

i-to-i

TEFL JOBS' MARKET

SNAPSHOT REPORT

WINTER 2021



INTRODUCTION

The past two years have been a rollercoaster for the TEFL industry. A triple whammy of the Covid pandemic, Brexit and new regulations for online teaching in China have all impacted the global TEFL jobs market. We've seen some opportunities disappear almost overnight while other doors have been flung wide open.

Here at i-to-i we've been keeping a close eye on developments, so we can equip you with the skills and information you need to find your perfect TEFL job. For our latest TEFL Jobs Market Snapshot Report we analysed each job vacancy advertised on the **LoveTEFL Jobs board** over a one month period¹ to reveal which countries and companies are actively seeking TEFL teachers right now, the qualifications and experience you need to land your dream TEFL job and how much you're likely to earn teaching English online and around the world.

Next, we surveyed TEFL employers and teachers based across the globe² to get the lowdown on their experiences of TEFL recruitment as the world tentatively reopens after Covid. You'll find their feedback sprinkled across our analysis of the jobs data, with some additional insights and top tips set out in the final pages of this report.

So, whether you're hunting for an online TEFL position or you can't wait to teach English abroad, read on for the up-to-the-minute knowledge you need to start your TEFL adventure today.

¹ The information in this snapshot report is based on analysis of individual job adverts placed on the [LoveTEFL jobs board](#) between 1 October 2020 and 4 November 2021. For clarity, the figures in this report refer to individual jobs and not job adverts, which may contain multiple posts. To cross-check our findings, we carried out a broad comparative review with other key TEFL job sites to ensure our findings were in line with general industry trends. However, figures in this report refer to the LoveTEFL Jobs data sample.

² The TEFL Employers and TEFL Teachers surveys were carried out online between 5 and 15 November 2021.

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TEFL JOBS MARKET OVERVIEW

After pouring over the figures from our TEFL jobs data, we can reveal that there is a bubbling demand for TEFL teachers abroad on top of a continuing strong market for online TEFL teachers. In fact, now might just be the perfect time to start your TEFL career.

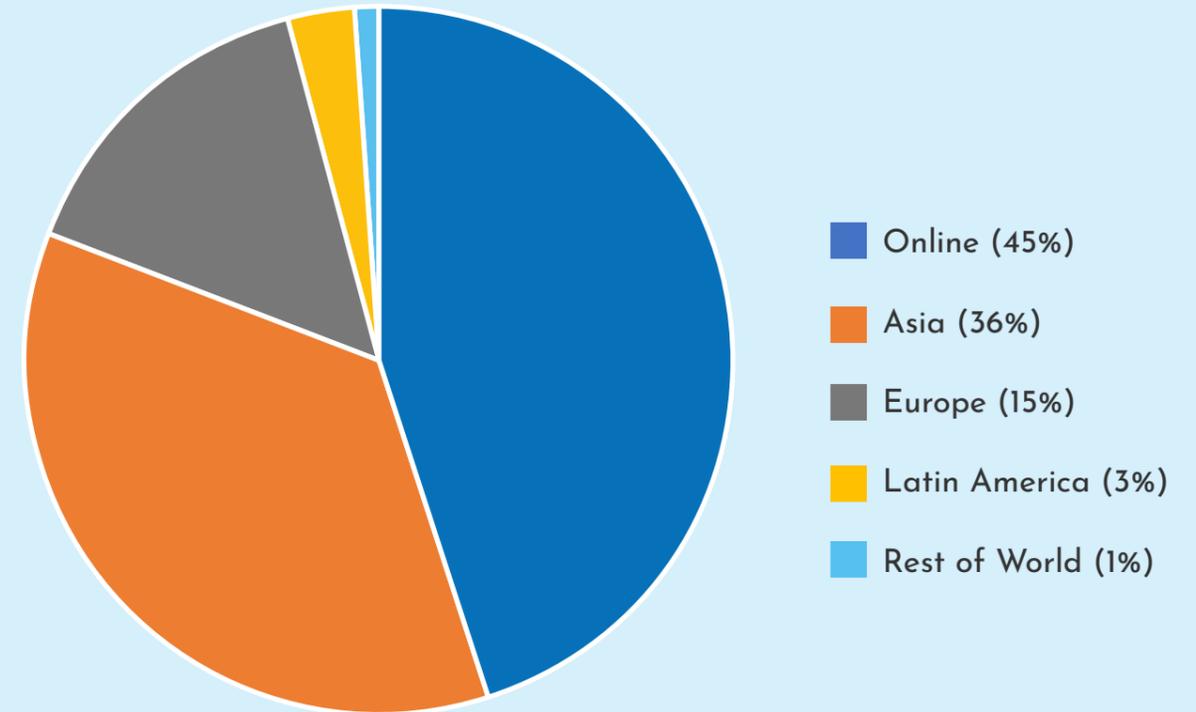
Where are the TEFL jobs?

In total, we identified 1,632 job posts advertised by 59 different companies on the [LoveTEFL Jobs](#) board over the analysis period. This includes TEFL opportunities in 16 different countries spanning four continents of the globe plus a wide range of online TEFL posts.

In fact, almost half of the jobs advertised (45%) during the analysis period are for online positions, with 728 online TEFL jobs on offer across 28 different companies. It's particularly interesting to see that the level of online teaching posts today is broadly comparable to our market analysis in Spring 2021 when much of the world was still in lockdown. It appears that online teaching is now an established part of the TEFL market and is likely to offer ongoing opportunities for TEFL teachers after the Covid pandemic has passed.

