



## 2009 Teach in Chile

<b>Location</b>	Small North Region - Atacama
<b>Program Dates</b>	March 21/22 to November 28, 2009 (8 months) July 25/26 to November 28, 2009 (4 months)
<b>Program Fees</b>	8 months: <b>US\$1000</b> - Application deadline January 15, 2009 <i>Early-Bird Special: US\$850</i> Application deadline Nov. 15, 2008 4 months: <b>US\$800</b> - Application deadline May 15, 2009 <i>Early-Bird Special: US\$700</i> - Application deadline Jan 15, 2009
<b>What's Included</b>	Guaranteed teach placement in Atacama Region CLP 85,000/month stipend Private Room with carefully selected host family Three meals/day with host family All-inclusive training and orientation in Santiago and host city Round-trip domestic transportation Santiago to/from host city E-learning Spanish & in-person Spanish lessons during orientation Classroom Materials Visa Assistance Basic Traveler's Insurance Pre-departure and local support <i>(Much more...see details below)</i>
<b>What's not Included</b>	International transportation Personal Expenses Visa fees Airport taxes
<b>Accommodations</b>	Private room and 3 meals per day for 7 days per week with carefully selected host family.

### PROGRAM LOCATIONS:

#### Atacama

The Atacama region is a region of strong contrasts, where you will pass extended barren plains to the richest agricultural valleys of Chile. A region of beautiful landscapes that range from valleys to the ocean. Copiapo, the region's capital is characterized for being a transition between the desert and the zone of transverse valleys, giving way to both climate conditions.

The geography varies from mountainous ranges, with an average elevation of 2500 feet, to beaches along the Pacific coast, to areas that are full of salt basins (salars) sand and lava flows. The landscape is so desolate it is sometimes described as "moon like"

The "atacameños" (people from Atacama) were the founders of the so called "San Pedro Culture."

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They were the first farmers and therefore the first sedentary group of the country. As there was little cultivation area, they constructed terraces in the mountain slopes which were artificially irrigated and fertilized with Llama's guano. They showed their artistic developments through pottery, weaves, basketry, wood carvings, and metals.

## **PROGRAM DETAILS AND HIGHLIGHTS:**

### **Volun-teacher Responsibilities:**

At the beginning, volun-teachers are paired with one or more Chilean English as a Foreign Language (EFL) teacher for the duration of their placement in Chile. The Chilean EFL teacher, in agreement with the volunteer, decides on the volunteer's schedule, activities and involvement in student evaluation.

The work dynamic between volun-teachers and the Chilean teacher(s) is as follows: volunteers work with half the class while the EFL teacher works with the other half. After 45 minutes, volunteers and teachers exchange groups and teach the other half of the class for the next 45 minutes. The Chilean teacher decides on a method to divide the class in to two groups.

Volun-teachers work 25 pedagogical hours (45 minutes) a week. During classes, volunteers focus on the improvement of students' listening and speaking skills and prepare activities focused on language production including pronunciation activities, games, chants, songs, role-playing, and conversation groups.

Volun-teachers should plan lessons with the Chilean EFL teacher(s) and implement extracurricular activities at the school for 10 additional hours a week. They must plan lessons with the Chilean EFL teacher(s) and implement extracurricular activities at the school. Volun-teachers are expected to put aside at least two of these hours a week to plan with the EFL teacher(s) while the remaining hours are to lead activities for both students and teachers aimed at developing English language abilities.

As a part of their extracurricular involvement, volunteers are responsible for helping to train a dialogue team (for 5-8 grades) and/or a debate team (9-12 grades) in order to participate in the National Dialogue and Debate Competitions. In the event the school does not yet have these teams, volun-teachers are responsible for helping to develop them.

### **School Partnerships**

The English Opens Doors Volunteer Program designates regional counterparts to visit and evaluate applicant schools for eligibility to receive a volun-teacher. Once schools have been selected, volun-teachers will be matched with a school in the region. The placement will depend on the volun-teacher's prior teaching experience and their letter of motivation. Volun-teachers will be informed of their school assignments in Santiago, during orientation.

Volun-teachers will work in different environments ranging from large urbanized cities to small rural towns. Resources for photocopying and internet-use also vary. Volun-teachers are strongly encouraged to bring materials in English such as: magazines, posters, and newspapers to use in their classes and extra-curricular activities.

