



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS Cebu, Philippines

General Questions

1. What does the tuition for the program include?

Total fees: \$1490

Comprised of:

US\$ 500 non-refundable deposit

US\$ 990 TEFL course fee (final payment).

This amount includes tuition, course materials, certification and moderation fees.

Airfares, accommodation and food are not included.

2. How do I pay for the course?

You have the following options for final payment:

1. Pay cash on or before the first day of the course whether in US Dollars or Philippine Peso. If you choose to pay in Philippine Peso, the associated exchange rate to US Dollars will be determined by the Course Administrator as advised by the exchange rate offered at www.xe.com/ucc.
2. *Pay by Bank Transfer. Send an email prior to sending payment to:*
cebuphilippines@teflife.com

*Account Name: **Altonka Language School, Inc.***

*Account Number: **9061-0061-22***

*Routing Number: **021000021***

*SWIFT Code: **BOIPHMM***

*Branch Name: **Bank of Philippine Islands***

Cebu Capitol Branch

Jasmin St. Corner Osmeñal Blvd.

Cebu City, Philippines

Please arrange to send the bank transfer 2 weeks before the course start date and bring your receipt to the center.

On the first morning (usually Monday) of the course the trainers will arrive early to handle final payments. All payments **MUST** be made by the end of lunch on the first day unless special arrangements have been made with the trainers. Late fees of \$25 per day may be assessed if payment is not made.

If payments have not been received by the end of class on the first Wednesday, you must gain permission from cebuphilippines@teflife.com to remain in the course.

3. What is an average program day like?

Class time is generally 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, with mid morning and afternoon breaks and a lunch break. For approximately two weeks, you will be preparing to teach, learning all of the things you need to know in order to be successful in the classroom. For the other two weeks, you will actually be teaching each morning and preparing your materials in the afternoons.

4. How many students on average are in the program each month?

The maximum number of students in our center is 12 in a class.

5. What are the teaching practice students and classes like?

We use local Filipino students for the trainees' teaching practice. The students are very keen and enthusiastic and because we don't charge them to attend, all students come to classes purely because they want to!

6. What are the programs accommodations like? Where are they located?

We'll provide you a list of hotel accommodations located near our training center. Most of the hotels are a 10-minute Jeepney ride from the center.

Please be assured that any special requests or requirements regarding accommodation will be taken into account, and TEFL International will make every effort to honor such requests.

7. Can I have things shipped or mailed to me at the school?

Yes! Below is our address.

Altonka Language School, Inc.
Unit 201 PDI Condominium Corp.
Arch Bishop Reyes Ave. cor. J. Panis St.
Banilad, Cebu City, Philippines

Tel. Nos.: 63.32.416.2022 (main number)
63.32.234.6125 (alternate number)
Mobile : 63.918.3698737

8. Can I bring my laptop?

Yes, you can. But for your convenience, you may use the 2 computers with Internet access at our research room for lesson planning and doing assignments.

The job market and teaching in the Philippines; Paperwork and documentation

1. What is the TEFL job market in Philippines like? Will I have trouble getting a job?

The TEFL job market in The Philippines, at the moment, is excellent within central Philippines particularly in Cebu City. Language schools are sprouting like mushrooms across the metropolis therefore finding an ESL teaching job here is

very feasible. Finding employment is only difficult if you wait until the last day of the course to begin looking. We will provide you with resources as to how you can apply for jobs and schedule interviews. With just a little patience, you will certainly locate work in no time, usually in the area of your choice.

2. When do I need to start looking for work? Where do I start?

We suggest you begin setting up interviews and sending resumes in the second or third week of the course.

3. What will TEFL International do to help me secure employment?

We can help you with resume and interview preparation. And we guarantee job placement assistance, but please note that TEFL International doesn't 'guarantee' its graduates employment as such. This job placement assistance program is an integral part of the course and is available for as long as you may require it.

4. What is the average salary like?

The average salary starts at 40,000 Philippine Peso for the first 1-2 months then goes up to about 60,000 Philippine peso per month thereafter. Of course, it may not be the same in every school and this varies depending on what type of school or company you work for and whether you work full or part-time.

5. Do most schools provide accommodations for their teachers?

Yes, although there are also schools that do not do this. For example, some schools may provide a room for you, either shared or single, probably in an apartment with other teachers and it may or may not be on the school's premises.

6. How many of the TEFL graduates actually find work?

Most of our course graduates who have wanted to work have been able to secure teaching positions and most have successfully done this.

7. Do schools provide work permits?

In the Philippines, schools help you secure a work permit. And normally they also shoulder the expenses.

8. What is a typical teaching position like?

Of course, it varies from school to school, but you may be expected to teach a variety of courses, ranging from children to business professionals at all levels, in groups or in private sessions.

9. Can I return to my own country and teach with my certificate?

Yes, it's possible though the requirements for working in ESL or TEFL in many western countries are different and sometimes need graduate education in ESL or TEFL.

Questions about Cebu; Living in the Philippines

1. What are the average housing and living expenses in the Philippines?

Most likely you will rent a room in an apartment or house with other teachers or with Filipinos, and of course it depends on where you choose to live.

A pleasant 2 to 3 bedroom house in the Philippines is about **10,000 to 15,000 pesos per month**. Apartments are available for less.

2. What if I get sick in Cebu? Are there western-standard medical facilities?

If you find yourself requiring medical attention, Cebu City has a number of very good hospitals and clinics with well-educated, helpful doctors.

If there is any serious injury, please inform the Course Director or one of the staff and transportation will be provided to the nearest hospital for treatment.

3. What's the public transportation system like?

Jeepney and taxi cab are the main form of local transportation and will take you anywhere around the city. Jeeps have designated routes therefore it's more convenient to hail a taxi cab for your other destinations. Minimum fare for a jeep is at 6.00 Pesos with additional 1 peso per km. Taxi, on the other hand, are readily available anywhere around the city at any time of the day. All taxi are equipped with a taxi-meter to give accurate fares.

What to do before departing for the Philippines?

1. How do I get to Cebu?

Inform the Course Administrator regarding your flight details so they can provide transportation from the Mactan (Cebu) International Airport to your accommodation. Please meet the assigned person at the International arrival area for those arriving from direct International flights and at the domestic arrival area for those arriving from connecting flights in Manila. E-mail ahead of time your time of arrival so they can meet you at the airport on time. For those arriving before Saturday, please contact cebuphilippines@teflife.com for special arrangements.

2. What documents do I need to bring?

Of course, you need your passport. When you secure work you may be asked to provide notarized copies of your birth certificate, college degrees and transcripts. You might also consider obtaining an international driving permit if driving in the Philippines should be necessary for you, although the requirement of a driving licence is widely ignored.

3. What's the climate like? What kind of clothing will I need to bring?

It's hot and humid. Clothes are very inexpensive in the Philippines, so you may want to travel fairly light. Many visitors to the Philippines like to take advantage of some of the "Polo" or "Nike" goods that are so widely available. Many of the vendors will assure you these clothes are genuine!

You will also need to have on hand some really smart clothing. Mens: no need for a suit and tie, but something other than jeans. Button-down shirts, nice shoes that aren't trainers/sneakers... something you'd wear to a job interview, "dressy-casual." Women: Shoulders should be covered. No low-cut necklines or

very short skirts. Bare midriffs are not acceptable, even when lifting arms up. Open-toed shoes are acceptable.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have other questions or concern at cebuphilippines@teflife.com.

Thank you for choosing TEFL International, Cebu, Philippines!

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