Alongside the demand for online teachers, in-country recruitment is starting to re-emerge, with 55% of the total jobs advertised now for in-person posts. Of these, two thirds (66%) are in Asia and around a quarter (27%) are in Europe. However, we did also find a sprinkling of jobs advertised for both North and South America as well the Gulf States.

Location of Jobs



These findings are backed up by our Employers Survey. All of the respondents indicated that they are planning to recruit TEFL teachers within the next three months, with posts available for both online and in-person roles. Interestingly, while the majority of companies still focus only on either in-person or online students, 28% of respondents note that they have now adopted a hybrid business model, covering both teaching formats.

New teachers welcome!

71% of in-country posts and **55%** of online roles are open to teachers with no previous experience.

What qualifications do you need to TEFL?

Our jobs data analysis confirms the ongoing professionalisation of the TFL sector. In total around two thirds of posts specify that candidates must have either a bachelor's degree (64%) or TEFL qualification (63%) with just over half (51%) asking for both. Interestingly, during this analysis period, relevant qualifications are required more frequently for in-person posts than online roles, reversing the trend from our previous TEFL Jobs Market Reports.

Once again, our jobs data analysis is backed up by our Employers Survey where 71% TEFL employers state that they require candidates to have at least a TEFL Certificate or bachelor's degree and almost half (43%) note that the additional specialist training included in a TEFL Diploma would be desirable.

What is an Advanced TEFL Diploma?

An **Advanced TEFL Diploma** is the top TEFL qualification currently on offer for new teachers. As well as covering core teaching skills and methodology, the Diploma includes a wide range of TEFL specialisms, from business English to IELTS - making Diploma graduates highly desirable to TEFL employers across the globe.

Are there TEFL jobs for non-native English speakers?³

Our jobs data analysis highlights that there are numerous jobs open to fluent English speakers who are not classified as 'native' English speakers (including those who speak English as a first language but don't hold a passport from one of the seven qualifying countries).



What is a native English speaker?

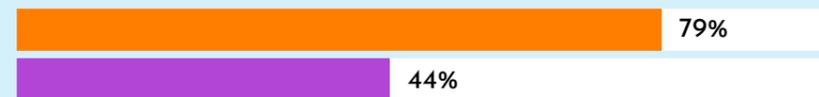
If you see the term 'native English speaker' in a TEFL job advert, it's generally being used in a very specific way to refer to someone who both speaks English as their first language and is a citizen of the UK, USA, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia or South Africa. And yes, we know this is incredibly frustrating for TEFL teachers from other countries who speak English as a first language!

³As this report focuses on data from TEFL job adverts, we are using the term 'native English speaker' in the specific sense of an individual who both speaks English as a first language and holds a passport from the UK, USA, Canada, Ireland, South Africa, Australia or New Zealand. We recognise that there are many TEFL teachers from other countries who speak English as a first language and feel frustrated that this definition excludes them. However, on balance, we have included the information in the report in this format to give an accurate reflection of what is stipulated by TEFL employers in job adverts.

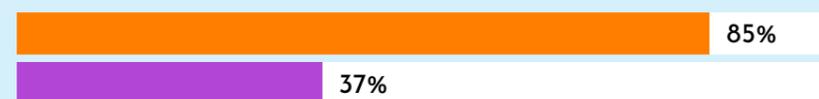
Qualifications Specified in TEFL Job Adverts

Online In Person

TEFL CERTIFICATION



DEGREE



NATIVE ENGLISH



Do you need teaching experience?

Our analysis reveals that there are numerous TEFL jobs open to newly qualified teachers, particularly for in-person roles. In fact, over two thirds (71%) of advertised in-country jobs and over half (55%) of the online posts are open to new teachers. Once again, this is backed up by our Employers Survey: while 43% of respondents state that teaching experience would be desirable, 57% say that no experience is required.

Top Tip

If you do have teaching experience, highlight it on your application. It will make your application stand out and can help you negotiate a higher wage.

TOP PAYING TEFL JOBS

If you're looking for the highest paid jobs on offer right now, check out roles in China. Typical wages are around £2,000 to £3,000 per month with a few posts topping £4,000.

How much can you earn?

Our analysis reveals a wide range of wages on offer, both for online TEFL roles and in-country teaching posts.

For in-country positions, location has a huge impact on pay. Similar to pre-pandemic trends, the highest wages are generally found in northern Asian countries such as China, Japan and South Korea as well as the Gulf States. In these parts of the world, a typical wage is generally between £1,500 to £3,000 per month - and we identified several posts in China with an advertised monthly wage of over £4,000.

While pay is significantly lower in other parts of the world, it's important to remember that living costs are also vastly different across the globe. Even in Latin America, where wages are typically at the low end of the scale, a full-time TEFL wage will usually bring you in enough to live comfortably by local standards.

In contrast to in-person posts, online TEFL jobs tend to pay per hour or per lesson, rather than as a set monthly wage. Here, your pay rate will generally depend on your qualifications, experience and (in some cases) the number of teaching slots you offer as well as the specific company. This means that the amount you earn can vary each month, depending on how many lessons you teach.

