



*Modern Metropolis
Ancient Culture*

TEFL Teaching in Thailand

The Roadmap

2026 Edition


TEFL CERTIFICATION

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Why TEFL?

*TEFL is the Standard Training Qualification
to Successfully Teach English*



What is TEFL?

TEFL stands for **Teaching English as a Foreign Language**. It refers to teaching English to students whose first language is not English.

You might also hear other terms like:

TESOL – Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

ELT – English Language Teaching

ESL – English as a Second Language

TEFL/TESOL is one of the fastest-growing fields in education. If you're a native or fluent English speaker with a TEFL certificate, there are thousands of teaching opportunities all around the world.

The #1 Reason to do TEFL Training

Most people talk about TEFL in terms of finding a job.

"Do I really need a TEFL to teach?" Technically, no. You *can* find teaching jobs without formal training—especially if you're just looking for *any* job.

But teaching English is more than just speaking it. Sure, it's your native (or second) language, but teaching it well takes skill.

Creating lessons that are effective and interesting—especially in a different culture where families invest heavily in education—takes real preparation.

Many people who start teaching without training end up in low-paying schools with little or no benefits. Because they haven't learned how to teach effectively, they quickly run out of ideas. Within a few months, they burn out—and their “teaching adventure” comes to an early end as they head back home.

So what's the #1 reason to take TEFL training? To learn how to **teach well**.

When you know what you're doing in the classroom, you'll feel more confident, your students will learn more, and your overall experience will be more rewarding. **Success in the classroom opens the door to everything else.**

Invest in Yourself!



Some native English speakers assume they can teach English just because they speak it. But that's like saying you could be a five-star chef just because you've eaten food your whole life!

Want to feel confident in front of a classroom?

A good TEFL course doesn't just teach grammar (like the present perfect)—it also shows you how to:

- ✔ Connect with your students
- ✔ Teach in a way that fits their culture and language background
- ✔ Create engaging, well-structured lesson plans
- ✔ Deliver fun, effective English classes with confidence

Practice Makes Perfect

Reading a course book gives you **knowledge**—that's the first step. But real **skill** comes from applying what you've learned through hands-on practice.

That's where **Observed Teaching Practices (OTPs)**—also called the practicum—come in. OTPs are essential for building the practical skills you need to become a confident and capable teacher.

Trying to teach without doing OTPs is like trying to learn to drive without ever sitting in the driver's seat. That's why many reputable schools **don't accept TEFL courses without a practicum** as a valid teaching qualification.

We'll go into more detail about teaching practice in its own section later in this eBook.

Shortcuts May Bite Back

A cheap, online-only TEFL course might help you land a job—for now. But what if you discover you *love* teaching and you're good at it?

Years later, with solid experience under your belt, you apply for a top-tier teaching position at a prestigious school—with great pay and benefits. But you never hear back. Why? Because your online-only TEFL didn't meet their minimum requirements—so you didn't even make the shortlist.

Cutting corners now can limit your options later. Invest in a credential that opens doors long-term.

Yes, you may now be an 'experienced' teacher, but so will many of the candidates you are competing with. At Vantage, we've retrained experienced teachers—some with 15 years in the classroom—because they weren't TEFL-certified, and they weren't getting invited in to interview for the level of teaching positions they now wanted.

Train, Teach and Travel—all at the Same Time



Some people skip TEFL training because they want to **start traveling right away**. They don't want to wait—get certified first, then look for a job. But why not do **both at the same time**? Page | 3

For example, if you take your TEFL course in **Thailand**, you can:

- ✔ Immerse yourself in Thai culture
- ✔ Train with real Thai students
- ✔ Get hands-on teaching experience
- ✔ Start building your career *while* exploring a new country

The cultural grounding is a unique part of doing your TEFL overseas—while **gaining actual teaching experience**.

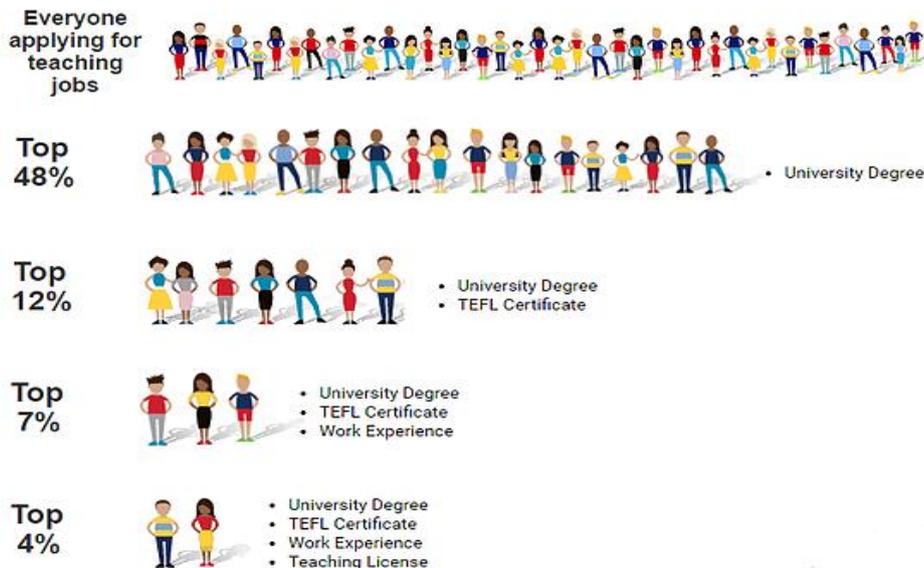
Stand Out in a Competitive Job Market

The best schools want the best teachers—and today, teaching English is more competitive than ever. To boost your chances of landing interviews, you need more than just native fluency. What sets you apart is being able to show that you've:

- ✔ Studied teaching theory, and
- ✔ Applied it in real classrooms with non-native English speakers through Observed Teaching Practice (OTP).

Employers need teachers with both **knowledge** and **experience**. A TEFL that includes OTPs gives you exactly that.

