



## READY TO WORK

We believe learning English and acquiring a quality job are both crucial steps for immigrants and refugees on their path to economic stability. That's why the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (OIRA) created Ready to Work (RTW). RTW is a community-based program that combines English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, computer and digital literacy, job readiness, and multi-lingual, culturally competent case management services to successfully serve immigrants and refugees who need the most assistance.



## Seattle Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

### About Us

Our mission is to improve the lives of Seattle's immigrant and refugee families.

We work to strengthen immigrant and refugee communities, by engaging them in decisions about the City of Seattle's future and improving the City's programs and services to meet the needs of all constituents.

### Contact

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### About Ready to Work (RTW)

In 2015, RTW was created as an innovative prototype model for English language acquisition and employment specifically for residents who face significant barriers to learning English and gaining employment. Since its inception, over 300 immigrant and refugee jobseekers have participated in the program, with many of the participants obtaining jobs and continuing on to higher English-language level classes at area community colleges.

### RTW Nationally Recognized

In 2016, the U.S. Department of Labor and the National Skills Coalition highlighted Ready to Work as a national best practice model on how to leverage workforce and adult education funding to support immigrant integration in the labor force.

### RTW Partner Organizations

- Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS)
- HomeSight
- Literacy Source
- Neighborhood House
- Somali Community Services of Seattle

### How RTW Works

RTW combines ESL classes with computer literacy instruction and case management to help immigrants obtain jobs and take further steps toward economic self-sufficiency. The curriculum is aligned with college and career readiness standards. And these community-based organizations with deep roots and relationships in immigrant-dense neighborhoods offer the integrative classes and case management year-round:

#### North Seattle

**Literacy Source**  
[literacysource.org](http://literacysource.org)  
(206) 782-2050

#### Southeast Seattle

**Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS)**  
[acrs.org](http://acrs.org)  
(206) 695-7553 or (206) 805-8950

#### West Seattle

**Neighborhood House**  
[nhwa.org](http://nhwa.org)  
(206) 588-4901

Ready to Work runs quarterly. Call any of the above numbers for more information.