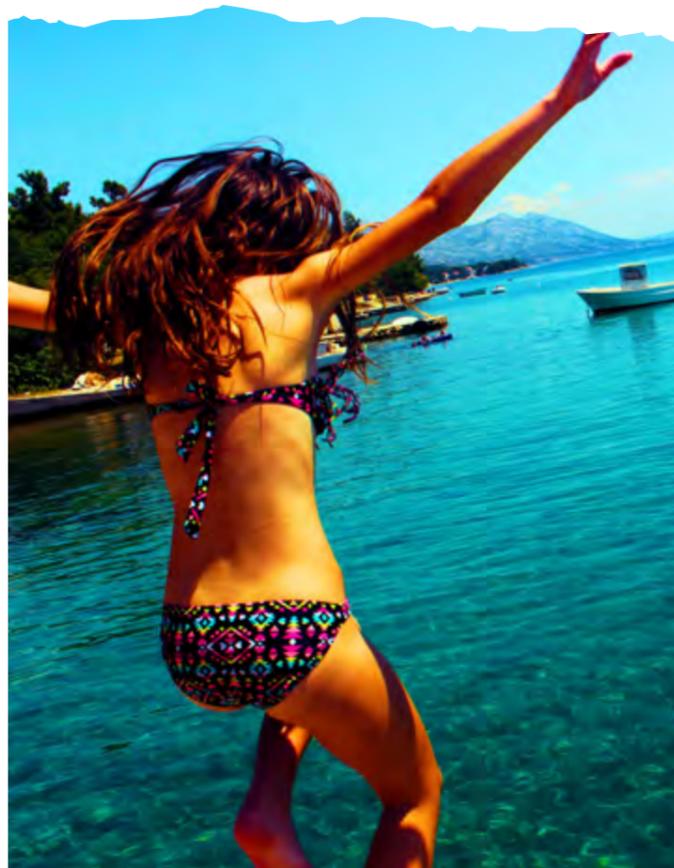
On average, the online TEFL roles in our analysis offer rates of between £6 to £18 per hour or £700 to £1,500 per month. However, we found online jobs advertised for as little as £5 per hour and ranging up to as much as £2,000 or more per month. This means that it's definitely worth looking around at what's on offer from different online platforms rather than settling for the first job you see. Similarly, if you start off working for a lower paid TEFL platform, then it's definitely worth applying for a role with a higher pay rate once you've built up some teaching experience.

Is now a good time to apply for a TEFL job?

The simple answer to this question is Yes! Based on the results of both our jobs data analysis and our Employer Survey, the online TEFL market is still buoyant. In addition, there is a rapidly increasing demand for classroom teachers across the globe.

In fact, all of the TEFL companies who responded to our Employers Survey note that they will be recruiting teachers in the next three months. Of these, five are recruiting for 50 or more posts, including both online and in-person roles.

Even more pertinently, the respondents to our Employers Survey highlight that they are finding recruitment relatively difficult right now, due in part to a low volume of good quality applicants. This means that a well-crafted application backed up by a solid TEFL qualification will give you a good chance of landing a TEFL job, whether you're hoping to teach online or in-person.



TEACHING ENGLISH ABROAD

There has been an inevitable dip in TEFL posts abroad over the past two years, as the Covid pandemic closed classroom doors across the globe. The great news is that schools are now welcoming back students in person and TEFL employers are actively recruiting teachers - meaning that finding a job teaching English abroad is firmly back on the agenda.

We'd love to say that travel is fully back to the pre-pandemic norms too but there are still some restrictions in place for most countries, ranging from a period of quarantine when you arrive to wearing facemasks in public places. Don't let this put you off. You can still have an amazing TEFL experience, despite Covid regulations. In fact, in our Teachers Survey, we heard from i-to-i graduates already teaching in awesome TEFL locations around the world, from Cambodia to Argentina to Taiwan.

Better still, popular TEFL destinations such as Cambodia, Thailand and South Korea are starting to relax restrictions for double vaccinated travellers, making it even easier to teach and travel once more. It could be the perfect time to dust off your suitcase and find a TEFL job abroad!

Covid red list

The UK government has a 'red list' of countries that have a high Covid risk - and we highly recommend that you avoid travelling to these. Destinations on the list can change at short notice, so do **check the latest guidance before you travel.**

COVID TESTING & QUARANTINE

Each country sets its own rules around testing and quarantining. You may need to provide proof of vaccination, a PCR test and/or spend a period in quarantine when you arrive - as well as following restrictions when you're in the country, such as wearing a mask. Check **entry requirements** for your destination to ensure you make appropriate plans for arriving in country and starting your TEFL job.

Where are the TEFL Jobs?

In total, we identified 904 TEFL roles advertised in our analysis period for TEFL jobs abroad. These span 16 different countries and include jobs in Europe, Asia, South America, the Gulf States and the USA.

Based on our analysis, the majority of the jobs on offer at present are in Asia, which accounts for two thirds (66%) of the advertised posts. Similar to pre-pandemic trends, China has the biggest TEFL market overall with almost one in four (23%) of the jobs based here. However, there are also encouraging signs from other popular TEFL destinations, with 30 or more posts on offer in each of Japan, Vietnam and South Korea.



PU LETTERS FOR CHINA

To apply for a work visa for China, you need an official PU letter (effectively, a letter of invitation). As part of its Covid controls, the Chinese government has put restrictions on issuing these PU letters, although the situation appears to vary between locations and schools. If you're offered a TEFL job in China, do check with your employer whether you're likely to get a PU letter before making any firm arrangements.

TEFL employers across Europe are also starting to welcome back TEFL teachers, with over a quarter (27%) of posts advertised now based in this continent. It's still too early to say definitively whether Brexit will have a significant impact on TEFL in Europe, as Covid has continued to cloud the picture. Anecdotal feedback from our Employers Survey suggests that UK candidates may now need to have both a TEFL qualification and a bachelor's degree in order to qualify for EU-based TEFL posts. However, in our data sample, only 2% of jobs advertised in the EU specify that applicants must have an EU passport. Rest assured we'll keep monitoring the situation, so watch this space...

IRISH TEACHERS WANTED!

If you've got an Irish passport, you're in hot demand across the EU. Following Brexit, Ireland is the only EU country that has native English speakers (as defined by the TEFL world) - putting Irish TEFL teachers in a prime position to snap up teaching posts across the EU.

