



## 2009 Teach in Latin America

<b>Location</b>	Varies throughout Central/South America. (Most placements in Mexico, Honduras, Panama, Peru etc.)
<b>Start Dates</b>	Varies—January & July common start dates
<b>Program Fees</b>	<p>US\$1700 one semester          US\$1990 one academic school year/2 semesters          (Short-term placements available as volun-teach)</p> <p>Exclusive <i>Teach in Chile with Chile's Ministry of Education</i> &amp; United Nations Development Program (UNDP)          8 months - March – Nov.: US\$1000 Early bird savings: US\$850          4 months - July-- Nov.: US\$800 Early bird savings: US\$750          (See specific details below)</p>
<b>What's Included</b>	<p>Guaranteed teach position          Housing, Visa &amp; Arrival Assistance          International Traveler's Insurance          20 Units On-Line TEFL Preparatory Course (except Chile)          Full-time English-speakaing pre-departure and local support          (Much more...see details below)</p>
<b>What's not Included</b>	<p>International transportation          Personal Expenses</p>
<b>Benefits</b>	Local salary varies with experience and each school, however sufficient amount to pay for your basic local living expenses.
<b>Accommodations</b>	Pre-arranged and typically included with position. If you do not have housing included in your contract, we will pre-arrange initial temporary housing. Your salary will be more than enough to pay for your cost of local living.

### **PROGRAM DETAILS & HIGHLIGHTS:**

*Cultural Embrace* has partnered with numerous schools throughout Latin America to improve the English skills of the local people and help their education system. We work with many schools, academies, and institutes. Our close relationships allow us to be the first to hear about job openings and we can then match your skills with the school's needs. Placements depend greatly on experience, destination, and schedule. Most schools prefer teaching certification or classroom experience; however, because of our great reputation and service, many schools will accept the teachers that we recommend and approve, regardless of your level of experience.

**Cultural Embrace** ♦ 7201 Bill Hughes Road ♦ Austin, Texas 78745 U.S.A. ♦

♦ Ph: 888-214-8570/512-469-9089 ♦ [teach@culturalembrace.com](mailto:teach@culturalembrace.com) ♦ [www.culturalembrace.com](http://www.culturalembrace.com) ♦

Most paid placements are available for at least one semester or year commitment in Mexico, Panama, Peru, Honduras and Chile. Short and long term volunteaching opportunities are available in Honduras Guatemala, Costa Rica, Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador (see our volunteer web page for more information). Our placements are based upon the needs of our partner schools across Latin America. For this reason, our most successful placements happen when applicants are flexible with their desired destination, so that we may provide a teacher for the school with the most need. Nevertheless, applicants are welcome to state their regional preference as we often have multiple availabilities at any given time.

Teach in Latin America with *Cultural Embrace* and have an unforgettable experience while sharing a bit of yourself and your culture with a welcoming local community.

*Teaching in Latin America Offers:*

- Satisfaction in helping others
- A broader perspective on world views
- An economical way to live and travel abroad
- Opportunity to learn other foreign cultural activities (ie: language, music, cooking, etc)
- Memorable experiences while traveling and seeing exotic sites
- Lifelong friends from all around the globe
- Valuable work experiences that strengthens your resume
- Support and development of self-confidence and personal 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.
- **Compensation**  
While each destination and school has a different budget, we negotiate the best compensation through means of salary, room, board, and/or cultural classes (e.g.: language, art, music).
- **Housing Assistance**  
*Cultural Embrace* will help you find a clean, safe and affordable room. If your accommodations are not included with your teaching package, we will pre-arrange temporary housing for you, at your own expense. Your teaching salary will be more than enough to cover your housing and other living expenses while abroad.
- **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. (This is not included for our Chile program, but may be an added option for US\$295.)
- **Visa Assistance**  
*Cultural Embrace* will provide you with the proper paperwork needed to obtain a

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visa, but we have no control or the ability to guarantee government issuance and/or visa availability.

- **Arrival Assistance**  
Airport pick-up and transfer will be available at larger cities. If you are placed in a smaller town, we will have representatives pick you up from the local bus or train station.
- **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.
- **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.

*Teach with Chile's Ministry of Education Offers:*

- **Guaranteed Teach 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 in *Atacama* (March 21 or July 26 to Nov. 28, 2009).
- **Local Compensation**  
Monthly compensation of CLP 85,000 (~US\$165) per month
- **Housing**  
Private room with carefully selected host families is included.
- **Meals**  
Three meals per day with your host family is included. Special dietary and vegetarian restrictions available.
- **Visa Assistance**  
*Cultural Embrace* has been invited by Chile's Ministry of Education to send native English speaking teachers, and will provide support and necessary information and paperwork to obtain the proper visas to all teach participants\*
- **In-country Arrival Orientation & Training in Santiago**  
Topics include: Chilean culture, cultural adjustments, health & safety in Chile, general country and local information, EFL teaching methods and practices, curriculum training, workshops and field work with local English teachers and students. All room, board and local transportation will be included for the orientation as well as round-trip domestic transportation to/from the Atacama region – Santiago.
- **Basic Major Medical International Traveler's Insurance**  
Our policy provides basic medical coverage. *Cultural Embrace* highly recommends additional comprehensive travel insurance, which may be upgraded through CE for an extra cost.

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- **On-line TEFL Preparatory Course & 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 is included to teach in Latin America (except Chile, which may be added for an additional US\$295.)

- **Cultural Embrace Teacher's Kit**

Useful tips, advice, and information to prepare you for the amazing adventure of living and working abroad.

