

### General Questions

#### 1. What does the tuition for the program include?

Course fees:

**\$500** Non-refundable deposit

**\$990** TEFL course fee

This amount includes tuition, course materials, certification and moderation fees. Airfares, accommodation and food are not included.

#### 2. How do I pay for the course?

By now you will have paid the \$500 deposit. You have the following options for final payment:

Pay by credit card either before or upon arrival.

Go to our secured server at <https://teflife.com/payments.html> and follow the instructions. You will only need to fill in your name, email address and credit card details in the billing section. We will usually respond within 12 hours confirming receipt of payment.

Pay by personal check

To: TEFL International  
1200 Belle Passi Rd  
Woodburn, OR 97071

Personal checks MUST BE drawn on a US bank from a US account and it must arrive 2 weeks before the course start date. *Please write your name, the course location, course dates, and your Email address on the back of the check. This is very important so that we can immediately notify you when the check has been received.*

Pay by bank transfer:

To: Bank of America  
Routing No. 02600959-3  
Swift Code BOFAUS6S  
Account No. 004541342524 FOR WIRE IN ONLY

CREDIT: TEFL INTERNATIONAL  
Bank of America, N.A.  
110 South Pacific Hwy  
Woodburn, OR 97071  
Tel. No. 503 982-2265

You should send in US DOLLARS. Your local bank should convert the currency. IF THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE they can ask for other instructions at [applications@teflife.com](mailto:applications@teflife.com). Please arrange to send the bank transfer 2 weeks before the course start date. Kindly send us a scanned copy of your bank receipt at [applications@teflife.com](mailto:applications@teflife.com). Please do not forget to bring and show the bank receipt to the course administrator upon arrival at the training center.

Cash on arrival is NOT an acceptable method of final payment and is only accepted under unusual circumstances. If you feel that your case warrants an exception to this policy Email us immediately at [applications@teflife.com](mailto:applications@teflife.com) and we can review your situation. If

you fail to gain a special exemption beforehand, cash payments will be charged an additional 10 percent handling fee.

We apologize for repeating ourselves but cash on arrival is NOT an acceptable method of final payment. If you do not gain our approval beforehand by sending us an email at [applications@teflife.com](mailto:applications@teflife.com) your cash payments will be charged an additional 10 percent handling charge.

All payments MUST be made by the end of lunch on the first day unless special arrangements have been made with the course administrator. Late fees of \$25 per day may be assessed if payment is not made.

If payments have not been received by the end of class on the first Wednesday, you must gain permission from [applications@teflife.com](mailto:applications@teflife.com) to remain in the course.

### **3. What is an average program day like?**

Classes from 09:00 – 16:45 with a one hour lunch break and two fifteen minute breaks.

### **4. How many students on average are in the program each month?**

The TEFL Certificate Program in Chiang Mai is a very popular course. Class sizes during peak season (November to April) can be as high as 15-18 trainees, and during off peak season (May to October) approximately 6-10 trainees.

### **5. What are the teaching practice students and classes like?**

Observed teaching takes place off campus. TEFL International utilizes local schools in Chiang Mai for its teaching sessions. Thai students will generally be from Prathom 3 to Mathayom 4 (ages 9-16 years old)

### **6. When do I begin teaching students?**

Teaching will generally begin on the first Thursday of the course.

### **7. What is the program accommodations like? Where are they located?**

TEFL International can arrange a range of accommodation types for you. Your Course Administrator will send you more details of your accommodation options. Accommodation starts from around \$150 for the month.

### **8. Can I have things shipped or mailed to me at the school?**

Yes, no problem. Your Course Administrator will give you more details about this.

### **9. Can I bring my laptop?**

Yes, you can bring it with you but the internet connections aren't ideal in Thailand, especially from a private phone line.

### **10. Who teaches the TEFL Certificate Program?**

All of our trainers have postgraduate qualifications in ESL/EFL teaching, as well as many years of experience in the classroom.

### **11. What accreditation does the TEFL Certificate Program have?**

The TEFL Certificate Program is externally validated and moderated by a Board of Academic Advisors. This board includes several internationally recognized experts in the field of English Language Teaching. Secondly, it has been approved and accredited by the Language Institute's Board of Directors.

#### **The job market and teaching in Thailand: Paperwork and documentation**

##### **1. What is the TEFL job market in Thailand like? Will I have trouble getting a job?**

The TEFL job market in Thailand is excellent at the moment. Finding employment is only difficult if you wait until the last day of the course to begin looking. With just a little patience, you will certainly locate work in no time, usually in the area of your choice.

