



# Teaching in Taiwan

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## MOE Foreign English Teachers Program (FET)

In an effort to enhance the English learning environment for school-aged children in rural areas, Taiwan Ministry of Education has been actively recruiting qualified teachers to teach in K-9 public schools in Taiwan. The goals of the program are to broaden English immersion experiences of Taiwan's young minds and to establish inter-school relationships between the English speaking Countries and Taiwan.

Taiwan is a very beautiful island where is often called Formosa. The territories of Taiwan (Republic of China) includes Penghu, Kinmen, and Matsu. Although they are only a small group of islands, there are rich in natural landscapes and cultural resources. Applicants with a bachelor's degree or higher with a teacher's license are eligible to apply. Benefits for teachers include a subsidy of round-trip airfare, housing stipends, overtime pay, insurance, and monthly salary based on their educational background and teaching experience. The intangible benefits to teachers include intimate exposure to the rich heritage and natural beauty of Taiwan as well as to the world-renowned cuisine and local delicacies.

## Teaching Duration

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- One academic year (August to the next year July, about 11 months)
- Contracts may be renewed for the next academic year subject to agreement between teachers and schools

## Qualification Required

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- (1) Must be an English native speaker
- (2) Hold a Bachelor's degree or above\*
- (3) Hold a state-issued teaching license or certificate\*
- (4) No criminal record

*\*Foreigners to be hired for teaching work at a public or registered private high or primary school should acquire formal degrees in colleges or universities either in this country or overseas that are recognized by the authority concerned at the central government level as well as the teaching qualification for the subjects they will be teaching.*

## **Remuneration and Other Benefits**

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- **Air Fare:** Round-trip air ticket: airfare reimbursement up to NT\$40,000 (≒ US\$1,300)/one-way/per teacher/one family member
- **Housing Allowance/Dormitory:** NT\$5,000 for single per month (≒ US\$160); NT\$10,000 for family per month (\$330).
- **Health Care Benefits:** Health insurance and labor insurance
- **Monthly Salary (depending on teaching experience):**
  - Holders of doctoral degrees: NT\$ 73,025~91,420
  - Holders of master's degrees: NT\$ 69,965~86,820
  - Holders of bachelor's degrees: NT\$ 62,720~78,045

*\*The salary rate is based on teacher's highest education level and amount of teaching experience. The amount of teacher's teaching experience only includes the year(s) he/she has taught at a public government school within or outside of the R.O.C. or a registered private school in the R.O.C. Less than one year or a practicum period will not be considered.*

- **Performance Bonus:** Teachers who have taught for 12 months, whose annual performance is graded A, are each given an extra month's pay as bonus; those whose performance is graded B, are each given an extra 1/2 month's pay as bonus.
- Overtime pay
- Leaves, holidays and vacations
- **Work week:** About 40 hours a week (8 hours a day, 5 days a week), from Monday to Friday.

*\* Please note that benefits and the working hours listed above are subject to applicable laws, regulations, and related provisions of the contract signed between teachers and schools.*

## **Other information**

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- **Living Costs:** Total expenses could be as little as NT\$15,000 for a single, more realistically, expect NT\$20,000~30,000 per month.
- **Transportation:** In Taiwan, it is easy to reach everywhere by local train. Many towns have a local train stop that will allow you to travel between towns and cities. Also, the High Speed Rail (HSR) serves the west of Taiwan, running on its own track from Taipei to Kaohsiung, independently of local trains. However, in some towns, people usually ride a bicycle or scooter or drive a car in daily life. Buses are also available in some counties.

## **Contact :**

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# Teaching in Taiwan FAQ

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## 1. Application Procedures: Deadline (postmarked by) May 15th, 2021



## 2. How do I apply?

- Applicants must:
  1. be an English native speaker
  2. hold a bachelor's or higher degree,
  3. hold a state-issued teaching license or certificate,
  4. commit to abide by the laws and regulations of Republic of China (Taiwan),
  5. be competent in interpersonal and communication skills,
  6. demonstrate understanding and be respectful of the local culture,
  7. be willing to teach in a rural area.

