



TEFL JOBS IN ECUADOR

**A Guide to Teaching
English in Ecuador**

QUITO



GUAYAQUIL



CUENCA



No one goes to Ecuador to earn huge amounts of cash and improve their bank balance! But although the wages aren't the highest, neither is the cost of living, so it's still possible to live on the salary from your TEFL job.



Most work is to be found in universities and the business sector. Classes are usually run in the early morning and late afternoon and evening to avoid the heat of the tropical sun.

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Our Top Three TEFL Destinations

All three of our TEFL job hotspots in Ecuador are stunning places to live. They're also home to a growing TEFL jobs market and offer lots of opportunities to teach English in Ecuador.

Quito

Ecuador's capital is a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the most popular tourist destinations in South America. There are lots of TEFL jobs in the city in both privately run language schools and universities.

Guayaquil

Guayaquil is the commercial hub for all of Ecuador and it's old town and river side promenades draw in travelers from around the world. This combination of business and tourism had a lead to an increased demand for TEFL teachers.



Cuenca

The stunning city of Cuenca sits high in the Ecuadorian Sierra and its status as a World Heritage Site makes it a popular spot for tourists. The influx of foreign visitors has led to an increased demand for TEFL teachers.

Show Me the Money! Wages and Cost of Living in Brazil

Wages

Salaries for full-time jobs start at around US\$400 per month (the dollar is Ecuador's official currency), rising to up to US\$600 per month for experienced teachers. While this is low by international standards, you'll be earning almost twice the average local wage.



Cost of Living

Living in Ecuador is very cheap indeed, so you'll have plenty of spare cash to enjoy yourself. Rent will only set you back around US\$100 per month, while a three course meal costs around US\$10.

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Accommodation

Although accommodation can be a little basic if you venture outside of the major towns and cities, the accommodation available for TEFL teachers is pretty good. Most teachers live in private rooms in shared house, and while these can feel a little rustic compared to how you live back home, they are usually of a much higher standard than the homes of the majority of your students! If you want to get under the skin of Ecuador, you could opt to stay with a local family – a great option if you want to improve your Spanish.

Flight Reimbursement

The chances of your employers paying the cost of your flights are pretty slim. However, if you're working for a big enough school and you negotiate hard enough, they may include the cost of your flight as an end of contract bonus.





Taxes

The amount you pay pretty much depends on how much you earn, but you can expect to pay up to 25% to the Ecuadorian taxman.

Potential to Save Money

On an average salary, it's possible to save enough to explore Ecuador during the holidays, but you probably won't return home with much money in the bank.

How Much TEFL Training is Recommended?

Most schools in Ecuador will want to see that you've done at least 120 hours of TEFL study either online, in the classroom, or a mixture of both, especially if you don't have previous teaching experience. These courses will all qualify you to teach in Ecuador:



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- ★ <http://www.onlinetefl.com/tefl-courses/combined-tefl-courses-120.html>
- ★ <http://www.onlinetefl.com/tefl-courses/combined-tefl-courses-140.html>
- ★ <http://www.onlinetefl.com/tefl-courses/online-tefl-course-120.html>

Common Teaching Conditions



If you're working in a private language school you could end up working split shifts (early mornings and evenings), while other employers offer more regular nine to five hours. On average though you'll have 25 contact hours per week with 10 hours available for preparation. Contracts range from six to 12 months, depending on where you're working. Shorter term contracts are sometimes available, but you're unlikely to get your hands on these unless you're in-country.

Anything to Be Wary of

Some areas in the major towns and cities are notorious for robberies, so ask around and be careful if you're out late at night.



Working and Visas

Finding TEFL Jobs from Home

It is possible to arrange work from home, but it's much easier to find work once you're there. That way you can do the research and emailing from home, then follow up all the leads when you land in Ecuador.

Finding TEFL Jobs in Ecuador

Scan through classified ads in the Yellow Pages, the local English language magazines and jobs websites or just go round language schools in your local area. Sometimes this is the best way to look for jobs as you'll be able to meet Directors of Studies in person and get a feel for what the school's like.

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The Hiring Process

If you're applying from home, employers will want you to fill out an application form and/or send in your resume and a covering letter. If they like the look of you, you'll probably be invited to have a Skype interview. After that it'll hopefully be a job offer! If you're in-country it's a little less formal. Usually you'll go to meet one of the school's directors for an informal interview and may be asked to do a demonstration lesson.

Getting Your Visa

Legally you need a work visa to teach in Ecuador. However, as it's very difficult to get work visas from countries like the US, UK, Ireland and Canada, so most teachers usually enter Ecuador on a tourist visa, then head over to Peru to get their work visa. The only proviso is that teachers need to get their TEFL certificates apostilled in the country they received the certificate in, plus their relevant documents before arriving in Ecuador. Your employer will be able to help you with this.



Requirements for a Working Visa:

- ★ Personal references
- ★ Medical certificate
- ★ Birth certificate
- ★ Police report
- ★ Proof of financial support
- ★ A job offer

Useful Links

www.eslcafe.com
www.eslbase.com
www.tefl.com
www.tefl.net
www.esemployment.com

Useful Books

Teaching English Abroad by Susan Griffith

This is something of a Bible for TEFLers and will give you all the info you'll need to get started.



Notes