Stand out from the crowd with a TEFL certification



A TEFL Makes a Real Difference

Even if a school doesn't *require* a TEFL certificate, it still **matters**. It can be the deciding factor—even if you have a college degree. And if you **don't have a degree**, a TEFL certification becomes **essential**.

Why? Because it shows employers that you're not just fluent in English—you're a **trained, professional teacher** who's prepared to succeed in the classroom.

The World is your Oyster!



Don't let anyone tell you that teaching English isn't a smart career move.

English is the world's common language—the go-to when people don't share the same native tongue. And that's not changing anytime soon.

Getting TEFL certified is your first step into a global, well-paid career. With a TEFL, you can:

- ✔ **Travel the world** (teaching English)
- ✔ **Experience new cultures and cuisines**
- ✔ **Live an exciting, fulfilling life**—and get paid for it!

And when you're ready to return home, your experience opens doors to:

- ✔ Teaching in **schools, colleges, or universities**
- ✔ **Private tutoring or online instruction**, which continues to grow
- ✔ A TEFL isn't just a certificate—it's a passport to opportunity.

English: The Operating System for the Global Conversation

English has become the world's universal language. Today, around **25% of the global population uses English**, and nearly a **billion more are learning** it—creating an enormous demand for qualified teachers.

How big is the demand? In Thailand alone, the Minister of Education recently stated the country [needs 10,000 qualified foreign teachers](#).

Globally, emerging economies are realizing that English proficiency drives economic growth. Countries with low English skills tend to have:

- ✔ Lower exports per capita
- ✔ Less foreign investment
- ✔ Slower development

To compete internationally, nations are investing in graduates who can communicate in English—the language of:

- ✔ Business
- ✔ Science and technology
- ✔ Entertainment
- ✔ Diplomacy
- ✔ Global communication



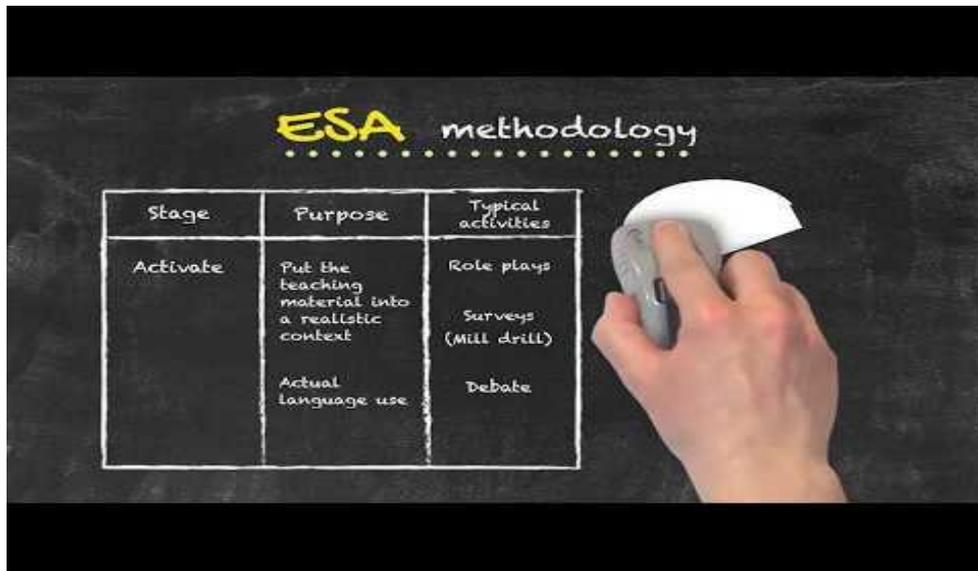
That's why future leaders, decision-makers, and entrepreneurs are learning English—and why certified teachers are in high demand almost everywhere. Today, non-native speakers outnumber native English speakers, making English a truly global language.

What does this mean for you? If you're trained, certified, and experienced, you can work at top-tier schools offering better salaries and benefits.

Want to dive deeper into the numbers? Visit our [ELT Industry page](#) to learn more about global teacher demand.

The Communicative Approach

To Language Teaching



Stage	Purpose	Typical activities
Activate	Put the teaching material into a realistic context Actual language use	Role plays Surveys (MILL drill) Debate

[Click to play video](#)

What is the Communicative Approach?

Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) is a method of teaching languages that focuses on real interaction. The idea is that using the language is both how students learn—and the goal of learning.

Instead of being a traditional lecturer, the teacher acts more like a **facilitator**—guiding activities and encouraging students to speak, listen, and engage in meaningful communication.

Lecturing can be useful for sharing information, but language learning is a **skill**, and skills improve through **practice**—not just by listening.

The Communicative Approach is designed to get your students **actively using English** in class. The more they speak and interact, the faster their skills develop.

ESA: A Modern Teaching Method in the Communicative Approach

ESA stands for **Engage, Study, and Activate**—and it's one of the most popular and up-to-date methods used within the Communicative Approach.

ESA gives teachers a flexible, yet structured way to run their lessons in an effective and engaging manner. It's especially useful because it helps keep students interested, motivated, and excited to learn.

The video above shows a great example of how to use the ESA method to deliver a successful English lesson.



The Grammar Question: How Much Do I Need to Know to Teach English?

Many teachers worry about grammar—but the truth is, grammar isn't the *be-all and end-all* of teaching English.

In the Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) approach, grammar is taught in context, not as isolated rules. The **goal is to get students communicating**—speaking and writing about real-life topics that matter to them.

