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Advocacy Corner - v1

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Advocacy Corner, by Mackenzie Kerby

Did You Know... That Advocating for IEPs is as Simple as Sending an Email?

Advocacy can seem daunting at first but it can be as easy as clicking send on a quick email. The EnglishUSA [Advocacy Resources](#) page is a great place to start! To get started, use the [Congressional Staff Lookup Tool](#) to get the contact information of your representatives. Then craft a *short* email to be sent in support of English Language Programs. Be sure to include your [state's statistics](#) and attach the TESOL-EnglishUSA-UCIEP Joint Statement on Supporting International Students and Intensive English Programs. Sharing your experience with your federal representation is incredibly important. Whether or not you think the senator/congress people are supportive, reach out. They need to hear from their constituents.

Tip: It is suggested that you send the email from yourself, a constituent, rather than as an employee of your institution. If you plan to send it as an employee, be sure to speak with your counsel for approval beforehand.

Mackenzie Kerby is the Acting Regional Director for ELS Language Centers. Prior to this, she taught English at all levels: IEPs, high school, and university. She has presented at EnglishUSA PDC, TESOL, and is published in The Year's Work in English. Ms. Kerby's interest lies in advocacy for international education.