- **Certification**

If you wish to receive a certificate indicating your hours and school you taught at, please let us know, and we will provide the

- **Full-time Representation**

*Cultural Embrace* provides representation in the United States and your host country prior to, during, and after your placement.

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:**

- Good command of the English language (Spanish knowledge helpful but NOT required)
- Bachelor's degree in any discipline. Education majors and classroom experience preferred by some schools and positions, but not required by all (Students and non-degreed will be considered for teacher's assistant)
- Enjoy leading groups and teaching children or adults
- Good lesson planning and organization skills
- Attendance at staff's meeting
- Flexibility to embrace foreign cultures and living abroad
- Responsible and dedicated to full-term of commitment
- Criminal background check may be required by some schools and positions

**2009 PROGRAM FEES:**

<b>1 semester</b>	US\$1700
<b>1 school year</b>	US\$1990
<b>Teach in Chile</b>	8 months: US\$1000 App deadline: Jan. 15, 2009
	Early-bird: US\$850 App deadline: Nov. 15, 2008
	4 months: US\$ 800 App deadline: May 15, 2009
	Early-bird: US\$750 App deadline: Jan. 15, 2009

\*Short-term teach positions available as a Volunteer Abroad program.

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

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## **HOW TO APPLY**

1. Obtain the Teach Abroad **Application Forms & Procedures** documents in one of two ways:

(a) Download the forms from our website at [www.culturalembrace.com](http://www.culturalembrace.com)

(b) Call **Cultural Embrace** at 1-512-469-9089 or 1-888-214-8570 (US toll-free) to have the forms mailed to you in 7-10 days.

2. Read the instructions carefully and complete all forms.

3. Submit your completed application packet to:

### **CULTURAL EMBRACE**

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

#### **Completed packet should include:**

- Teach Program Application
- Signed Teach Program Agreement
- Resume/CV
- Cover Letter explaining why you want to teach abroad
- Copy of your Bachelor's degree and other significant credentials
- Copy of your passport (information page only)
- Three Letters of Recommendations (your referrer can send it directly to us via post or email)
- Four passport-size photos (with your name written on the back)
- One full-length picture
- Police background check
- Medical report testifying to your physical and mental fitness
- US\$200 non-refundable deposit (credited towards your program fee)

Semester start dates vary for each school, but many begin in early January or mid-July. We recommend applying with **Cultural Embrace** at least 12 weeks before the semester start date. There is no deadline for applications - first come, first serve.

Cultural Embrace will require an expedited application fee for those applying 12 weeks or less before the desired date of departure. Applications received 8-12 weeks prior to your desired departure date will be charged \$150. Applications received less than 8 weeks before the desired departure date will be charged \$250.

Upon receipt of your application, a **Cultural Embrace** coordinator will contact you for a 20-30 minutes phone interview. Once we accept you in to our program, you will receive an invoice for the remainder of your program fee. In order for us to contact our local

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partners to start your placement process, we require at least 50% of your program.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

*1) Where are the teach placements and can I choose where I will be placed?*

We have contacts in over 30 cities throughout Latin America. You may ask for a specific area and we will try our best to meet your preferences, but please keep in mind that we can only make placements according to schools availability and acceptance.

The Teach in Chile program is different in that we know that we will have a number of openings for 2009. Placements are available in the Atacama region. Please contact **Cultural Embrace** for more specific details on this program.

*2) Where will I live?*

**Cultural Embrace** will pre-arrange your housing before you leave for Latin America. Accommodation varies based on the placement location, but traditionally teachers are housed in furnished apartments near the schools or in homestays with local families.

*3) How much will I get paid?*

This will vary with placement location, duration and qualifications of the applicant. Your salary will be enough to pay for room and board (if this is not included in your contract), along with some spending money for living expenses. This salary will not be enough to travel or buy expensive souvenirs, but will cover an occasional coffee or meal out.

*4) How long can I teach in Latin America?*

Teach placements are available for a semester or year contract. If you are interested in a placement longer than a year or for less than a semester please contact **Cultural Embrace** and we will be happy to let you know about availability for these programs.

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

**Cultural Embrace** and the host school will provide visa assistance to accepted teachers by providing information on how to obtain a visa and a letter of invitation from the host school.

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.

*6) What are the language requirements?*

Spanish language skills are helpful but not required. If you wish to take Spanish lessons before or during your teach placement in Latin America, 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. Additionally, we can arrange your accommodations together in a double occupancy, or organize single rooms in the same area.

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

We ask applicants to apply at least 12-16 weeks in advanced of your desired start date. The placement may take less time than this, but we want to ensure that we have enough time to find a great placement for you! There are additional administrative fees if you apply less than 12 weeks in advanced, and we do not contact our local partners until we receive at least 50% of the program fee payment.

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 in Latin America, 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.

13) *Why should I pay **Cultural Embrace** to teach abroad?*

**Cultural Embrace** and our local partners specialize in arranging a guaranteed teach placement, housing and insurance prior to your departure. This will alleviate the troubles

and stress of getting everything organized in a new country, so you will have more time and energy to spend on your volunteer project. Your time abroad will still be an independent and memorable one, but we are here to guide you to a safe, healthy and comfortable experience before, during, and after your adventure.

Fees vary according to project, destination, and length of stay. Most of the costs go toward operational project and field expenses, (ie: housing, food, transportation, supplies, etc) plus the administrative fees to cover office and local support (ie: legal, accounting, insurance, advertising, etc).

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

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