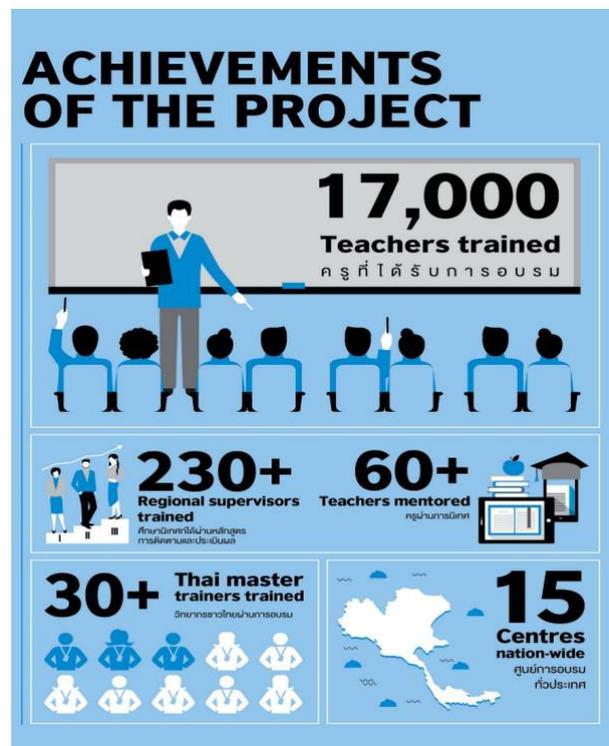
For example, if you're teaching a lesson on daily routines, your students will naturally use the Present Simple tense. But instead of focusing on grammar rules, they'll be focused on communicating what they do each day—like "I wake up at 7" or "I go to work by bus."

This way, students are learning grammar by using it, rather than memorizing it.

The Communicative Approach Introduced to Thailand



Click image to play video.



The **British Council** and the **Thai Ministry of Education** have teamed up to improve the teaching skills of 17,000 primary and secondary Thai English teachers. [This new way of teaching English is already showing results.](#)

The ‘Bootcamp’ initiative was implemented nationwide in 2015. 17,000 out of 40,000 Thai English teachers have been trained. The results so far are **overwhelmingly positive**.

The research clearly indicates that 90% or 15,300 English teachers have more confidence in teaching English using the communicative approach and more confidence in using English in their classrooms.

Importantly, as Thai schools become increasingly familiar with the Communicative Approach and its methods, they are asking if foreign teachers are trained in CLT.



Why Observed Teaching Practice (OTP) Matters

Reading about teaching or watching videos can only take you so far. Observed Teaching Practice is one of the most important parts of Vantage’s TEFL course. It gives you real classroom experience—something you just can’t get from a textbook.

During OTP, you’ll teach actual English learners while being observed and coached. This is where you take what you’ve learned and turn it into real teaching skills. It’s the part of the course that truly prepares you to become a confident and capable teacher.

How Vantage Conducts the Teaching Practicum

At Vantage, your **Observed Teaching Practice (OTP)** includes a minimum of **six one-hour lessons**, each focused on a different language topic.

Step 1: Lesson Planning

You’ll first learn how to prepare a **professional lesson plan**. Your trainer will review your plan in detail—including your learner objectives, teacher aims, anticipated problems (with solutions), and a complete step-by-step lesson procedure using the ESA methodology. A well-prepared lesson plan should be clear enough that any experienced teacher could follow it and teach your class exactly as you intended.

Step 2: Selecting Materials

You’ll then choose your teaching materials—like visuals, worksheets, and activities—that best fit your topic and language point.

Vantage provides a well-organized **resource library**, and our trainers will help you select content that matches each stage of your lesson.

Step 3: Live Teaching & Observation

You’ll teach your lessons to real English learners while being observed by a Vantage trainer. We’ll evaluate your performance based on:

- ✔ Use of teaching methods and techniques
- ✔ Your classroom manner and presence
- ✔ Effective board work
- ✔ Classroom management skills
- ✔ How closely you follow your lesson plan
- ✔ Student engagement and feedback
- ✔ Time management

This hands-on experience is where you truly build confidence and turn your knowledge into real teaching skills.

Getting Feedback and Growing with Each Lesson

After teaching an OTP class, the first thing you'll do is take a moment to reflect. You'll fill out a short self-evaluation to think about what went well and what you'd like to improve.

Then, you'll sit down with your trainer for a **supportive feedback session**. They'll go over what they observed and give you helpful, constructive tips to make your next lesson even better.

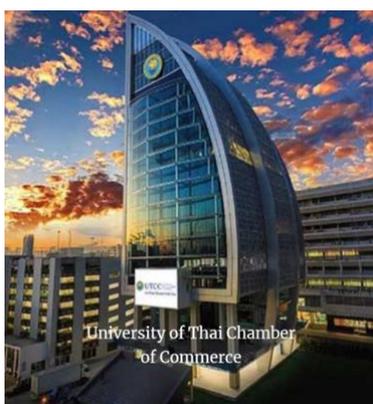
If that sounds a bit nerve-racking—don't worry! We're with you every step of the way. Our goal is to help you grow and feel confident in the classroom.

Most trainees see **real progress with every class they teach**—and by the end of the practicum, the improvement is amazing. You'll be ready to walk into any classroom and teach with confidence.

Our Practicum Partners

All our courses are conducted in registered facilities and our Teaching Practices are held in schools and colleges that are registered with the Thai Ministry of Education. We conduct our OTPs with the following institutions:

- ✔ **The Boromarajonani College** – The first academic institute of the Ministry of Public Health, it has grown into Thailand's largest nursing training facility with 28 campuses throughout the Kingdom.
- ✔ **The University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce** - UTTC is a private, non-profit higher education institute organized into eight schools offering degree programs to the doctoral level in English and Thai.
- ✔ **The Human Settlement Foundation** – A volunteer organization dedicated to finding solutions to homelessness and quality living in flourishing communities.
- ✔ **Petcharawun Witthaya School** – A Thai government school with more than 2,000 students ranging from kindergarten to the 9th grade.
- ✔ **The Good Shepherd Foundation** was established to provide relief to women from harsh social conditions. They are also teaching refugees who have made Thailand their temporary home.





วิทยาลัยพยาบาลบรมราชชนนี กรุงเทพฯ
Boromarajonani College of Nursing, Bangkok



New Teachers are Made in the Classroom

*The knowledge you gain from the course book needs to be put into practice.
That's how real teaching skills are developed.*



Knowing Does Not Make You Skilled

Knowledge is information.