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### Anticipated Program Dates:

2009 ACTIVITIES*	8 months program	4 months program
<i>Volun-teachers arrival in Santiago</i>	March 21-22	July 25-26
<i>Training Session in Santiago</i>	March 23-27	July 27-31
<i>Travel to Region Placement</i>	March 28-29	August 1-2
<i>Meeting with Host Family</i>	March 28-29	August 1-2
<i>Regional – Local Training</i>	March 30-April 3	August 3-7
<i>Classroom Observation Period</i>	March 30-April 3	August 3-7
<i>First Day Teaching Class</i>	April 6	August 10
<i>End of 1<sup>st</sup> Term</i>	July 17	N/A
<i>Winter Break</i>	July 17-31*	N/A
<i>Beginning of 2<sup>nd</sup> Term</i>	August 3	N/A
<i>Closing Activities in Atacama</i>	November 23-24	November 23-24
<i>Travel to Santiago</i>	November 25	November 25
<i>Final Evaluation in Santiago</i>	November 26-27	November 26-27
<i>End of Program</i>	November 28	November 28

*\*Dates are subject to change*

### Host Families

The English Opens Doors Volunteer Program carefully selects host families for the volun-teachers. All selected host families must provide a private room for the volunteer and the house should be located close to the school or at an accessible distance by public transportation. Families are evaluated for home conditions, safety, and accessibility.

### PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- Native English speakers or use English as your everyday language, and have received your K-12 or undergraduate education in English.
- Bachelor's degree in any discipline.
- Classroom experience or working with children preferred.
- No age requirement as long as you have your undergraduate degree, healthy, and young at heart
- Basic level of Spanish (If needed, Spanish language lessons available before program in Santiago)
- Enjoy leading groups and teaching children and/or adults
- Good lesson planning and organization skills
- Attendance at staff meetings
- Open to foreign cultures and living abroad
- High level of responsibility
- Dedication to the full term of commitment

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## **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:**

### ***Teaching in Chile Offers:***

- The satisfaction of helping others
- An opportunity to broaden your perspective and worldview
- An economical way to live and travel abroad
- An opportunity to participate in and learn local cultural activities (e.g.: language, music, dancing, cooking)
- Memorable travel experiences with the chance to see exotic sites you have always dreamed about
- The ability to make lifelong friends from around the globe
- A valuable work experience that strengthens your resume
- A great way to develop and support your self-confidence and interpersonal skills

### ***Cultural Embrace Offers:***

- **Guaranteed Teaching Position Prior to Departure**  
*Cultural Embrace* pre-arranges your teaching placement before you leave home to ensure an easy and hassle-free transition to your new life abroad. Guaranteed Teacher Assistant position in Region III (Atacama). Limited positions available
- **Compensation**  
You will receive a stipend of CLP85,000 a month
- **Housing and Meals**  
*Cultural Embrace* and the Ministry of Education will pre-arrange housing in a carefully selected homestay with a local Chilean family. Private room and 3 meals a day are included.
- **Visa Assistance**  
Chile's Ministry of Education will support all proper paperwork to obtain proper visas for all teacher assistants. Please note that any fees obtained for the 1-year Temporary Residence Visa will be the responsibility of the participant. (citizen of Canada US\$176, UK US\$481, Australia \$144, South Africa \$47, New Zealand US\$460; all other nationalities do not have a temporary residence fee)
- **e-Blended Spanish Course**  
On-line *Link Chile e-learning Spanish* and in-person Spanish classes during orientation. Additional Spanish in 'formal classroom' available for an optional fee. We recommend lessons in Santiago or other Latin American destinations prior to the welcome orientation.
- **Arrival Assistance**  
Airport pick-up and transfer will be included.
- **Travel Insurance: Basic Major Medical Coverage**  
Our policy provides basic medical coverage at your teaching location. *Cultural Embrace* highly recommends additional travel insurance.
- **Cultural Embrace Teacher's Kit**  
Useful tips, advice, and information to prepare you for the amazing adventure of living and working abroad.
- **Comprehensive In-country Orientation**  
Upon arrival in Santiago, the Ministry of Education will conduct an orientation that will

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introduce you to your teaching position, life in Chile, Chilean customs and culture, as well as many other useful tips for your time abroad.

