

TEACH USA PROGRAM FEES

Please note – these are indicative fees only. Revised fees for the 2026/27 Academic Year Programs will be announced in Aug 2025.

Pre-arrival Fees

Fees teachers may incur prior to arrival in the United States

TYPE OF FEE	RANGE (USD)	TO CONSIDER
Teacher Exchange Full Placement & Self-Arranged Placement First Time Program Fee Paid in Full Before Starting Program	\$3,750	\$300 – Non-refundable Administration fee, paid after eligibility verification and pre-screening interview are completed \$3450 – Program Fee – Paid after acceptance by a school and before starting a visa process. (This includes a \$500 non-refundable processing fee)
Teacher Exchange Full Placement & Self-Arranged Placement First Time Program Fee With Payment Plan	\$4,000	\$300 – Non-refundable Administration fee, paid after eligibility verification and pre-screening interview are completed \$700 – Partial Program Fee – Paid after acceptance by a school and before starting a visa process. (This includes a \$500 non-refundable processing fee)

TYPE OF FEE	RANGE (USD)	TO CONSIDER
		\$3000 – Payment Plan in monthly installments, paid while on the program
Teacher Exchange with Overseas Agency First Time Program Fee	\$4,000-\$11,000	Program Fee if you decide to apply through a local agency. Costs vary by partner and depend on what items the teacher includes in partner services*
Foreign Credential Evaluation	\$200 – \$400	Amount depends on number of transcripts evaluated and service provider chosen by teacher.
SEVIS Fee	\$220	Paid to the Department of Homeland Security
Visa Appointment Fee	\$185	Paid to the U.S. Embassy or Consulate in your Home Country

TYPE OF FEE	RANGE (USD)	TO CONSIDER
International Flights	\$800 – \$2,000	Varies greatly depending on port of departure and entry
Initial Expense Fund	\$3,000	Please bring funds to cover your first month(s) of expenses prior to receiving a paycheck. This amount does not include housing costs.

We’ve summarized and grouped the amounts below for you to be fully informed, but please be aware that these are based on averages and might be subject to change due to several variables.

Program Associated Fees

Fees to be paid to Alliance Abroad for changes or additions to your program.

TYPE OF FEE	RANGE (USD)	TO CONSIDER
Monthly Program Support Fee	\$59	Collected monthly for duration of the program.
Annual Renewal Fee	\$1,500	Paid to Alliance Abroad in the spring of each year for the following school year.
Transfer Fee	\$750	Due if approved to change host school placements after arrival
Extension Fee for 4th, 5th year	\$567	Paid directly to the U.S. Department of State

TYPE OF FEE	RANGE (USD)	TO CONSIDER
J-2 Dependent Fee	\$750 + \$20 per month for program support	Per dependent. Must be spouse or child under 21 years of age.
Initial Insurance for J-2 Dependent	\$270	Dependent insurance for the first 90 days J-2 is in country. Dependent will need to be added to teacher's insurance policy following the initial 90 days.

Post-arrival Fees

Job-related expenses teachers might incur upon program start

TYPE OF FEE	RANGE (USD)	TO CONSIDER
State Certification/Licensure	Estimated range of \$70 – \$170	Amount depends on the state; please check your state's Department of Education website
State Licensure Exams	Estimated range of \$60-\$250	Costs of state licensure exams vary greatly depending on state and subject matter and may not be required in all states
Criminal Background Check	\$60 – \$160	Varies by location

Taxes and other fees

Job-related expenses teachers might incur upon program start

TYPE OF FEE	RANGE (USD)	TO CONSIDER
School Insurance	May opt-in per school policy	We encourage teachers to enroll in school plans, which are more comprehensive than emergency coverage. Cost varies greatly depending on which school plan you choose and whether you have family joining you. Teachers should budget a minimum of \$150-\$300/month for school's insurance policy.
Optional Insurance (If necessary)	\$29.90-\$49.90/month	Teachers may opt to pay monthly for AAG recommended plan that meets program regulations. http://dianins.com/scholar-plan
Federal and State Income Tax	Average of 10 – 15% of gross pay	Not all states have a state income tax. We recommend checking here: Paycheck Calculator
FICA, FUTA	Average 8% of Salary	Teachers on the J-1 visa program are typically subject to FICA and FUCA taxes after the first two tax calendar years in the US. In most cases, these payments will begin January

TYPE OF FEE	RANGE (USD)	TO CONSIDER
		1 of your second year on program. Please note that a teacher will need to begin paying these taxes right away if the teacher was in the US previously on an F, J, M, or Q visa.
Retirement Benefits	0-8.25%	Your host school may allow or require participation in their investment program for retirement. Please check your job offer and speak with your school principal during the interview about these details.
Union Fees (if applicable)	Average annual cost of \$400	Your offer letter will include whether or not union membership and thus dues are required as well as confirm the cost.

Cost of Living Expenses

Average cost of living expenses

TYPE OF FEE	RANGE (USD)	TO CONSIDER
Rent	\$800 – \$2,500 per month	Factors include city, house or apartment, # of bedrooms, # of people sharing accommodation
Transportation	\$250 – \$500	Factors include bus or car transportation, gas, car payment
Food & Groceries	\$750 – \$1,000	Based on grocery budget
Childcare (Age 0 – 5)	Avg. \$700 per month	Full-time daycare can be very expensive. It can vary greatly depending on location, https://www.epi.org/child-care-costs-in-the-united-states/#/TX
After school care (Age 5 – 12)	Avg. \$174 – \$261 per week	Some schools offer after care for students at school until 6 pm. According to Care.com's 2022 Cost of Care Survey, parents paid part-time, after-school sitters an average of \$261 per week

TYPE OF FEE	RANGE (USD)	TO CONSIDER
		for one child. After-school sitters made an average of \$17.40 per hour. https://www.care.com/c/how-much-to-charge-after-school-child-care/
Utilities	Avg. of \$400 per month for house	May be less if in an apartment. Includes electricity, air-conditioning, trash, water, etc. Please note that some cities require cash deposits for utilities in the absence of a credit file.
Cable and/or Internet	Avg. of \$70 – \$100 per month	Depends on the plan you select.
Phone	Avg. of \$60 – \$100 per month	There are many plan options to suit your needs and budget.
Entertainment	Avg. of \$200 per month	Depends on what you like to do in your free time- sports tickets, events, movies, etc.

TEACH AUSTRALIA PROGRAM FEES

2026 Academic Year

TOTAL PROGRAM FEE	ADDITIONAL FEES
AUD\$7,500, paid as follows:	IELTS – AUD\$450
Upon Job Offer – AUD\$2,500	Skills Assessment – AUD\$1050
Prior to Visa Lodgement – AUD\$2,500	Working With Children Check – AUD\$84
Upon Visa Approval – AUD\$2,500	Teacher Registration (varies by state) – AUD\$105 -\$440