



Teaching Overseas Frequently Asked Questions

Don't panic!!!!!!!

Moving job is stressful enough, let alone country!

Our aim with this guide is to give you some comfort, remember, you can contact us for more information too.



Do I need a degree to get an international teaching job?

In our experience, yes you do. This is mainly to secure your work visa and to prove you are actually qualified to do the role. Be careful of companies that tell you that they can get you a visa without a degree as this may be a tourist visa which by definition, means you are not actually legally entitled to paid employment.

On top of this you generally need a teaching qualification, i.e. PGCE or CELTA / TEFL / TESOL, if you want to teach ESL. It is also becoming the norm in quite a few countries where your bachelor's degree must be in the subject you are teaching so bear this in mind too. Our adverts are very clear when it comes to this to prevent any confusion.



Where can I teach?

If you possess the right qualifications, experience and meet any other requirements that have been stipulated, then quite frankly, anywhere!!

How long is a typical contract?

We have roles that range from 6 months to 2 years in general. Some can also offer open ended contracts as well. Most contracts offer the ability to renew unless it is a fixed term project, check beforehand so you have all the information up front.



How do I apply?

The easiest way is to apply specifically for a role. Always make sure you meet the minimum criteria before pressing send though! If you are unsure or would just like some advice, then just give us a call and we will happily guide you.

Again, any company that isn't willing to share information or tries to just get you to register should ring alarm bells. Changing job is stressful enough, let alone country, so work with someone you trust.



Can I take my family?

Depends on a few factors, namely the visa you are entering on and how much support will be provided.

Some countries will provide a legitimate working visa however due to contract length, there will be some restrictions and sponsoring your family is one. Also, some roles are simply not conducive to taking family due to the remote location, salary etc.

If you are looking to work in an international school, then the majority of the time you can take your family and then will be looked after. Of course, if you are a teaching couple, this always helps!



What is the interview process?

Some organisations will only interview face to face. They will, for example, travel to the UK and arrange recruitment events with offers on the day. Others use online interview tools such as Zoom or Skype, some are even using Facetime video or What's App video too!

Our advice is to NEVER EVER accept a role without speaking to someone at the hiring company first. Fake roles exist, we have heard from our candidates of them falling for these scams. Remember. If it looks too good to be true, it generally is! If you are unsure, you can always speak to us.



Do I need to speak the local language?

Generally, no. Of course, it helps! You may find that your new employer offers local language lessons as part of the package, we see this quite a lot in China.

What are the salaries like?

Cost of living varies across the globe. What you should really be asking, is what do I need to live on? If you need to send back a certain amount of money, then factor this in. If you have no responsibilities, then your search will be wider. Don't just look for the role with the highest package, there might be a reason why they are paying so much!!!

How do I know if the role is right for me?

Do your research. Does the location and organisation match your needs and goals? What is the employer like to deal with? Are they receptive to questions and queries? Remember, you are the one setting foot on that plane so make sure you have checked and double checked everything.

What are the benefits of working overseas?

Working overseas can be an extremely fulfilling experience. You get to see the world, experience new cultures, meet new people and get a broader perspective on life. You will learn new skills which will stand you in good stead for the future too. Of course, you can earn and save a lot of money too! Take a look at our expat Teacher interviews to see for yourself.



What does a typical package contain?

Expatriate packages always include a work visa of some description. Any company trying to persuade you to travel on a tourist visa will need to be verified, there could be a legitimate reason however please be vigilant! You should also receive either accommodation or an allowance, medical cover and return flights. If flights are not included, generally a bonus will be paid at the end of the contract to cover the initial outlay.

International schools may offer schooling, this could be totally free, or they pay a proportion of the fee. Transportation to and from work is sometimes provided too, this really does depend on which country you are travelling to though. International teaching is a very competitive world and organisations are constantly thinking of new ways to attract teachers. We have some clients that offer health club memberships, some offer a healthy relocation allowance, others provide interest free loans to help you settle in.



Before we leave you.....

Remember – at m2r Education we will NEVER EVER ask you for money to find you a job. Our service to you is free and will always be.

Watch out for companies whose morals are not quite as clean as ours.....



Feel better?

If we have given you food for thought, contact our team for an initial chat.

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