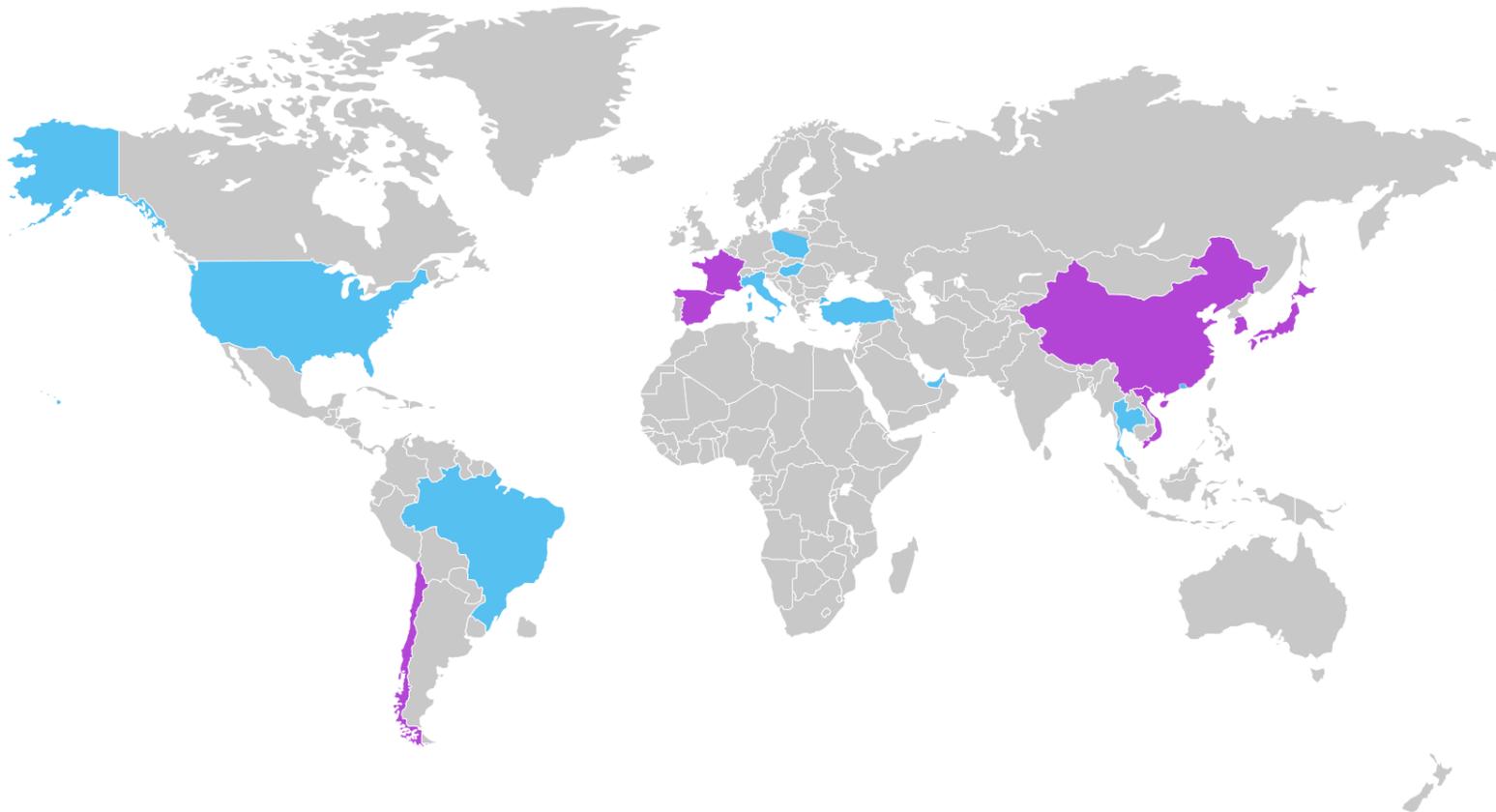
Comparatively few posts (5%) in our sample are for TEFL jobs in Central and South America. However, as the vast bulk of recruitment for this region takes place in person, it's encouraging to find even a few posts advertised on the jobs board, particularly as so much of this continent has been effectively out of bounds due to Covid until very recently.

Perhaps more significant is the current low number of posts advertised for the Gulf States. Pre-Covid, the UAE and Saudi Arabia in particular had a thriving TEFL market. However, while there has been a small number of jobs advertised for this region, it appears that it may be a while longer before it re-opens its doors fully to TEFL teachers.



Where are the TEFL Jobs?

■ 30+ advertised posts
 ■ 1 - 30 advertised posts



What type of jobs are on offer?

The majority of in-country posts on offer are full-time paid teaching positions. However, we also identified part-time roles in our analysis, as well as a number of TEFL internships and voluntary teaching positions.

No posts in our analysis data are for jobs in summer camps. However, this is perhaps unsurprising given the time of year our snapshot covers. We do expect to see an increasing number of summer camp jobs to return to the [LoveTEFL Jobs board](#) early in the new year.

VOLUNTEERING AND INTERNSHIPS

Volunteer posts and **internships** can be an excellent way to gain teaching experience. They often come with benefits such as a ready-made friendship group, in-country support, accommodation and sometimes even a cost-of-living allowance.

Types of TEFL Jobs on Offer

| FULL TIME | PART TIME | VOLUNTEER / INTERNSHIPS |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ China ✓ Hong Kong ✓ Hungary ✓ Italy ✓ Japan ✓ Poland ✓ South Korea ✓ Spain ✓ Thailand ✓ UAE ✓ Turkey ✓ USA ✓ Vietnam | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Chile ✓ France ✓ Italy ✓ Spain ✓ Turkey ✓ USA ✓ Vietnam | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Japan ✓ Spain ✓ Europe (multiple) |

What can you earn?