It's acquired through sensory input: reading, watching, and listening. Knowledge refers to factual information and theoretical concepts.

Skills refer to knowledge applied in real situations.

Skills are developed only through practice—through a combination of input and output.

You can know all the rules of a sport, understand its strategies, know when to use them, and memorize player statistics.

But that only makes you knowledgeable about the sport; it doesn't make you any good at *playing* it.

To become good at a sport, you must *play* it and improve through consistent practice.

Likewise, if you want to be a good English teacher, you need to immerse yourself in a real classroom with non-English-speaking students and learn how they respond to your teaching.

You'll also want feedback from experienced trainers—there are limits to what self-reflection alone can reveal about your progress.

Observed teaching practices are a crucial part of developing your teaching skill set.

It's what helps you become a confident, effective, and professional teacher—the best you can be.

TEFL Accreditation



What is Accreditation?

Accreditation means that the TEFL program standards are set by an organization *independent* of the TEFL provider. An **independent accreditation body** ensures:

- ✔ Fair testing practices
- ✔ Transparent grading and marking
- ✔ Adherence to an approved curriculum

In short, accreditation is a form of **quality control**. It ensures that every part of a TEFL program meets consistent, professional standards.

What do Schools Want?

Top schools want to hire the most qualified teachers they can find. They typically seek TEFL graduates who have completed programs that meet the following criteria:

- ✔ **At least 100 hours** of coursework and training
- ✔ **6 hours of Observed Teaching Practice** with non-English-speaking students in a real classroom setting
- ✔ **External validation** by a reputable examining body (such as an accredited university or recognized examination board).
- ✔ **Qualified course instructors** who hold at least a degree, Dip TEFL, or Dip TESOL, with academic backgrounds in Education (with an ESL emphasis), and extensive international teaching experience
- ✔ **Moderation of standards** is an integral part of accreditation. For every TEFL course run, an external and *independent* moderator will go over all the key components, student work samples, and the approved curriculum. Few TEFL courses have moderation, so they don't really have accreditation.

Three College Credits

Vantage TEFL Certification is validated through [Paris University of International Education \(PUIE\)](#). The institution recognized the TEFL International certificate course as a **three-credit undergraduate university course**.

Each student receives an [official transcript](#) from PUIE along with their TEFL International Certificate.

The Paris University of International Education

PUIE is established as a private higher institution to promote programs internationally. It is a virtual college recognized by [The Paris Academy](#) as a degree-granting institution.

To verify PUIE, visit the [French Ministry of Higher Education Database](#) and search “Paris University of International Education”.



Moderation of Standards

Following each Vantage TEFL course, a formal review is conducted between the Course Moderator and our Lead Trainer. Together, they assess trainees’ lesson plans, self-evaluations, and reflective journals to ensure that the approved TEFL methodology has been thoroughly understood and applied. They also review the overall delivery and outcomes of the course.

This ongoing moderation process is a key component of our accreditation. It helps maintain the high standards of our program and ensures that your Vantage TEFL certification is both credible and internationally recognized.

TEFL Course Moderator



Vantage In-Class TEFL courses are also moderated by Michael FitzGerald.

Michael has been an administrator, teacher, course developer, and TEFL teacher trainer (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) for over 25 years. He has taught in North & Central America, Eastern & Western Europe and throughout Asia.

Michael holds a bachelor’s degree from Carleton University in Canada, a Cambridge University DELTA, and a TEFL Certification from the Irish Schools Association. He is also a Master's in Education (TESOL) candidate at the Paris College of International Education.

Michael has also worked with TEFL International for more than ten years where he developed new educational programs, hired and trained staff in addition to directing TEFL courses.

He has been a director for a Trinity College London program, consulted for The Bell Educational Foundation, and many other international training organizations.

Michael has authored books on training teachers and presented at numerous conferences, as well as being Special Projects Leader for TESOL Spain’s Board of Directors.

The World of English Teaching

The Many Kinds of English Teachers

Career Opportunities in English Teaching

Teaching English abroad is an excellent platform for launching a wide range of rewarding career paths. With millions of English learners around the world—each with unique goals and needs—qualified teachers can find opportunities in a variety of settings.

Beyond roles in government and private schools, English teachers are also in demand at international schools, universities, kindergartens, and corporations. And the possibilities don't end there.

Many teachers take on volunteer roles with global organizations, offer private tutoring, or teach online—giving them the flexibility to work from almost anywhere.

And that's just the beginning. These are simply different teaching contexts. As you grow in experience, you can move into many other exciting roles within the field. Learn more about where English teaching can take you on our [English Careers](#) page.

Two Broad Categories of English Teachers

1. General English Teachers

Most English teachers work in ESL (English as a Second Language) classrooms. These classes focus on developing students' overall proficiency in the English language.

2. Content Teachers (CLIL)

Bilingual and international schools often hire **Content Teachers** to teach academic subjects—such as math, science, geography, or literature—in English. This approach is known as CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning), where students learn both the subject content and the English language simultaneously.



Content teachers typically need a bachelor's degree in a relevant subject area and a TEFL certification.

Thailand's Teaching Opportunities

Thailand presents a wide range of opportunities for English teachers. While a TEFL certification isn't legally required, it significantly boosts your chances of securing a well-paying position at a reputable school. In fact, many of the better schools now prefer—if not require—teachers with TEFL training, and this trend is expected to grow.

Below is a general overview of the [average salaries](#) by school type in Thailand:

Type of School	Salary
Public Schools	\$800 -- \$1,000
Private Schools	\$1,000 -- \$2,000
Universities	\$2,000 -- \$3,000
Private Language Academies	\$1,000 -- \$2,000
International Schools	\$2,000 -- \$3,000
Private Tutoring / Online	\$15 -- \$30 / Hour

Different Types of Teaching Jobs

Government schools

English is usually taught as a separate subject in government schools and most EFL teachers will be responsible for teaching predominantly speaking and listening skills. Some schools run English programs where the language of instruction is English for certain subjects such as maths, history etc.

