

Questions you should / could ask before accepting an offer

HOUSING

When allowance or housing is provided

- How safe is the neighbourhood where my housing will be?
- Is housing pre-selected or does the teacher select it? If the latter, how does the school help? If provided by school, how far away is it? If not walking distance...how do I get to school?
- Is housing furnished? What can I expect to find? What will I need to bring?
- May I have friends/family visit and stay with me in my accommodation?
- Utilities: Will school assist with set up? Does school pay for utilities? What utilities are included? Average cost per month?

When allowance is not provided

- How is this handled?
- Is there any support to help me find an apartment?
- What would be the typical cost of an xx bedroom apartment?

PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENT

- How international is the school?
- What percentage of students need additional support with English?
- What percentage of teaching staff leave annually? What is the average/median length of stay?
- Will my teaching assignment be specified in my contract....will it be adhered to?
- Will I be expected to take on after-school responsibilities? Are these paid? How much time is expected?
- How is Professional Development provided? What would your teachers say about the quality/frequency of PD? May I attend training courses and/or conferences? How is this decided?
- Will the school finance my attendance at conferences if I am a presenter?

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FINANCIAL

My Salary

- Do I receive credit for experience? My degrees? How will I be paid (US\$/local currency /other)?

Taxes / Net monthly pay

- Are there local taxes? If yes, is this paid by the school or the candidate?
- May I see a breakdown of what my net monthly pay will be?
- When can I expect to receive my first salary payment?

Payment / Package

- What type of visa will I need, and who is responsible for obtaining and paying for it?
- Will my initial airfare be paid ahead or reimbursed after arrival? Does it cover my dependents?
- What is the shipping allowance coverage? Monetary or by weight? Air/sea? Extra luggage?
- Does the school assist with shipping some of my teaching materials?
- How often will I receive airfare to my home of record?
- Is there a settling in allowance and if so, how is this paid?
- What type of health insurance is there? Is there coverage for pre-existing conditions? Does the insurance cover me world-wide, regionally, or just in the host country?
- Will my medication (if I take any) be readily available in the host country?
- Is a retirement plan/pension offered? Is my contribution matched by the school? Is the fund transferable?
- Does the school provide a cell/mobile phone and/or a computer/tablet?
- Will I be offered full or partial tuition remission for my children?
- Does this include sports/arts/trips/uniforms or do staff members pay this?
- Are there job opportunities for a trailing spouse/partner in this country?

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END OF CONTRACT

- When is notification required regarding extension of contract or leaving?
- At end of contract, is shipping allowance given?
- What other assistance is given at end of contract?

SOCIAL EXPERIENCES

- May I Skype or Zoom with colleagues and Administrators, especially people like me ie young and single, have a young family, more mature teacher?
- What do teachers do in their out of school hours?
- Will I be able to continue the sports or other activities I enjoy?
- What do teachers particularly enjoy about living in this location?
- Are there any drawbacks?



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