TEFL pay varies widely for teaching posts abroad. Location is by far the biggest factor in the wage you're likely to receive. However, if you can offer specialist skills, such as **IELTS** and **business English** and/or have teaching experience, it's definitely worth trying to negotiate a higher rate, wherever you're based.

It's important to bear in mind that living costs also vary hugely around the world, meaning how much you need to earn for a good standard of living will depend on the country you're working in. However, if you're hoping to land a top salary in a classroom role, our analysis shows that your best bet right now is China where typical advertised salaries are between £2,000 and £3,000 per month and a few posts are offering salaries topping £4,000.

Did you know...

Salary packages can include valuable benefits, such as accommodation, flights, medical insurance and annual bonuses. These can increase the value of what you earn significantly, so it's always worth asking if they're included.

| HIGHER SALARIES | MEDIUM SALARIES | LOWER SALARIES |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| China Hong Kong UAE | Brazil France Italy Japan South Korea Spain USA Vietnam | Chile Hungary Poland Thailand Turkey |

Who is recruiting TEFL teachers?

A total of 32 different TEFL employers advertised TEFL jobs across the analysis period. This includes individual TEFL employers, companies recruiting for multiple TEFL posts and recruitment agencies.

Did you know...

Recruitment agencies are frequently used by TEFL employers to recruit teachers for language centres and schools across the world. As recruitment agencies tend to have multiple jobs on offer, they can be a good route into your first TEFL post.

The majority of TEFL companies in our snapshot sample are advertising between one and 10 posts for TEFL teachers. However, the following companies are advertising roles for 20 or more TEFL teachers - and could be a good place to start your job search.

| EMPLOYER | LOCATION OF JOBS |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| APAX English | Vietnam |
| ConversaSpain | Spain |
| EnglishWork | South Korea |
| Gold Star TEFL Recruitment | China |
| Meddeas | Spain |
| World International Education | China |

What qualifications are TEFL employers looking for?

The vast majority of TEFL employers require their teachers to have relevant qualifications: 85% of roles for TEFL jobs abroad stipulate that candidates should have a bachelor's degree, 79% specify a TEFL Certificate / Diploma and just over three quarters (76%) require both.

Just over half (56%) of employers specify that candidates need to be 'native' English speakers - a term generally used by TEFL employers to specifically refer to individuals who both speak English as a first language and hold a passport from the UK, USA, Canada, Ireland, South Africa, Australia or New Zealand. This does however mean that 44% of advertised jobs are open to qualified, fluent English teachers with passports from other parts of the world.

Did you know...

If you don't have a degree, you can use the filter button on [LoveTEFL Jobs](#) to focus on positions specifically open to non-degree holders.



Qualifications

Required Not required

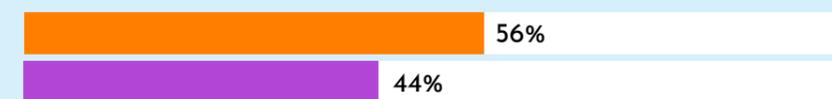
DEGREE



TEFL CERTIFICATE



NATIVE ENGLISH



Are there TEFL jobs for new teachers?

If you have teaching experience, it's definitely worth highlighting it on your job application. Showcasing your past roles opens up more job opportunities and can bump up your salary.

However, this doesn't mean you must have experience in order to bag yourself a TEFL job. There are plenty of jobs for new TEFL teachers too. In fact, 71% of advertised posts were open to new teachers and just 3% required two or more years of teaching experience.

71% of TEFL posts abroad open to teachers with no previous experience

97% of TEFL posts abroad open to teachers with one year's teaching experience or less

ONLINE TEFL JOBS

Online TEFL has solidified its position following the huge surge at the start of the Covid pandemic and looks like remaining a central part of the TEFL market for the foreseeable future. In fact, despite the return of in-person classes, 45% of the total jobs on offer during our analysis period are for online posts – a proportion similar to the heights of lockdown and easily topping pre-pandemic levels.

The ongoing strength of the online TEFL market revealed by the jobs data is backed up by our Employers Survey. The majority (71%) of respondents plan to offer online lessons either as the sole focus of their business or as a key component in a hybrid online / in-person business model.

It is particularly interesting to see the number of jobs on offer for online teachers, given that China’s new regulations have (temporarily at least) reduced opportunities to teach English online to Chinese students. This indicates the growth of a broader, more global online TEFL marketplace, with less dependence on demand from China alone.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CHINA?

In July 2021, the Chinese government announced new regulations that banned profit-making companies from delivering after-school classes in core subjects, including English. This sent shock waves through the huge online TEFL market in China, with multiple companies either shutting down or slashing teacher’s wages.

It’s too early to predict the long-term impact of this move. However, there are indications that the online TEFL market has now started to regroup. Companies, such as VIPKid and PalFish, are changing their focus to a more global market – a move that may ultimately lead to a broader range of online TEFL opportunities for teachers and students across the world.

What types of posts are on offer?

Most posts now on offer are for teachers to work as independent contractors on TEFL platforms. This means that teachers are self-employed and paid per hour or per lesson rather than as employees on a set weekly or monthly wage.