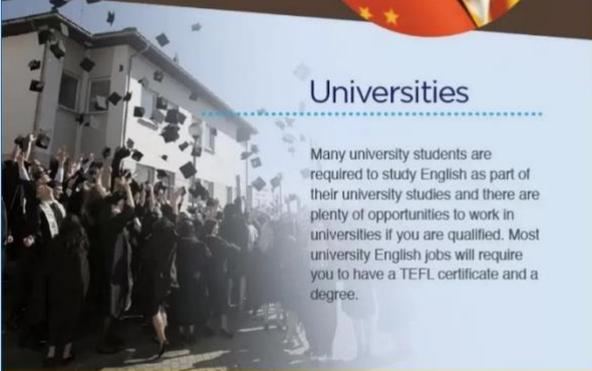


Private schools

Private schools generally offer the same curriculum as government schools but some are fully bilingual where subjects are taught in English and the students' native language while in others all instruction is in English except for native language lessons.

International schools

Most international schools have an EFL department where students study English to bring them up to speed before entering mainstream classes.



Universities

Many university students are required to study English as part of their university studies and there are plenty of opportunities to work in universities if you are qualified. Most university English jobs will require you to have a TEFL certificate and a degree.

Kindergarten

Parents around the world are keen to expose their children to foreign languages as early as possible. Therefore, the demand for English teachers in kindergartens is ever growing.



Private language schools



There are plenty of job opportunities at private language schools globally. Teachers at these institutions can find themselves teaching students of all ages. You can also find yourself teaching general English lessons, business English, or even helping students prepare for tests such as IELTS or TOEFL.



Working directly for companies

Some companies hire their own English teachers who will be responsible for developing and teaching English courses in line with company guidelines. Such jobs may also entail additional responsibilities outside of teaching English.

Private Classes

Private classes involve the teacher finding their own students to teach. The benefits of private classes are that you can set the price of the classes. You can teach at your home, the student's home or even a park or café.



Volunteer work

Volunteering is a great way to gain teaching experience while studying or before looking for paid positions. It is also a great way to use your new skills to benefit others. From teaching new arrivals in your home country to teaching monks in Nepalese monasteries, there's a wide range of volunteer teaching opportunities around the world.



Online

As the number of people connected to the internet around the world increases the demand for online English teaching also grows. Teaching online allows you to work anywhere at any time.



Cost of Living

The other half of the story

Cost of Living vs. Salary: What Really Matters

When considering teaching abroad, it's important to compare salaries *in context*—a higher paycheck doesn't always mean more money in your pocket.

A common concern is that living overseas will be expensive. And yes, if you choose high-cost countries, your money may not stretch very far. But in more affordable destinations, like Thailand, you'll likely be surprised at how comfortable life can be—even on a modest income.

In Thai cities—including Bangkok—it's possible to live well on \$600 to \$900 per month. You'll still find meals for \$1–\$2 at local street stalls, markets, and mall food courts. Rent for a modern studio apartment in a Western-style complex can range from just \$250 to \$400 per month. A ride on a public bus starts at around \$0.30.



The more you adapt to local living, the further your salary will stretch. Food is a great example: the more you embrace Thai cuisine, the more you'll save—without sacrificing flavor or nutrition. (Don't miss the [Bangkok \\$1 Menu](#) to see just how far your food budget can go.)

How Much Money do I Need?

Determine your total costs to get TEFL certified, find a job, and get your first teaching paycheck. Vantage's free [TEFL Budget Planner](#) spreadsheet lets you input your expected costs and run your own monthly budget scenarios. It's a great way to get a realistic picture of what life abroad might look like financially.

The more you can 'acclimatize' to local conditions, you'll be surprised how far your earnings will go. Food is a good example. The more you can adapt to Thai cuisine, the further your funds will go.

Monthly Expense	Thai Baht Cost	US\$ Cost
Rent	6,500 to 10,000	210 - 325
Utilities (electricity & water)	1,500 – 2,500	50 - 80
Food	7,000 – 9,500	225 - 307
Mobile & Internet	400 - 750	13 - 25
Misc.	3,000 – 6,000	97 - 194
TOTALS	฿19,200 – ฿28,750	\$620 – \$928

Thailand is Still a Paradise

Thailand remains one of the most rewarding places to teach. If you're skilled and passionate about your craft, you can earn a solid income teaching English here. Combined with the country's relatively low cost of living, that means more freedom to enjoy Thailand's beautiful beaches, world-renowned cuisine, and rich cultural heritage.

Online English Teaching



English Language Learners have been Moving Online.

Opportunities for online TEFL teachers have been ramping up over the past number of years as more and more students turn to learning online. The coronavirus crisis has exacerbated this trend.

More adults are moving to online classes. It fits their schedule as more people work from home, and it adapts to a more flexible corporate structure.

School-aged students are generally supplementing the traditional school-based learning approach with educational apps and other digital products,

With geographical limitations no longer a factor, TEFL teachers can now work from anywhere in the world.

In Thailand—just one hour off China’s main time zone—an increasing contingent of online teachers have based themselves there as ‘digital nomads’ teaching to a booming market of Chinese children who cannot get access to classroom teachers.

One-to-one tutoring, once the preserve of China’s wealthiest families, is increasing going mainstream as families spend some \$3,000 per year for private English classes. The video tells the tale of how a handful of new companies are investing over half a billion dollars targeting this market.

The Global Private Tutoring Market

The global private tutoring market is projected to experience significant growth, with market values ranging from USD 123.51 billion to \$191.1 billion by 2033.

The convenience of online tuition is undoubtedly a big draw for both students and TEFL tutors. As video conferencing technology improves and as the public become better informed about online options to learn English, demand for online teaching will certainly increase.



[Click to play video](#)

Think Online Classrooms too.



[Click to play video](#)

Much of what we read about online teaching is about one-on-one instruction. Having said that, the coronavirus crisis drove strong growth to group language teaching classes as well. Page | 17

Teaching a group online is very different—definitely more challenging—than individual online tutoring and also different from being in a traditional classroom.

