

TEACH IN MEXICO

"I can honestly say that I love coming to school everyday. In a month and half when I have to leave these kids, it is going to be one of the hardest things that I will ever have to do. The only thing that I wish is that I have made the same impact on my students as they have made on me."-Justin H.



- **Who:** Native English-speaking college graduates with previous experience working with kids or students.
- **When:** 5 month or 10 month contracts beginning on in early January or mid August.
- **Where:** Positions available in Leon & Los Reyes.
- **What:** Work as an English Teacher for private language academies
- **How:** First submit your Teach Application, interview, then submit payment for the program: \$1700 (5 months) or \$1950 (10 months).

"Marveling at a 1300-year-old Maya palace at Palenque as parrots screech and howler monkeys growl in the sweaty emerald jungle around you. This is Mexico. Sliding from a palm-fringed sandy beach into the warm, turquoise waves of the Pacific at Puerto Vallarta. This, too, is Mexico. Dining on salmon enchiladas and chrysanthemum salad at a Mexico City fusion restaurant, dancing through the night at a high-energy Guadalajara nightclub – all these are unique Mexican experiences. Every visitor goes home with their own unforgettable images." - Lonely Planet

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



PERKS

Guaranteed placement with local salary of 5000-13,000 pesos (\$300-\$800) per month.

Private room in furnished teacher apartments.

Airport pick-up & Orientation.

Pre-departure and Local Support from our team of coordinators.

International Medical Insurance.

20 units on-line TEFL certificate course.



Join Our Community of World Travelers:



Questions? E-mail us:
info@culturalembrace.com

PROGRAM DETAILS & FAQs

CE's Teach in Mexico Program Offers:

- The satisfaction of helping others.
- An opportunity to broaden your perspective and world-view.
- An economical way to live and travel abroad.
- An opportunity to participate in and engage with 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 chance to make lifelong friends from around the world.
- Valuable, marketable work experience that strengthens your resume.
- A great way to develop and support your self-confidence and interpersonal skills.



Cultural Embrace Includes:

- ✓ **Guaranteed Teaching Position Prior to Departure**
Cultural Embrace pre-arranges your teaching placement before you leave home to ensure an easy, hassle-free transition to your new life abroad.
- ✓ **Local Salary**
While each destination and school has a different budget, we will negotiate the best possible compensation package in terms of salary, room, board, and/or offered cultural classes (e.g. language, art, music). The minimum you will receive is 5000 pesos (\$300)/month along with your included housing. This is enough to support yourself in Mexico.
- ✓ **Housing Assistance**
Schools include private furnished housing for teachers in teachers' apartment or dormitory. If your salary is in the higher range, then it includes a stipend for housing so you should expect to pay ~2000 pesos/month for housing. Lower salary usually includes basic teacher's housing.
- ✓ **Online TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) Course**
This course teaches the skills and techniques required for successful language instruction and classroom preparation. It is a 20-unit course that may be completed at your leisure, requiring approximately 100-120 hours of attention. You will receive a TEFL certificate upon course completion within 6 months of enrolling.
- ✓ **Visa Assistance**
All teachers travel on a tourist visa which the school will help you extend or change into a work visa upon arrival.

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PROGRAM DETAILS & FAQs CONTINUED

- ✓ **Arrival Assistance**
Airport pick-up and transfer will be available for all teachers.
- ✓ **Travel Insurance: Basic Major Medical Coverage**
Our policy provides basic medical coverage at your teaching location. *Cultural Embrace* highly recommends purchasing 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 in Mexico, please let us know and we will provide the necessary documentation.



Requirements:

In order to participate in our Teach in Mexico program(s), *Cultural Embrace* requires that you:

- Have excellent spoken and written English language skills (native English speakers).
- Have a Bachelor's degree in any discipline.
- Have experience working with children as a teacher, mentor, coach, tutor, etc.
- Enjoy leading groups and teaching students from varying backgrounds.
- Possess good lesson planning and organizational skills.
- Maintain good attendance at staff meetings.
- Remain flexible and willing to embrace foreign cultures and the experience of living abroad.
- Be responsible and dedicated to completing the full term of your placement.
- Undergo any necessary health tests and obtain any required immunizations.

2012 Program Fees:

1 Semester	US \$1,700
1 Year	US \$1,950

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

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Program Dates & Duration:

- Spring Term: January - June
- Fall Term: August - December



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
 - (b) Call **Cultural Embrace** at 1-512-469-9089 or Skype: *Cultural.Embrace* to have the forms mailed to you within 3-4 days.
2. Read the instructions carefully and complete all forms.
3. Submit your completed application packet to:

Cultural Embrace

7201 Bill Hughes Rd.

Austin, TX 78745

Completed packets should include the following:

- Completed Teach Program Application.
- Signed Teach Program Agreement.
- Resume/CV.
- Cover letter explaining why you want to teach abroad.
- Copy of your college diploma and other significant credentials.
- Copy of your passport (information page only).
- Three letters of recommendation. Your referrer can send it directly to us via post or email.
- Two passport-size photos with your name written on the back of each photograph.
- One full-size picture.
- US\$250 non-refundable deposit (credited towards your program fee).

Upon receipt of your application, a **Cultural Embrace** coordinator will contact you for a 20-30 minute 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 partners to start your placement process and initiate the online TEFL course (if applicable), we require at least 50% of your program fee. We recommend applying with **Cultural Embrace** at least 10-12 weeks before the semester start

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PROGRAM DETAILS & FAQs CONTINUED

date.