Online TEFL jobs

| CONTRACT WITH TEFL COMPANY | ONLINE TEFL PLATFORM | FREELANCE TEFL TUTOR |
|---|---|--|
| ✓ Employed by the company | ✓ Independent contractor | ✓ Self-employed |
| ✓ Students recruited by the company | ✓ Platform markets TEFL to students, with students either selecting individual tutor or allocated by platform | ✓ Tutor markets services independently |
| ✓ Contract for a set period at an agreed rate | ✓ Paid via platform for each lesson delivered | ✓ Paid direct by students |
| ✓ Company responsible for tax | ✓ Responsible for own tax | ✓ Responsible for own tax |
| ✓ Curriculum and lesson materials provided | ✓ Platform may provide lesson materials | ✓ Develop and deliver own curriculum and lessons |

[Find out more about the types of online TEFL roles>>](#)

The vast majority of advertised posts (93%) do not specify a minimum number of teaching hours per week and 81% only require teachers to commit to a one month rolling contract. This gives huge flexibility to online TEFL teachers, who can generally set their own availability and working hours. However, it's important to note that it can take several months to build up a full roster of students - and you're far more likely to achieve this if you are available to teach lessons during at least some of the peak hours.

Did you know

Peak teaching hours are normally during evenings and weekends - but these are where the student is based, not you. Due to the time differences across the world, one student's 7pm evening class could be your 9am morning lesson.

Who is recruiting?

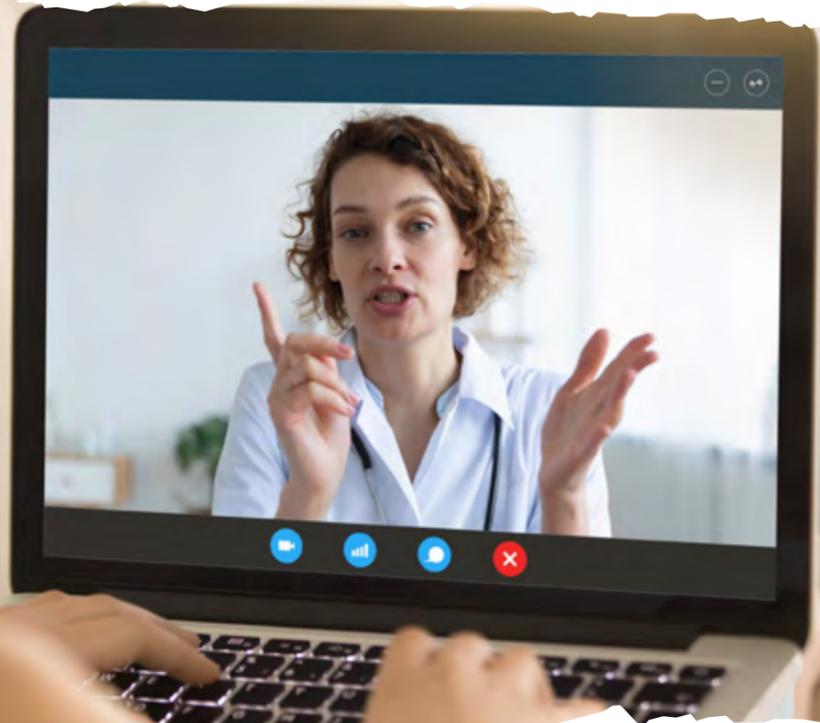
We identified 28 different companies offering online TEFL posts on the **LoveTEFL Jobs board** over our analysis period. The majority of these platforms are advertising 10 or fewer posts. However, each of the following companies has 20 or more jobs on offer, making them a useful starting point for your job search.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ✓ Cambly | ✓ Novakid |
| ✓ Engoo | ✓ OnlineEducation |
| ✓ Kudo English | ✓ Paper Airplanes (voluntary posts) |
| ✓ Language Master | ✓ Tutlo |
| ✓ LatinHire | |
| ✓ MPC Connect | |

Did you know

Online TEFL platforms do not usually expect you to sign an exclusive contract. This means that you can work for two or more companies or set up as a freelance tutor at the same time, if you want to build up your teaching schedule fast.

In addition to paid roles, we identified a number of volunteer roles in our analysis. While you're unlikely to be paid for a volunteer online role, they can be an excellent way to build up teaching experience for your CV, particularly as many come with solid training, lesson materials and practical support.



How much can you earn teaching English online?

The amount that you can earn teaching English online depends on the platform that you teach on, with some companies allowing you to decide your own rates and others paying you according to their set pay scale. Either way, you can generally expect to command a higher rate if you have good qualifications plus teaching experience and, particularly, if you can offer specialist classes such as IELTS and business English.

The majority of online teaching posts pay per lesson, rather than as a fixed weekly or monthly rate. This means that your take-home pay will depend on how many lessons you're booked to teach and is likely to fluctuate, particularly in the early days when you're still building up a regular schedule of students.

On average, the online TEFL roles in our analysis offer rates of between £6 to £18 per hour or £700 to £1,500 per month. However, we found a wide variety of rates on offer, starting from as little as £5 per hour and ranging up to as much as £2,000 per month.

Did you know

Once you've passed your induction phase with a company, you can usually decide which hours you want to teach, whether that's working through the night to teach students on the other side of the world or giving yourself Friday afternoons off. It's important to include some peak teaching hours in your schedule however or you might find there are no students to teach!



What qualifications are TEFL employers looking for?

A **TEFL Certificate or Diploma** remains the number one qualification that online TEFL employers stipulate with just under half (44%) of the advertised posts specifying this as essential. Interestingly, only 37% of jobs in our analysis sample require candidates to have a bachelor's degree – a far lower proportion than for in-person teaching and also significantly lower than the level we've identified in our previous TEFL Jobs Market Reports.

We gained a slightly different picture from the respondents in our Employers' Survey. Here we found that 80% of employers do expect teachers to have a bachelor's degree and 60% require their teachers to hold a TEFL Certificate.

This apparent discrepancy perhaps simply highlights that there is a wide range of online TEFL roles out there. While you're likely to find more and better paid opportunities available to you if you have a degree, you can find an online TEFL job without one – just make sure you focus your search on companies where this is not a requirement.