Our [Online vs. Classroom Teaching video](#) will give you a quick overview of some of the key differences—and similarities—between classroom and internet-based teaching.

Why Teach English Online?

The quick answer: this teaching market segment is booming.

Beyond the convenience, flexibility and dynamic and growing market of the field, teaching online can also be a great way to "test the waters" with your teaching skills before taking the leap to move abroad.

Do you connect with students who don't speak your language? How difficult is it to prep lessons? What can I do better? Am I making a difference in my student's lives?

Answers to these questions will help you decide if your teaching skills can make you successful in the classroom.

As probably many TEFL teachers can vouch for, knowing what you're getting yourself into beforehand really helps with your transition to life in a foreign country.

TEACHING ENGLISH ONLINE
It's THAT Easy!

THE ONLINE EDUCATION MARKET IS BOOMING:

- 54%** of the global population use the Internet
- 47%** of the population of developing countries use the Internet

With education costs rising, online English education offers an affordable and accessible alternative

E-LEARNING IS ECO-FRIENDLY. CO2 emissions per student are cut by **85%**

EARN GREAT MONEY
Depending on the teaching platform, online English teachers make between \$15 and \$30 USD per hour.

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING
Work whenever it suits you and for as many hours as you like.

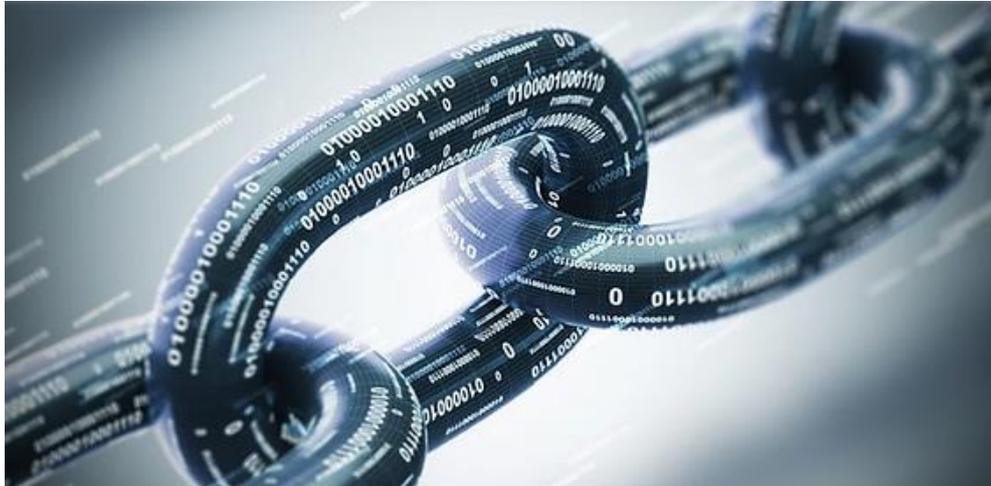
WORK FROM ANYWHERE
Create a home office environment or travel the world and teach English online on the go.

BE YOUR OWN BOSS
Set up your own teaching platform and teach at your own preference.

EASY TO GET STARTED!
Simply take a TEFL/ TESOL course and get qualified to teach English - not only online but also in countries all around the world!

Your TEFL Certificate is on Blockchain

Vantage Adopts Secure Technology for its Certificated Awards.



What is Blockchain?

Blockchain is a system of recording information that makes it essentially impossible to change, hack, or cheat the system. This is a digital ledger that is duplicated and distributed across the entire network of computer systems on the blockchain.

It's secure and immutable—unable to be changed.

How does it work?

Vantage TEFL Graduates receive a simple, secure, lifelong link that can be shared directly with schools, recruiters—anyone who needs to **review verified credentials**. You can also share your digital award on your LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter or other media platform.

By clicking on your link, certified data can be read in real-time on the Ethereum blockchain-based Polygon chain.

You can also download your certificate in PDF format from the link sent to you. This printable version will also have a QR code that can be scanned where it will take you to the verification page to validate your TEFL certificate.

Upon verification, you can access the information that contains TEFL International's (issuer) blockchain public key and the transaction ID. With this privilege, you can also share your digital award on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter.

The best of both worlds!

You can also download your certificate in PDF format from the link sent to you. This printable version can be sent to a prospective employer as an email attachment or it can be presented in person.

Your TEFL Certificate will also include a QR code that can be scanned where it will take you to a secure online verification page where anyone can ascertain its validity.

Unlike a physical piece of paper, the online version of your TEFL certificate can be presented a secure document that cannot be changed in its blockchain form.

Benefits of Using Blockchain to Issue Credentials

- When an award is issued on a blockchain, it can be **verified instantly**, by clicking on the verification link or scanning a QR code.
- Differentiate yourself** by presenting a TEFL Certificate that any prospective employer can instantly validate.
- Traditional records are usually held as paper files that can deteriorate over time. By storing the records as digital awards on a blockchain, the issuer can safeguard them from damage, loss or destruction. And you can always **print another copy of your certificate!**
- Tackling fake certificates using blockchain technology. Blockchain secures them and ensures that they **cannot be forged** or modified.
- Digital awards can be shared an unlimited number of times** in all formats: social and professional networks (LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.)



By embracing blockchain technology, Vantage can ensure that our awards remain immutable and instantly verifiable from anywhere in the world

Take a Test Drive—a Blockchain Example



There are two easy ways that you can go to verify your certificate using [Certif-ID](#).

- 1.) Simply scan the QR code at the bottom of your certificate or,
- 2.) You can copy and paste your personal life-long URL. Try it with this example.

[Here's the URL for the certificate](#) shown on the left.

By embracing blockchain technology, Vantage can ensure that our awards remain immutable and instantly verifiable from anywhere in the world.

Top Ten TEFL Myths—Busted

We've come across a lot of talk regarding English teaching and the validity of doing a TELF. Most of the time, the reasoning comes up short when all key factors are considered.



