 10-22, 2020:

- A well-functioning technical device (a desktop or a laptop is highly preferred) with reliable access to Internet connection,
- A private space allowing 4 hours of daily online participation.

SELECTION OF 10 PARTICIPANTS FOR THIS MULTI-STAGE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

A group of 10 finalists and 2 alternate teachers will be shortlisted for this initiative through the below described 2 phases of the selection process:

PHASE 1:

All applicants need to submit an application package to Nune Amiryan, the Program Manager, at <u>nune.amiryan@ph-int.org</u> no later than by July 20, 2020, 6:00 pm, Armenia Standard Time (GMT+4).

The application package consists of the following documents:

- 1. Properly completed application form (download from PHI website at: https://www.phi.int.org/am/program/258/,
- 2. Their latest updated CV in English (no longer than 3 pages, acceptable only in MS Word and PDF versions),
- 3. One of their self-developed and most successfully applied English lesson plans with its supporting materials and handouts to be used. (If the applicant does not have any self-developed lesson plans, they need to develop a sample lesson plan on a theme of their preference, for teaching an arbitrary group of teenage students.)

PHASE 2:

Based on the results of the application review and assessment, the shortlisted candidates will be invited to participate in an online interview (Viber, Zoom or Skype) with the selection panel.

By August 5, 2020, 10 finalists will be notified and will be invited to participate in the entire initiative, the 1st activity of which, the 10-day online training, will convene on August 10, 2020 and will finish on August 22, 2020.

DETAILED STRUCTURE & CONTENT OF 1st TRAINING ACTIVITY

The 50-hour, 10-day online training **(August 10-22, 2020)**, specifically developed for the "Building English Language Capacity for Armenian Students and Teachers" program by the U.S. trainer, will require the participants 4 hours of daily online participation, usually in evening hours of Armenia Standard Time (GMT+4), and around up to 1-hour of offline preparation (reading, home assignment, etc.).

In addition to equipping the 10 teachers' with knowledge, skills, attitudes and practices relevant to their mentorship, the training will also focus on the following aspects of teaching English:

- 1) Knowing students and their motivation for learning
- 2) Creating a welcoming classroom environment
- 3) Effective lesson planning
- 4) Comprehensible input
- 5) Classroom management and frequent student interaction
- 6) Using multiple modalities during instruction
- 7) Conducting ongoing review and assessment.

Pre-Training Stage: One week before the 10-day online training, the trainees will receive the training curriculum as to familiarize themselves with the materials.

The online training will entail workshops led not only by the trainer but also by the participants as part of their applied learning.

A survey will be conducted at the beginning and the end of the training program to assess the understanding of major concepts and practices among the target group.

QUESTIONS & SUPPORT

For additional clarifications interested candidates should contact:

Nune Amiryan

Manager for "Building English Language Capacity for Armenian Students and Teachers" Program Email: nune.amiryan@ph-int.org

Cell phone: (+374 93) 42-24-31 (Monday-Friday, 9:30-18:30)