Did you know

Students will often select their online teacher based on the video introduction you post on the online platform, so it pays to make your profile engaging and relevant. Look at videos of experienced teachers, practise what you will say, wear clothes that fit the company requirements and choose a background that will appeal to the students you're hoping to attract to help make your video intro stand out.

Are there TEFL jobs for new teachers?

The great news for newly qualified teachers is that the majority of online TEFL employers do not demand previous teaching experience. In fact, over half (55%) of advertised posts are open to teachers without any previous teaching experience and only 18% are looking for teachers with two or more years of experience.

This is backed up by our Employers Survey. Although teaching experience is seen as desirable by a number of our respondents, none of them regard it as an essential requirement for online teaching roles.

55% of online posts open to teachers with no previous experience

82% of online posts open to teachers with one year's teaching experience or less

Did you know

If you do have teaching experience, it's definitely worth highlighting it on your application. It helps your application stand out and may lead to a higher rate of pay.



TEFL JOBS BREAKDOWN

To give you an even better understanding of which TEFL destinations should top your personal hit list, we've broken down the advertised jobs from our snapshot data into a summary of the roles, salaries and contracts on offer plus the typical qualifications and experience you need for each⁴. For more detail on TEFL jobs and even more exciting TEFL destinations around the world, head to our **World TEFL Guide**.

Online TEFL jobs

| JOBS | SALARY ⁶ | CONTRACT | REQUIREMENTS |
|---|---------------------|---------------|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full time • Part time • Voluntary | £6 - £18 per hour | 1 - 15 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEFL certificate (most) • Bachelor's degree (most) • Native English⁵ (some) • Roles for new & experienced teachers |

⁴ Information provided is based on typical details of positions advertised in our analysis plus a 'sense check' from a broad survey of other TEFL jobs board. It is intended as a guide only. Individual job offers may differ from the range given here, do always check the details before committing to a contract.

⁵ As with previously in this report, the term 'native English' is used throughout this section in the specific sense of someone who both speaks English as their first language and holds a passport from the US, UK, Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand or South Africa. This reflects the requirements of TEFL employers in the relevant job posts.

⁶Per month

TEFL Jobs in Asia

| COUNTRY | TYPICAL JOBS | SALARY ⁶ | CONTRACT | REQUIREMENTS |
|-------------|--|---------------------|--|---|
| China | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full time | £2,000 - £3,000 | 8 - 24 months (majority are 12 months) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEFL certificate • Bachelor's degree • Native English (most) • Roles for new & experienced teachers |
| Hong Kong | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full time | £1,500 - £2,500 | 12 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEFL certificate • Bachelor's degree • Native English (most) • Roles for new & experienced teachers |
| Japan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full time • Voluntary | £1,000 - £2,000 | 3 - 12 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEFL certificate (most) • Bachelor's degree • Native English (some) • 1+ years' teaching experience (some) |
| South Korea | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full time | £1,300 - £2,000 | 12 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEFL certificate • Bachelor's degree • Native English (most) • Roles for new & experienced teachers |
| Thailand | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full time | £900 - £1,000 | 12 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEFL certificate • Bachelor's degree • Native English (most) • Roles for new & experienced teachers |
| Vietnam | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full time • Part time | £1,100 - £1,800 | 9 - 12 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEFL certificate • Bachelor's degree • Native English (most) • Roles for new & experienced teachers |

Europe TEFL jobs

| COUNTRY | TYPICAL JOBS | SALARY ⁶ | CONTRACT | REQUIREMENTS |
|---------|--|---------------------|---------------|--|
| France | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part time | £1,300 - £1,500 | 9 - 12 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TEFL certificate (<i>most</i>) Roles for new & experienced teachers |
| Hungary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full time | £700 - £1,000 | 12 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TEFL certificate Bachelor's degree Teaching experience preferred |
| Italy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full time Part time | £650 - £1,300 | 1 - 12 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor's degree (<i>some</i>) TEFL certificate (<i>most</i>) Native English (<i>most</i>) EU passport (<i>some</i>) Roles for new & experienced teachers |
| Poland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full time | £600 - £700 | 6 - 12 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TEFL certificate (<i>most</i>) Bachelor's degree (<i>most</i>) EU passport (<i>most</i>) Roles for new & experienced teachers |

Europe TEFL jobs

| COUNTRY | TYPICAL JOBS | SALARY ⁶ | CONTRACT | REQUIREMENTS |
|---------|---|---------------------|---------------|--|
| Spain | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full time Part time Internships | £700 - £1,200 | 1 - 24 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TEFL certificate (<i>most</i>) Bachelor's degree (<i>most</i>) Native English (<i>some</i>) EU passport (<i>some</i>) Roles for new & experienced teachers |
| Turkey | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full time Part time | £1,000 - £1,500 | 1 - 24 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TEFL certificate Native English (<i>some</i>) Roles for new & experienced teachers |



TEFL Jobs across the Rest of the World

| COUNTRY | TYPICAL JOBS | SALARY ⁶ | CONTRACT | REQUIREMENTS |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------------|--------------|--|
| Brazil | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full time • Part time | £700 - £1,500 | 12 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEFL certificate (some) • Bachelor's degree • Native English (some) • Roles for new & experienced teachers |
| Chile | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part time | £235 - £650 | 1 - 2 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEFL certificate (some) • Bachelor's degree • 1+ years' experience preferred |
| United Arab Emirates (UAE) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full time | £2,200 - £3,000 | 12 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEFL certificate • Bachelor's degree • Roles for new & experienced teachers |
| United States of America (USA) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full time • Part time | £600 - £2,000 | 1 - 2 months | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEFL certificate (most) • Bachelor's degree (most) • Native English (some) • Roles for new & experienced teachers |



INSIGHTS FROM EMPLOYERS⁷

If anyone has their fingers on the pulse of the TEFL market, it's the TEFL employers themselves. We surveyed TEFL companies across the globe to see what additional insights they could give us about TEFL recruitment right now. Here's what we found out.

