



Spain

Why should I choose Spain?

Spain is a modern, vibrant country. It's a tolerant, accepting society, with a multicultural population. There are excellent universities, museums and natural spaces. Its geography is amongst the most diverse in Europe – beaches, mountains, national parks and plains. There are big cosmopolitan cities and small towns and villages. Spain has a great transportation system and is well communicated with Ireland and the rest of Europe.

What are the Terms and Conditions?

Every year there are approximately **100 POSTS** in primary or secondary schools or in public language schools.

The programme welcomes applicants from any field. Participants need some knowledge of the language, but it's not required to be a student of Spanish. Candidates don't need a background in education. Teaching experience or training will be an asset.

Dates of appointment: 1 October – 31 May. In Madrid until the 30th June.

Hours: 12-16 per week

Salary: approx. **€700-1000** per month. Salaries paid directly by some regions (cupo comunidad) are as follows:

- Comunidad Valenciana y Comunidad de Madrid: 16 hours/€1,000,
- Extremadura and Galicia 16 hours/€935
- Murcia, 15 hours/€875,
- Las Islas Canarias: 16 hours/€933,34
- Castilla y León: 12-16 hours/€700

Documents that the assistant will need if successful in competition (post selection process**)**

Documents to be applied for in Ireland:

- **A Garda Vetting clearance or Police certificate.**
 - Once assistants obtain their certificate they should email a copy to: programas.ie@educacion.gob.es and take the original copy with them to Spain.

Documents to be applied for in Spain:

- "Certificado de penales" - In some cases, when the assistants arrive in Spain, they will be asked to hand in this certificate – which is equivalent to a garda vetting disclosure or police certificate issued by the Spanish authorities.
- A foreigners' Identification Number which translates as N.I.E. (Número de Identidad de Extranjero) in Spanish. Assistants should apply for their N.I.E. at their local police station or at an Oficina de Extranjeros (Foreigners Office). Unfortunately it is not possible to obtain a N.I.E. number via the Spanish Embassy in Ireland.

Medical Coverage:

The assistant should have a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). In the event that the assistant does not have one, and only if there is a just cause, the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training or the Autonomous Community of destination will sign an insurance policy that will provide health coverage.

Requirements:

- **Age:** 20 - 60 years old. Candidates who are 20 in 2022, at any time of the year, and who are no older than 60 during that year can apply.
- One year (60 ECTS credits) of university studies completed by the application deadline. (minimum Level 7)
- Minimum of A2 on CEFR. The higher the level of Spanish the more points/merits awarded
- Irish nationality, however, candidates from other EU countries will be considered, if they have completed the majority of their secondary school education in Ireland and are fluent in English.
- British citizens are eligible if currently studying at an Irish University or UK University. British citizens should only apply through one of the organisations i.e. Department of Education or British Council
- UK or Irish passport holders who have completed secondary education overseas may be contacted at a later stage to assess their knowledge of Irish culture.

Travel Costs:

Travel expenses to Spain and back are not covered by the Scheme so must be paid by the Assistant.

What are the assistants' duties?

Assistants help with the teaching of English. They may be asked to assist in classes of other subjects delivered in English, and to participate in extra-curricular activities such as workshops, field trips, music/theatre performances or sports events.

Where can I go in Spain?

There are posts available in all the Spanish "Comunidades autónomas" (autonomous regions), including Ceuta, Melilla and the Canary and Balearic Islands.

As in Spain each region is governed autonomously, assistants are paid directly by the region they are allocated to. Because of this the Spanish authorities distinguish between "*cupo Comunidad Autónoma*" and "*cupo Ministerio*", which is no other than an indication of who is contracting the assistant and paying their salary. In this way it is easier to identify the number ("*cupo*") of language assistants needed by schools in a particular region and adjust the number of contracts according to their budget.

Positions offered:

Candidates are offered a position according to the points obtained when their application is revised by the selection panel. Despite the preferences in location indicated, candidates can be offered a position anywhere in Spain due to a lack of posts in the region or city they have chosen.

It is important to bear in mind that the preferences in location marked on the application form are only an indication of where they would like to be placed. Efforts will be made to meet the applicants' preferences, but their choices cannot be guaranteed.

Types of schools:

On their application form candidates can indicate the type of school they would prefer to teach at. If living in a certain location is more important, and they don't mind the type of school, they can also indicate this.

Selection process:

In June candidates will be informed by the Department of Education (DE) if they have obtained a position or if they have been placed on the waiting list. Candidates who are on the waiting list could still be offered a position at a later stage if anyone withdraws from the scheme so emails should be checked regularly (Spam email should also be checked). Candidates are offered a position in the order they are placed on the waiting list. **NO applicant is guaranteed a placement. If applicants do get placed they are not guaranteed their first choice. The ELA Scheme is after all a competition and applications go through a selection process.**

- Accepting or declining a position:
 - When candidates are offered a position they have **ten days** to get back to the DE to indicate if they accept or decline the post. If they fail to contact the DE in this time their position will automatically be offered to someone on the waiting list.

- Information about the post:
 - At the beginning of July candidates will be contacted by the Spanish authorities or directly by the school where they have been posted. Candidates must check their emails frequently and wait to be contacted. Spam files should also be checked regularly.
 - The Spanish Embassy Education Office - Asesoría de Educación - will not be able to provide any information about the position if they are being offered a post in the Autonomous Community Group (cupo Comunidad) so candidates must wait to be contacted.
 - Candidates who are offered a position in the Ministerio group (cupo Ministerio) can contact the Asesoría de Educación to ask about the type of school where they will be working and the town it is in. All other details are unknown to the Education Office.

Will there be an induction course?

There will be a one/two-day induction course in Spain in late September or beginning of October. This will include information on administrative procedures and provide training and offer ideas for the classroom.

For further information, visit the programme website:

<https://www.educacionyfp.gob.es/servicios-al-ciudadano/catalogo/profesorado/convocatorias-para-extranjeros/auxiliares-conversacion-extranjeros-espana.html>

Suggestions:

It is recommended to read all the information about the scheme carefully and store a copy to revise it further on in the process and know what you are applying for before you accept a position. When offered a position, candidates may have doubts about basic things such as the start and end of their contract, how much they are going to get paid or how many hours they are going to work. All this information is provided during the application process and should be taken into account before applying and later on before accepting a position.