1. You need to speak your students' language to teach English.

Teaching is not translating.

According to the principles of modern language instruction embedded in the 'communicative approach,' you as the teacher will want to immerse your students in an English-only environment as much as possible when they are in your class.

In many cases, by using your students' own language, you are providing a crutch for them that may impede their progress in learning English. Why? Because every language has its own unique structure and idioms.

That's why a translate-only tool like *Google Translate* often comes up short and the overall meaning is lost.

You students need to adapt to an English structure and that's more than just vocabulary. To do that, your students need as much practice as possible using English within its unique structure. How is that going to happen if you revert to their native language?

There are plenty of non-verbal tools and resources to help you effectively teach your students English without speaking their language in class.

That's why a large part of your Vantage TEFL training is dedicated to developing the teaching skills needed to communicate with non-native speakers of various levels of English proficiency.

2. Do I need a degree to teach English?

Yes and no. This will [depend on which country](#) you want to teach in. Some countries like Cambodia—or South American countries such as Ecuador, Argentina and Peru—do not require a degree to get a Work Permit (WP)—and obtaining a WP means you can legally work in a foreign country.

In Thailand, formal schools cannot process a WP unless you have a minimum of bachelor's degree (in any major).



The key word is 'formal.' Some teaching agencies will hire non-degree holders and process a Work Permit for you. Then they subcontract you to a school. You work for the agency—which is a non-formal school—even though you are teaching full time in one of their client schools. More [details are here](#).

There's also the booming online market—one of the most dynamic teaching market segments. For example, a number of teachers have set up base as 'digital nomads' in Thailand to teach Chinese kids online. There is only a one hour time zone difference and because technically you're not teaching Thais, you don't have to get a WP—you just need to keep your visa status current. And of course the cost of living is substantially lower in Thailand than in English speaking countries.

If you don't have a degree, having a full TEFL is even more important as it demonstrates that you have been trained to teach a language. And you don't need a degree to do a TEFL.

3. I'm a native born English speaker. Why do I have to be trained to teach what I already know?

Well, I've eaten food all my life, so I can just waltz into any kitchen and become a five-star chef, right?

Mastering a subject is knowledge. But knowing how to teach effectively it involves skills. How will you develop these requisite skills if you haven't been formally trained? If you have practice your new craft under the supervision of experts.

Do you really want to stand up in front of a class of twenty or thirty students without any idea of how to teach? Untrained teachers don't know what to do. They often burn out winging it within a year.

On the other hand, proper training can lead to a successful classroom session and a highly rewarding experience. That's something your students will notice...and your school...and the ultimate decisions makers—the parents.

4. Getting a teaching job is the single most important reason do to a TEFL?

Many would say that a TEFL is the ticket to getting better teaching jobs—as important and true as that is.

But more important—at least in the long term—is that your TEFL teacher training will give you the foundational skill set—the tools and the know-how—on how to be successful in the classroom.

The better you can perform your job, the more you will enjoy it, the more your students will learn and the better asset you'll be to any school where you teach.



And being good in your job can lead you to a world of rewards such as promotions are jobs of greater responsibility like curriculum development as your value is increasingly recognized—and that means more money.

5. *Teaching a language is the same as teaching content subjects like math, science or history.*

Not true. Teaching English is very different from traditional teaching we've all experienced in school. That type of learning involves a lot of lecture-style presentation with the students mostly memorizing the course material. Here they are **acquiring knowledge**.

Language teaching is more like teaching a musical instrument. Your students are **developing skills**. And skills are only developed through practice.

That means there needs to be a lot of student participation. Participation requires communication and this is a natural form of language practice. Students learn and practice the target language through the interaction with one another and their instructor.

The more practice a student gets, the more their English should improve. If the students aren't participating much in class, it could mean that the teacher is talking (lecturing) too much.

It's a key reason why Vantage TELF employs the communicative approach to language learning.

6. *Online only TEFL courses are equivalent to an In-Class or onsite TEFL*



New teachers are made in the classroom. Yes, doing an online-only TEFL can be a lot cheaper. It definitely wins on convenience. It could, also end up being a short cut that bites back.

In the hundreds of candidates we've trained, everyone has developed their teaching skill set in their observed practice teaching sessions.

How do you replicate the experience of teaching real non-English speaking students in a live classroom online?

Getting professional feedback on your performance is where the knowledge of course book becomes the teaching skill set you'll need in your new career. That's why many good schools shun online-only course offerings. They want a TELF with a minimum of six hours of observed practice teaching.

7. *I'm an experienced teacher. I don't need to do a TEFL at this point in my career.*

You could be right. TEFL programs are designed assuming a trainee has no teaching experience.

Having said that, we've trained teachers with as much as 15+ years of experience and who've taught in diverse cultures like China, Korea, and Turkey. They came back to get TEFL certified because they weren't getting invited to interview at the prestigious schools where they felt now they were now qualified to teach. They were good teachers who had lots of great experience, but they also said the learned a lot from their Vantage TEFL experience.

It's not uncommon for institutions to pre-screen out all applicants without a TEFL. That's done before it gets to the hiring authority. They never see all your great experience because your resume never reaches them.



Bottom line: Shortcuts may bite back. Skipping TEFL training when you're just starting out as a teacher may mean you'll lack a differentiating qualification you'll need in the future.

8. A TEFL is not necessary. In some countries, like, in Cambodia, it's not a requirement.

It's true that you can find an English teaching job without a TEFL. The demand for English teachers is high so some schools and/or countries will take English speakers who haven't been formally trained in teaching a language.

Typically those schools are not among the better institutions. The best schools want the best teachers. A TEFL certification says at a minimum that that candidate has passed a program of professional training.

Bottom line: For the **best jobs**, a TEFL is a must, no matter what country you work in. If you wish to settle for *any* teaching job, you probably could skip doing a TEFL or just do a cheap online-only one.

