

TALENT Tamil School

Ellicott City, Maryland

General Guidelines



September 2019

Last Updated:10/14/19 Verson: 1.0

Table of Contents

I.	Introduction	2
II.	Class Timing and Schedule	2
III.	Registration for TALENT Classes	2
IV.	Class Levels and Assignments	3
V.	Prerequisite for Admission	3
VI.	Tuition	3
VII.	Books and Materials	3
VIII.	Trophies	4
IX.	Volunteering Opportunities	4

I. Introduction

The TALENT – **T**amil Language Education a**N**d Training Inc. is a volunteer-based, not-for-profit (501-(c)) organization for Tamil Education. TALENT is committed to provide strong Tamil language learning through well balanced academic curriculum. TALENT fosters the Tamil learning in students as young as 4 years old. TALENT truly believes that younger children tend to observe and learn more. TALENT has 8 academic levels and students take TVA curriculum to master Tamil language proficiency and attain Maryland’s Department of Education approved “Seal of Biliteracy”. TALENT offers Tamil classes at various levels to benefit the children in all aspects of the language; reading, writing, and speaking which are the essential aspects of any language learning process. Tamil is one of the classical languages of the world. It is a unique language that has a classical past and powerful literary legacy that we are carrying forward today.

II. Class Timing and Schedule

TALENT weekly classes are scheduled on Friday of every month between 7:15 – 8:45 pm. The academic year will begin in the 1st week of September with an orientation and regular Tamil classes in the following week. The last day of school will be on the 1st/2nd week of June. For the academic year 2019 - 2020, classes are scheduled at Patapsco Middle School, 8885 Old Frederick Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21043 during Fall and at Howard High School, 8700 Old Annapolis Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21043 during Winter/Spring. Tamil class schedule may vary over the academic year due to events in the public schools or inclement weather. Parents, please check the school calendar on the TALENT website for schedule changes, and TALENT will communicate any such changes through email.

III. Registration for TALENT Classes

The registration for current TALENT and new students will begin on the 1st/2nd week of May, before the end of the current academic year. TALENT needs the early registration to be completed to prepare ahead for the next academic year. TALENT will communicate the registration process via email. The registration link will also be made available on the TALENT website. Registration will be closed approximately 6 weeks

after opening and could close early based on enrollment. Students registered after the close of registration will be added to the waiting list.

IV. Class Levels and Assignments

In TALENT, each academic class level is named as Nilai that ranges from Nilai 1 (Beginner Level) - Nilai 10 (Advanced Level). The students must have a passing grade from previous Nilai to get promoted to the higher Nilai. Each Nilai has a Primary teacher, an assistant teacher, and parent volunteers to help the children. The class teachers, Nilai, and the classroom assignments for the year 2019-2020 are available on the TALENT website.

V. Prerequisite for Admission

The new student prerequisite shall depend on the student's age, knowledge, and performance level at the time of joining. Students aged 4 and 5 years by September 1st are assigned to Nilai 1. Any students who are six years will be assigned to Nilai 2 and any older students who does not have any Tamil knowledge in reading/writing will be assigned to Nilai 2 as well. For students 7 yrs and above, the new student Nilai assignment depends on the evaluation by the teachers in the form of written/oral test scheduled in August. For any questions regarding the admission process or Nilai levels, please contact the TALENT TAC (TALENT Academic Council).

VI. Tuition

TALENT charges a nominal yearly fee per student to cover the costs of school rentals, textbooks, and other expenses for the entire academic year. The fee can be paid by check at the time of orientation day or earlier, and please make the check payable to "TALENT". Parents, please check the TALENT website or email communication to know about any tuition payment changes.

VII. Books and Materials

TALENT prints and issues textbooks with the curriculum prepared by TAC (TALENT Academic Council) from Nilai 1 through Nilai 8. For higher Nilais after Nilai 8 currently TVA Intermediate, TVA Advanced, and TVA HG 10, TVA (Tamilnadu Virtual Academy)

books are being used. In addition to the textbooks, teachers could use other study materials such as story books, and e-learning materials.

VIII. Trophies

TALENT finishes its successful academic year by celebrating student's completion and accomplishments by awarding trophies on grand annual day celebration. Annual day is planned after final exam in first week of June. Participation trophy will be awarded to all the students for their hard work and commitment. The attendance trophy for 100% attendance on the given academic year. Academic toppers selected by teachers will be awarded with medals.

IX. Volunteering Opportunities

“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.”

TALENT appreciates everyone willing to dedicate their time to Tamil school. It won't be possible to manage the growing school without the volunteers. We need more volunteers for PTA and other school-related activities. Please refer to the Parent/Student Handbook on the TALENT website for further details.