Insight 1: TEFL companies are recruiting

Every TEFL company who responded to our survey stated that they plan to recruit more TEFL teachers within the next three months.

Six of the responding companies intend to take on multiple teachers, with five of these (all except Little Comets Nursery) planning to recruit 50 or more. A seventh company, Cambly, may also recruit at these levels but is not included here, as they were unsure of numbers at the time responses were gathered.

Did you know

86% of employers in our survey state that TEFL posts in their company are open to qualified TEFL teachers from South Africa.

⁷ This term is being used to refer to any type of recruiter for TEFL jobs, including language centres, schools and recruitment agencies. As the number of respondents was relatively low and were, by definition, self-selecting, this section should be regarded as indicative of trends across the TEFL market, rather than a definitive analysis.

Companies recruiting multiple posts

| TEFL COMPANY | JOB LOCATION |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| EMG Education | Online (Vietnamese students) |
| Korean Horizons | South Korea |
| ConversaSpain | Online and Spain |
| APAX | Online and Vietnam |
| Joy English School | Online and China |
| Little Comets Nursery | Lithuania |

Insight 2: Good quality TEFL teachers are in demand

A significant majority (71%) of respondents to our Employers Survey state that they're currently finding it difficult to recruit a good calibre of TEFL teachers. They give a variety of reasons for this, including the competitive marketplace, the impact of Covid on travel / visas and the additional red tape for recruiting UK teachers into the EU following Brexit.

However, the most commonly cited reason was the low volume of good quality applications. In other words, if you're a qualified TEFL teacher with a well-crafted job application, you stand a great chance of finding a TEFL job right now.

Did you know

If you're able to travel to a country and apply for TEFL jobs in person, you can put yourself right at the front of the jobs queue. You'll hear about vacancies that don't get advertised and can show employers that you're ready to start work immediately. This is particularly true in Latin America, where you may even find yourself recruited on the spot.

Insight 3: Employers want teachers with TEFL qualifications

A significant majority (71%) of TEFL employers who responded to our survey require candidates to have at least a TEFL Certificate and a bachelor's degree, with almost half (43%) stating that the additional specialist training in a TEFL Diploma would be desirable.

Qualifications Required

TEFL CERTIFICATE



BACHELOR'S DEGREE



Insight 4: Covid is still impacting the market

Employers flagged that ongoing Covid restrictions can increase the length of time it takes teachers to successfully apply for a work visa after being offered a teaching job abroad. In addition, ongoing quarantine requirements for many countries can mean a delay in a teacher starting work after they enter the country. There is little you can do to get around the regulations. However, this feedback highlights the importance of staying in touch with your new employer after you've been offered a job abroad in case there are unexpected delays to your start date.

On a different note, the Covid pandemic has also had a lasting impact on the way that TEFL classes are delivered, with over a quarter (28%) of respondents now offering both online and in-person lessons. This looks like being good news for TEFL teachers, with increased flexibility to teach from all corners of the earth.



10 TOP TIPS TO FIND YOUR DREAM TEFL JOB

- 1** Get a **TEFL qualification**. It's the best way to increase your chances of being recruited.
- 2** Make it super easy for an employer to see that you have qualifications and experience that are directly relevant to the job. If they're looking for a native English speaker with a bachelor's degree and a TEFL certificate and you can offer this, state it in your cover letter and highlight it at the top of your CV / resumé.
- 3** Use clear, simple language. Remember, your application may well be reviewed by someone who doesn't speak English as their first language.
- 4** Avoid any jargon or acronyms, even if they're commonly used in your home country. They often don't translate to other locations and can mean that important parts of your application are overlooked.
- 5** Check the hours before you accept a job and ensure you're comfortable with what's on offer, particularly if it includes regular weekend work.
- 6** Look at how many classes you'll be able to deliver for an online company: more lessons at a slightly lower rate can work out better than only being given a small number at a higher rate.

- 7** Know your worth: don't be afraid to ask for a higher salary, particularly if you're experienced. Companies are often willing to be flexible on pay or can add in extra benefits which make your salary go further.
- 8** If you're struggling to find a job, think about using a recruitment agency. They're common in the TEFL industry and can have links to TEFL employers that don't recruit teachers direct.
- 9** If you can afford to stay in a country while you look for work, book a flight and go. There are a lot of posts available right now and being on the spot and ready to teach gives you a definite advantage for many jobs!
- 10** Never give up, even if you don't hear anything at all from companies. There will be a job out there for you.



START YOUR TEFL ADVENTURE

Now you've got the lowdown on the TEFL jobs market, it's time to start your TEFL adventure.

Not yet TEFL qualified?

Jump onto a fabulous **i-to-i TEFL course**. You'll learn all the practical skills you need to become an effective TEFL teacher and gain that all-important regulated TEFL qualification that employers are looking for along the way.

TEFL certified?

Head straight over to the **Love TEFL jobs board** to hunt out your perfect TEFL job or top up your training with **specialist TEFL courses** to open up even more TEFL opportunities.

Fancy teaching online?

i-to-i's **TEFL Diplomas** include an in-depth specialist module all about teaching online. Alternatively head over to our **online teaching course** and add even more sparkle to your job application.

Need help with your job search?

i-to-i's **free jobs support service** is here to support you every step of the way.