- **Optional On-line TEFL Certification**  
Preparation of skills and techniques required for successful language teaching at the leisure of your own schedule and computer. This 20-units course requires approx. 100-120 hours of attention and can be added to your program for only US\$250.
- **Full-time Representation**  
*Cultural Embrace* provides representation in the United States and your host country prior to, during, and after your placement.
- **Certification**  
If you wish to receive a certificate detailing your teaching experience, please let us know and we will provide the necessary documentation.

### **2009 PROGRAM FEES:**

<b>Duration</b>	<b>Arrival Dates</b>	<b>Program Fees (in US\$)</b>	<b>Early Bird Savings</b>
8 month program	March 22-23	<b>\$1000</b> Application deadline: Jan. 15, 2009	<b>\$850</b> Application deadline: Nov. 15, 2008
4 month program	July 25-26	<b>\$800</b> Application deadline: May 15, 2009	<b>\$700</b> Application deadline: Jan. 15, 2009

\* US\$150 discount available for teacher's with prior TEFL Certification.

\*\* Applicants older than 50 will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Ministry of Education

\*\*\* Can\$, Aus\$, Br£, Euros€ can be accepted with an additional service charge for currency conversion.

### **Costs Not Included in Program**

- International airfare from home country to Santiago, Chile
- Entrance reciprocity fee at International Airport in Santiago, Chile. (citizen of the following nationalities: Canada US\$132, USA\$100, Australia US\$56 only)
- Domestic & international phone calls
- Fees for obtaining the 1-year Temporary Residence Visa (citizen of Canada US\$176, UK USD\$481, Australia US\$144, South Africa USD\$47, New Zealand USD\$460 only) There are no visa fees for citizens of the US and Ireland
- Personal expenses
- Airport transfer fees for volun-teachers arriving outside of the specified arrival days

### **HOW TO APPLY:**

- Read the instructions carefully and complete all forms attached.
- Submit your completed application packet to:

**CULTURAL EMBRACE**  
7201 Bill Hughes Road  
Austin, TX 78745 USA

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- Completed packet should include:
  - Program Application
  - Signed Teach Program Agreement
  - Resume/CV
  - Cover Letter explaining why you want to teach abroad
  - Letter in Spanish to your future host family introducing yourself
  - Proof of high school graduate or equivalent
  - Copy of your passport (information page only)
  - Three Letters of Recommendations (your referrer can send it directly to us via postal or email)
  - Four passport-size photos (please write your name on the back of the pictures)
  - One full-length picture
  - Medical report verifying your mental and physical health
  - Police clearance (background check)
  - \$200 non-refundable deposit (credited to your program fee)

### **Application Deadlines:**

*January 15, 2009* for 8 months March start date

Early-bird savings: *November 15, 2008* for \$150 savings!

*May 15, 2009* for 4 month July start date

Early-bird savings: *January 15, 2009* for \$100 savings!

- Upon receipt of your application, we will contact you for ~20-30 minutes phone interview to learn more about your skills, experience, needs, etc; and to discuss the program details and expectations. After acceptance to our program, we will invoice you the remainder of the program fee.

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

*1) Where are the teach placements?*

Our current agreement with the Ministry of Education in Chile is to send teacher assistants in the Atacama region (III). We ask that you are flexible in regards to specific cities and areas of this region, as it will be determined by the need and availability of the local communities and schools.

*2) Where will I live?*

**Cultural Embrace**, along with the Ministry of Education, will pre-arrange your housing before you leave for Chile. Your host family will be assigned based on school placement and the volunteer's host family preference information. Allergies, dietary restrictions, and smoking/non-smoking preferences will be taken in to consideration. Volunteer-teachers are expected to live with their host family for the entire period of their teaching work. If a change is necessary to make in the host family placement, the English Opens Doors Volunteer Program will be responsible for helping the volunteer find a new host family. The English Opens Doors Volunteer Program will only help a volunteer change his/her host family once.