● Required documents include:

1. Application Form
2. Three Letters of Recommendation
3. Resume
4. Transcript
5. Diploma
6. Teaching Certificate
7. U.S. Passport
8. Health Check Report
9. A police check/clearance issued within 6 months before submitting the application

### **3. What is the Job Description?**

Foreign English teachers work with Taiwanese teachers to improve the quality of English curriculum, teaching, and assessment, enhance the professional standards of English teaching, create a positive and immersive English learning environment, and strengthen the overall English abilities of students. The main job duties for foreign English teachers are listed below:

- (1) Work hours are 5 days a week, 8 hours a day.
- (2) Conduct co-teaching with Taiwanese teachers up to 20 periods a week.
- (3) Provide a positive English learning environment for students by taking part in various school activities, exhibitions, performances, and projects. Create a rich immersive English learning environment via diverse approaches to enhance student's overall English ability, learning interests, and confidence.
- (4) Participate in English teaching meetings, professional development activities, extracurricular activities, competitions, exhibitions, performances, and other related projects.
- (5) Prepare lessons with colleagues or independently, including writing lesson plans, preparing teaching materials, grading assignments, and assessing evaluations.
- (6) Accept assignments from the school to participate in English teaching professional development activities, competitions, exhibitions, performances, and other related affairs organized by the government.

### **4. When will the teaching position be approved?**

**A** : The Ministry of Education will send the notice of acceptance to each TECO office or it will be sent via e-mail to each candidate at the end of June. After receiving the notice of acceptance, candidates will have to submit school placement preference forms, which will be attached to the notice of acceptance.

### **5. What kind of certificates or procedures should be carried out and provided before foreign teachers come to Taiwan?**

### **■ Working Permit**

Within 1.5 months of the Ministry of Education receiving foreign teachers' photocopies of passports, diplomas, teacher certificates or teacher qualifications and relevant documents, the ministry will help the county/city governments and schools to apply to the Council of Labor Affairs, Executive Yuan for employment permits (work permits) for foreign teachers, in order for teachers to work legally in the country. The application fees for permits will be borne by the schools in which the teachers are employed.

### **■ Resident Visa**

After the permits are received, candidates may visit the website of the Bureau of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for Resident Visa application. Dependents coming along with foreign teachers should also apply for their Resident Visas. Any required marriage certificates, relationship certificates and fees should be provided by teachers and their dependents.

### **■ Health Check and Criminal Record Check**

In accordance with the employment contracts, foreign teachers should take a physical examination and get a valid police/criminal record check. These fees should be borne by the teachers.

## **6. What should I apply when I arrive in Taiwan?**

**A :** As soon as foreign teachers arrive in Taiwan, the schools will help them to apply for an Alien Resident Certificate (ARC, like our Identification Card) from the Foreign Affairs Division (Section) of the county/city in which the school is located. (Please note, it is usual to apply for the Reentry option at the same time, as it is also on the same application form.) After the foreign teacher has got his or her ARC, foreign teachers may apply for Labor Insurance, open an account at a bank or post office and related affairs.

## **7. Will I have to buy a plane ticket?**

- A:** 1. Teachers must arrange their flight itinerary and pay for the tickets first. Teachers should arrive in Taiwan on the designated date to participate in the orientation in Taiwan. The Ministry of Education will provide the pick-up service at a certain day for teachers to orientation.
2. Taiwanese government will provide teachers with round-trip air tickets and the airfare shall be reimbursed. Please note that the airfare reimbursement detail is subject to the Employment Contract.

## **8. How much should I bring to Taiwan?**

**A :** Foreign teachers should bring a deposit or check with value is equal to NT20,000 ~ 30,000 for teachers' personal expenses to settle down and in the first month after arriving in Taiwan.

## **9. Are foreign teachers required to pay a Taiwan income tax?**

**A:** Yes. Starting from 2012, all K-9 teachers in Taiwan have to pay income tax, including foreign teachers.

By reference to the Income Tax Act of the ROC, the only criteria for deciding the tax character of a foreign taxpayer is the 183-day rule (from January to December of each year), which means a person who is physically present in this country 183 days or more in a taxable year will be classified as a character of a tax resident and shall have withholding as such (5%) from the day of acquisition. On the other hand, a person who has not spent more than 183 days in a year is considered a non-resident and his withholding rate will be fixed at 18%. The host school in Taiwan will deduct withholding from the salary every month. Any over-withheld amount can be claimed back by filing an individual income tax return with the national tax administration through a refund procedure.

However, the actual rates/amount will be calculated by and depend on the guidelines of Taiwan's IRS.