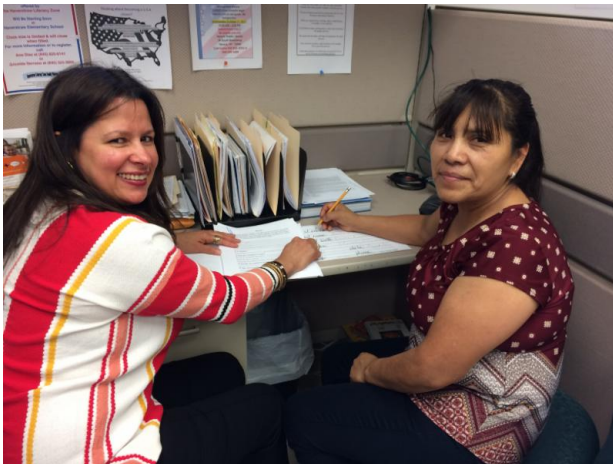


## The Insightful Impact of our Gricelda Serrano



Gricelda Serrano (left) with student, Apolonia

For the past 7 years Gricelda Serrano has been working for Literacy Solutions. She started as a teacher and for the last four years has served as Lead Case Manager.

This past August she noticed that one student—who had dropped out of an ESL class after only two classes—was now looking for a one-on-one tutor. Apolonia, originally from Mexico, needed a bilingual tutor for help with



## New Rules About Keeping Monthly Hour Logs

### Current

Recently, the State issued a new requirement: if there is a break of more than 90 days in recorded hours, a student will automatically be dropped out of the LSNY system. To re-enter a student would have to be retested and start over. Any performance gains from prior tutor sessions would be lost.

So, it's possible you may be holding onto your hours and working with your student not realizing it's been 3 months or 90 days since the last time you submitted your hours. For this reason we will be sending a reminder email monthly to all active tutors with a simple message:

**"Your Monthly Hour Log is Due."**

At this writing all October hours should be sent to our New City office via inter library mail. Thank you in advance for submitting your hours on time!

learning to read and write in Spanish and English. Despite an already busy schedule, Gricelda volunteered to become Apolonia's tutor and the experience has been terrific for both women.

Apolonia is now able to read and write her name and her children's names. She explained to Gricelda that before, when she collected the mail for her family everyday, she would just put the letters and bills in a pile for someone else to sort through. But now, thanks to a lot of hard work, she is able to read the mail herself. She described the joy at achieving this newfound skill: *It was like being blind and now being able to see.*

As for Gricelda, what she enjoys most about tutoring is seeing the immediate impact she is making. Thank you Apolonia and Gricelda for sharing your truly inspiring story!



*It's that time of year when many of our tutors travel out of state in search of warmer climates for winter. If anyone anticipates being absent 90 days between tutor sessions, please contact Christina or Judy this week to arrange for a substitute tutor in your absence. 845-708-9072*



## **Are you working with a student who is interested in becoming a United States citizen?**

Before applying, your student must meet several requirements, depending on his or her specific situation. Below are the General Eligibility Requirements published at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov):

- Be at least 18 years old at the time you file **Form N-400, Application for Naturalization**.
- Be a permanent resident (have a "Green Card") for at least 5 years.
- Demonstrate **continuous residence** in the United States for at least 5 years immediately before the date you file Form N-400.
- Show that you have been physically present in the United States for at least 30 months out of the 5 years immediately before the date you file Form N-400.
- Show that you have lived for at least 3 months in the state or USCIS district where you apply. Students may apply for naturalization either where they go to school or where their family lives (if they are still financially dependent on their parents).

- Be a person of good moral character.
- Demonstrate an attachment to the principles and ideals of the U.S. Constitution.
- Be able to read, write, and speak basic English.
- Have a basic understanding of U.S. history and government (civics).
- Take an oath of allegiance to the United States.

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845-708-9072  
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