

GRANTS & AWARDS: REPORTS

2020 Project Funding Grant

Sophia Shang

Whatcom Community College in Bellingham, Washington has served adult immigrants from over 26 countries in the Transitional Learning Program, which houses ESL, ABE, HS+ and IBEST courses.

Before Covid 19, we offered mirrored ESL courses in the mornings and evenings. Since we couldn't require students to buy textbooks, we shared class textbook sets between the morning and evening students.

When Covid compelled us to move to an online and Web Meet classroom format, we suddenly needed to provide laptops and textbooks for morning and evening students

to borrow. This WAESOL grant enabled us to purchase an extra classroom set of Ventures book 1, 3rd edition, by Cambridge University Press for morning and evening students. As a bonus, because we purchased the 3rd edition of Ventures, the instructors received a Canvas course that accompanied the books. It was very timely because all instruction was online. Here is a picture of students showing their appreciation.

Thank you WAESOL for supporting our need in time of crisis. The textbooks will continue to be used once we get back in the classroom—it's a gift that will keep on giving!



Sophia Shang teaches ESL in the Academic Skills and Resources Department at Whatcom Community College, in Bellingham, WA. Originally from the Windy City, she graduated with an MA in TESL from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She taught in Taiwan and Japan before moving to Bellingham, famous for hosting the Ski to Sea Race. She is currently the classroom volunteer coordinator and discipline lead in the Transitional Learning Program. You can contact her at SShang@whatcom.edu.