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

Frequently Asked Questions:

1) *Why should I pay to teach abroad, and where does my money go to with Cultural Embrace?*

Cultural Embrace and our local partners in Mexico specialize in arranging a guaranteed teach placement, housing, orientation, 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 teach placement and living abroad. 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.



You will be assigned an experienced Program Coordinator from our Austin, Texas office. He/She will provide personalized attention to help pre-arrange your teach placement, housing and travel needs. Our Program Coordinator will work with our local representative to match your requests and background skills with the availability and needs of the local schools and institutions. Once you go abroad, you will be assisted by our local representative, and will usually have a direct supervisor (the school's Principal or Foreign teacher coordinator) for your teach placement, as well.

Your program fee includes a guaranteed teach placement, housing, housing, 20 units on-line TEFL course, in-country training, airport pick-up/transfer, basic international traveler's insurance, and all of the administrative and logistical costs to set up your placement in the States and Mexico. **Cultural Embrace** also pro-rates the expenses for marketing, advertising, and site visits/communication among all of our programs within our fees.

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

Teach placements are available in Leon and Los Reyes. We work with both private and government schools that provide education at kindergarten, primary, secondary levels, and professionals.

3.) *How long can I teach in Mexico?*

Teaching placements are available for a 1 semester- or 1 academic year contract. If you are interested in a placement longer than one academic year, please contact **Cultural Embrace**. Most schools prefer a 1 year contract (10 months). If you are looking for a short term placement, any-

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PROGRAM DETAILS & FAQs CONTINUED

where from 2 weeks to 3 months, check out our Volunteer in Latin America program where you can teach English at schools and orphanages for short periods of time.

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

All teachers to Mexico travel on tourist visa which is granted upon entry. Your school and local coordinator will help you to extend or apply for a work visa once in country. You will need to bring the necessary documents to obtain a work visa. Document requirements may be found on the Mexican consulate or embassy website.

5.) *What is the application process like, and when will I have confirmation about my placement?*

After C.E. receives your completed application, you will be assigned a personal Program Coordinator who will work with you through your departure and beyond. He/She will conduct ~30 phone/web interview (or in person, if applicable) to discuss your background, goals, and expectations of your time in Mexico. Then, you will receive an invoice for the remainder of the program, and once we receive at least half of this fee, we will send your resume/CV to our partners in Mexico to find available positions. All placements are confirmed prior to departure with both teacher and school agreeing on the terms, duties, responsibilities, and schedule.

6.) *What are the working conditions like?*

Your work schedule will be assigned by your employer, but most positions average roughly 20-30 hours per week. 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 ideal for all parties involved. Most institutions allow 1-2 days off per week, but please note it may not be consecutive days nor weekends, as some of these schools are opened during the weekend. Please note, scheduling is up to each school's discretion.



7.) *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 regarding your placement and your packing list.

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

We will place people together if they request it. Up to three people in a group may teach at the same school, but this number is usually limited to two teachers.

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

We ask that you apply at least 12-16 weeks in advance of your desired start date. We do recommend applying as early as you can, though. Placements may take less time than this, but we want to ensure that we have enough time to find the best possible position for you and that you have sufficient time to complete the on-line TEFL course and to obtain the proper visas etc. As mentioned above, there are additional administrative fees if you apply less than 12 weeks in advance, and we do not contact our local partners until we receive at least 50% of the program fee.

10.) *When should I buy my plane ticket(s) 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. We have a partnership with STA Travel (1-877-236-1048) for great student/youth rates, and they have a very nominal service fee if you need to make any changes before or during your travels.

11.) *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 you feel the problem or complaint is not sufficiently addressed, then please contact your local representative in Mexico as well as **Cultural Embrace** (Austin office) 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 the end-of-program evaluation.

12.) *How much will I get paid?*

Our schools are required to provide a monthly salary to the participants of at least 5000 pesos per month. The highest salary is generally 13,000 pesos. The range exists due to school budgets and you will be offered the maximum possible based on your previous experience and education.

13.) *Where will I live?*

Our schools will provide furnished accommodation for every participant. For example: a small dormitory, teacher's house, apartment, or rented house. The exception to this rule is when receiving a salary of 13,000 pesos teachers are expected to pay for the housing directly (~2000 pesos per month) as the stipend for housing is included in the salary.



14.) *Is there someone I may speak to about their experience on this program, and being abroad?*

Yes, we have a network of current and past travelers that are happy to communicate with you. Due to confidentiality, please contact our Austin office to receive a list of names and contact information of participants and alumni that have agreed to be contacted by others. Additionally, we encourage you to check out, use, and get involved with our social media community. These com-

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munity sites will provide great insight of what you should expect on your adventure abroad. Plus, we provide additional discounts to our community members!

Facebook Page (<http://www.facebook.com/CulturalEmbraceTravel>)

Twitter (<http://twitter.com/culturembrace>)

CE Blog (http://www.culturembrace.com/blog/cat_Teach_blogs.html)

Youtube (<http://www.youtube.com/user/CulturalEmbrace1>)

A Few Words . . .

At *Cultural Embrace*, we want to facilitate experiences that, first and foremost, help individuals become better acquainted with both themselves and the richly textured cultures of the world around them. Our partnerships with language and government schools in the region allow program participants the opportunity to explore first-hand Mexico's incredible cultural backdrop while adding impressive content to their resumes. Teaching English abroad is, putting it shortly, a tremendously edifying experience that is sure to leave you with lasting memories and a renewed sense of purpose. So, do yourself a favor: call *Cultural Embrace* right away and let us start planning your once-in-a-lifetime international adventure!

For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at teach@culturembrace.com or call us at 1-512-469-9089.



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