

# **Teaching in Taiwan FAQs**

#### 1. Application Procedure:

STEP

- Apply for Program(Before April 30)
- Arrange a Skype interview (May)

STEP

• Notice of Acceptance (Before June)

STEP 3

• Sign Contract (Online with the school, before July)

STEP

Apply for Work Permit

STÉP 5 Apply for Resident Visa (After acquiring the work permit)

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• Fly to Taiwan (August)

STEP

• Attend Orientation (August 13-17)

# 2. How do I apply?

- Applicants must:
  - 1. obtain a bachelor's or higher degree
  - 2. be a qualified teacher
  - 3. commit to abide by the laws and regulations of Republic of China (Taiwan)
  - 4. be competent in interpersonal communication skills
  - 5. demonstrate understanding and be respectful of the local culture
  - **6.** be willing to teach in rural areas

<sup>\*</sup>Please see the application package for details.

- Required documents include:
  - **1.** Application Form
  - 2. Resume
  - **3.** Three Letters of Recommendation
  - **4.** Teaching Experience Proofs
  - 5. Transcript (required, if graduated within the last two years)
  - **6.** Diploma
  - 7. Teaching Certificate
  - **8.** Passport
  - 9. Health Check Report
  - 10. Criminal History Record Information

#### 3. When will the teaching position be approved?

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

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

#### ■ Work 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 should help the county/city governments and schools apply for employment permits (work permits) for foreign teachers, in order for teachers to work legally in the country.

# ■ Resident Visa(s)

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

#### Health Check and Criminal Records Checks

In accordance with the employment contract, foreign teachers need a physical examination and valid police/criminal record check. Fees for these are borne by the teachers.

#### 5. What should I apply for when I arrive in Taiwan?

A: As soon as foreign teachers arrive in Taiwan, the schools will help them apply for Alien Resident Certificates (or ARC, an 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 foreign teachers have received their ARC, they will apply for health and labour insurance and open a bank or post office account.

# 6. Will I have to buy a plane ticket?

- **A:** 1. Teachers must arrange their flight itinerary and pay for their tickets first. Teachers should arrive in Taiwan on the designated date to participate in the required teacher orientation. The Ministry of Education will provide pick-up service for teachers to attend orientation training.
  - 2. The Taiwanese government will provide teachers with round-trip airfare reimbursement. Please note that the airfare reimbursement details are subject to the Employment Contract.

### 6. How much money should I bring to Taiwan?

A: Foreign teachers should bring a deposit or check of value equal to NT\$20,000 ~ 30,000 for teachers' personal and living expenses to assist in getting settled in the first months after arriving in Taiwan.

### 7. Are foreign teachers required to pay Taiwan income tax?

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

According to the Income Tax Act of the ROC, the criteria determining which tax bracket a foreign taxpayer falls in is the "183-day rule" (for a calendar year from January to December). Foreign taxpayers physically in Taiwan for 183 days or more in a calendar year are characterized as tax residents and have taxes withheld at a (minimum) 5% rate. Foreign taxpayers physically in Taiwan for less than 183 days in a calendar year are characterized as non-residents and have taxes withheld at an 18% rate. Taxes are deducted from the teacher's monthly salary by the host school. For over-withheld taxes, a tax refund can be claimed by filing an Individual Income Tax Return with the National Tax Administration. Actual rates/amounts will be calculated by and dependent on the guidelines of Taiwan's IRS.