Chiang Mai can be a very competitive place to work. Chiang Mai appeals to a great number of teachers. Many teachers wish to work here. Generally speaking, language school will hire on going every month, however, local government schools and private schools will tend to hire their teachers during semester breaks (March to June) and (October). It becomes more difficult to obtain teaching work in schools outside the academic semester timetable.

##### **2. When do I need to start looking for work in Thailand? Where do I start?**

We suggest you begin setting up interviews and sending resumes in the second or third week of the course.

##### **3. What will TEFL International do to help me secure employment?**

We can give you a list of schools in Thailand and help you with resume and interview preparation. We guarantee job placement assistance, but please note that TEFL International doesn't 'guarantee' its graduates employment in Thailand as such. This job placement assistance program is an integral part of the course and is available for as long as you may require it.

##### **4. Will you be able to place me in a teaching position?**

While we can make no guarantees of work, TEFL International graduates will be able to access the TEFL International Alumni site which contains links to a variety of job vacancy sites, not only in Thailand but around the world. Here you will find a list of schools currently in the TEFL International database.

##### **5. What is the average salary like?**

The average full-time (18-22 contact hours per week) salary in Thailand is about 25,000 to 30,000 baht per month. This varies depending on what type of school or company you work for and whether you work full or part-time.

##### **6. Do most schools provide accommodations for their teachers?**

No, but there are schools that do this. For example, some schools may provide a room for you, either shared or single, probably in an apartment with other teachers and it may or may not be on the school's premises.

##### **7. How many of the TEFL graduates actually find work in Thailand?**

Most of our course graduates who have wanted to work in Thailand have been able to secure teaching positions.

#### **8. What documents do I need to bring?**

Of course, you need your passport. When you secure work you may be asked to provide notarized copies of your birth certificate, college degrees and transcripts and criminal record certificate. You might also consider obtaining an international driving permit if driving in Thailand should be necessary for you, although the requirement of a driving licence is widely ignored.

#### **9. Do schools provide health insurance?**

Generally, no. However, if you pay Thai income tax, you are entitled to Social Security, which gives you medical coverage at a local specified hospital.

#### **10. Do schools provide work permits?**

Your school should help you secure a work permit. In order to apply initially, you get the job offer in writing from your future employer, along with copies of his business registration and Ministry of Education documents. You then leave the country and go to the nearest Thai consulate. Most people go to Penang in Malaysia and Vientiane in Laos. The next day you collect your non-immigrant B visa which you use to come back into Thailand. It is then converted to a work permit after a considerable amount of paperwork is completed.

#### **11. What is a typical teaching position like?**

Of course, it varies from school to school, but you may be expected to teach a variety of courses, ranging from children to business professionals at all levels, in groups or in private sessions.

#### **12. Can I return to my own country and teach with my certificate?**

Yes, it's possible though the requirements for working in ESL or TEFL in many western countries are different and sometimes need graduate education in ESL or TEFL.

### **Questions about Chiang Mai: Living in Thailand**

#### **1. What are the average housing and living expenses in Thailand?**

Most likely you will rent a room in an apartment or house with other teachers or with Thais, and of course it depends on where you choose to live. A pleasant, small 2 to 3 bedroom house in Thailand is about 6,000 to 10,000 baht per month. Apartments are available for less. It is fair to say that TEFL teachers are very well-paid by local standards in Thailand, which means they can afford a comfortable standard of living. A local (Thai) teacher in Thailand earns around 6,000 to 8,000 Baht (about 160 - 212 dollars) while a TEFL teacher at the same school can expect to earn 25,000 baht - about \$660 per month. While this may not sound a lot by international standards, it means you can live very comfortably in Thailand.

#### **2. What if I get sick in Chiang Mai? Are there western-standard medical facilities?**

There are many private hospitals with excellent health care. Chiang Mai Ram Hospital is the leading private hospital here located approximately 3Km from the center and Lanna Hospital is another one located on the superhighway 5KM from the center.

### **3. What's the public transportation system like?**

Tuk-Tuk and Songthaew (red cars) are the modes of transportation. Trainees can get around our CMU campus with a free mini car service (looks like a golf car). Tuk-Tuk costs between 60-100 Baht within city limits and red car about 30-50 baht depending on the destination.

### **4. What's the climate like? What kind of clothing will I need to bring?**

During monsoon season (July to October) it's best to bring weatherproof clothing; cold season (November to February) long sleeve clothing, jackets may be necessary and for summer (March - June) you'll need light clothing. Clothes are very inexpensive in Thailand, so you may want to travel fairly light.

***Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any other questions or concerns.***

***Thank you for choosing TEFL International!***