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Host Family Exceptions: While the English Opens Doors Volunteer Program will try its best to find a host family for every volun-teacher, there are circumstances under which a volunteer is not guaranteed a host family:

Rural Placement: In rural communities, it's difficult to find families that meet the basic requirements for hosting a volunteer, i.e. a separate bedroom and reasonable distance from the school(s). If the National Volunteer Center is unable to find a host family, then the volunteer will be placed in an on-campus residence hall with students and teachers.

Married Couples: For married couples volunteering together, it is difficult to find host families willing to take in a couple. In this case, the married couple can choose either to live in separate home stays or to live in an independent living situation, i.e. an apartment. If the couple decides to live independently, the regional coordinator will help them find an apartment to rent and give them the monthly stipends reserved for the host family to offset the cost of rent and expenses such as utilities and food. In most cases, the monthly stipends will not be enough money to cover all living expenses and the married couple is responsible for contributing their own money to cover costs beyond the amount of the stipends.

*3) How much will I get paid?*

You will receive CLP 85,000 stipend every month (~US\$170). This stipend will be enough to cover pocket expenses while you live in Atacama, but it will not be enough to travel or buy expensive souvenirs.

*4) How long can I teach in Chile?*

Teach placements are available for 4 or 8 month contracts. If you are interested in a placement longer than 8 months or shorter than 4 months please contact **Cultural Embrace** and we will be happy to let you know about other Teach programs that we offer in Latin America.

*5) What type of visa assistance does **Cultural Embrace** provide?*

**Cultural Embrace** and the Ministry of Education will provide visa assistance to accepted teachers. Please note that any visa fees are the responsibility of the applicant. And, while we can assist you during the process, ultimately it is your responsibility to ensure that you have obtained the appropriate visa for your work experience. **Cultural Embrace** has no control over the visa process and cannot guarantee that your visa application will be accepted.

Fees for obtaining the 1-year Temporary Residence Visa: citizen of Canada US\$176, UK US\$481, Australia US\$144, South Africa US\$47, New Zealand US\$460. There are no visa fees for citizens of the US and Ireland.

*6) What are the language requirements?*

Spanish language skills are helpful but not required. Additionally, an e-Blending on-line *Link Chile e-learning* Spanish course is available prior to departure, as well as training during the orientation are available. If you wish to take Spanish lessons before or during your teach placement in Chile, please just contact a **Cultural Embrace** representative.

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7) *What are the working conditions?*

Your work schedule will be assigned by your employer, but most positions average about 20-35 hours per week along with time needed to plan lessons. Each employer has its own working and schedule arrangement that you should be willing to accept. Of course you are encouraged to travel, but please consult with your employer to see if you can organize a schedule that will be effective for all parties involved.

8) *Do I have to bring specific clothes?*

Yes, you will need to dress professionally and appropriately for your teaching position. We recommend that you dress with a 'smart casual' attitude. However, we will provide you with more details in your **Cultural Embrace** pre-departure kit about your job and packing list.

9) *Can I teach and/or live with a friend or partner?*

Yes, you can enroll in this program with other people, however, please note that positions may be limited within a school. For this reason, participants hoping to travel together will need to be more flexible on the desired placement location.

10) *How long will it take to make my placement?*

The application deadline for the March start date is January 15, 2008. The application deadline for the May start is March 15, 2008. The final deadline is April 1 (July start). If you have missed these deadlines and are still interested in teaching in Chile, please contact **Cultural Embrace**.

11) *When should I buy my plane ticket and does Cultural Embrace provide any resources to help with plane tickets?*

Plane tickets should not be purchased until after your placement has been confirmed. **Cultural Embrace** works with consolidators and discount travel agencies that can help find cheaper tickets than those that are available to the general public.

12) *What do I do if I have a problem or complaint with my teach placement?*

You must speak to your employer or school director to give them an opportunity to explain or investigate the situation. If the complaint still exists, then please contact your local representative at the Ministry of Education as well as let **Cultural Embrace** (Austin office) know so we can mediate on your behalf. Please note that you will be assigned a local representative that will provide you with placement report(s) and end of the program evaluation.

*For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [teach@culturalembrace.com](mailto:teach@culturalembrace.com) or by phone at (US toll-free) 1-888-214-8570, or 1-512-469-9089.*

***Discover the Similarities...***  
***Share the Differences...***