If you want to target the better jobs that your background and qualifications can bring, a 120 hour TEFL with a practicum will help in **differentiate yourself** as a career teaching professional.



9. TEFLs are expensive! Why should I do one?

They aren't. You will be paying approximately the same per hour as your students will be paying to be taught by you in your first TEFL job. And, at Vantage, you'll be on an award-winning course, trained by hugely experienced trainers, job search help, small class sizes, and an internationally-recognized certificate at the end.

Try comparing the cost of a TEFL course to almost any other face-to-face qualification such as IT training.

The better schools typically want a TEFL certification. It demonstrates competence in the classroom and they're willing to **pay more** to those teachers who have one. This can range from \$100 to \$200 a month in additional salary. So usually in a year or so, the *extra* compensation will reimburse you for a full TEFL program that can cost around \$1,500.

You should approach a TEFL certification in terms of making an **investment in yourself**. Looking long term, you may really like teaching and wish to do this as a career.

10. You have to teach kids



School-age children are definitely a big market for TEFL teachers. But if kids aren't your ticket—with more than 1 billion people learning English—there are other large market segments that need English teachers.

Think private language academies that teach business professionals.

They're often looking for TEFL teachers to deliver one-to-one lessons, business English and conversational English classes for adults.

The infograph on page 13 shows the many different roles of English teachers which may give you even more ideas.

And a 'bonus' myth...TEFLs are for young people

Completely false. A number of retired folks are increasingly taking on teaching roles in both a full and part time capacity. While there are some age restrictions in some countries, many do not have an upper limit.

You also have a number of middle-aged teachers who changed careers midlife as they wanted a profession where they could see themselves making a difference in their student's lives.

Our oldest TEFL trainee was 70 years young.

Some institutions prefer older teachers as they are much more stable and not likely to leave to another country after a number of months. And they are often seen as more mature and can be trusted to show up on time and they tend to honor the importance of deadlines.

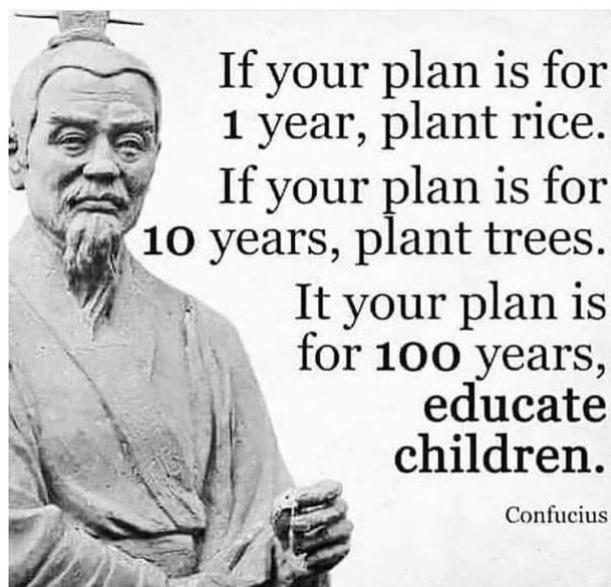
The Big Picture

Teaching English is a competitive market. Schools want the best teachers and your TEFL demonstrates that you've been trained to teach. That should help differentiate you. Your resume won't be the only application they're looking at.

Markets are also efficient. There are good reasons why institutes will pay more for professionally certified teachers. Schools themselves are in competition against other schools for the best students (who often pay more).

Quality of teaching is a key way schools can distinguish themselves from competing institutions.

It's not textbooks that make Harvard and Cambridge world famous. It's the quality of their professors.





Five Keys to Finding a Teaching Job in Thailand

*"There are currently some 7,000 foreign teachers in Thai schools
...another 10,000 teachers are required."*

--Thai Education Minister Nataphol Teepsuwan (September, 2020)

Comprehensive Job Services

If you are going to invest your time, money and dreams in a TEFL course, receiving job services support is a critical element. Navigating job markets, interviews, and recruiters is a crucial component to make sure you land a great teaching job after graduating from the course.

Vantage has its own dedicated Jobs Coach. We'll work with you one-on-one in crafting your own Power Resume. We'll coach you on interviewing techniques. And then we will tie you into our Thai and global recruitment network of the best teaching jobs.

Through our quality **lifetime job assistance**, Vantage alumni have landed jobs at international schools, universities and prestigious academies.

Vantage TEFL's Job Guarantee

If you follow these simple key steps, your transition from a TEFL trainee to a full-time teacher should be more or less seamless. Here are some of the key things to do—before you come to Thailand, soon after you arrive and just after your TEFL graduation.

Almost all of Vantage's TEFL graduates find good positions *within two weeks* of completing our course

Those that take longer typically have already received a job offer, but are still exploring the market. It's also not uncommon for Vantage trainees to receive offers during their TEFL training from our partner education groups.

Key 1

Don't Leave Home without Them

Before coming to Thailand, prepare your qualifications beforehand—that is, originals of degrees or diplomas and certificates of your highest level of education. These may be harder to obtain after you have arrived in Thailand.

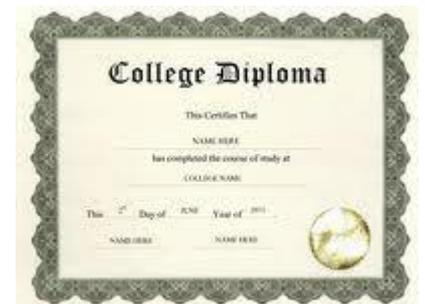
If you went to college, bring a copy of your transcript too as some employers may want to see this. Here is your shortlist for documents to bring:

- Degree or High School Diploma
- Certifications
- Transcripts

Consider bringing:

- Police Background Check/Clearance

Not essential as increasingly these can be obtained online anywhere for some nationalities. But some schools and agencies do require these. It's also possible to get one from the Thai police if you've been in Thailand for at least one year, but if you can easily get one from home, you may wish to do so.



- ✔ **Your Home Country's Driving License**
- ✔ **Your Smartphone** (see Key 2)

You can use your home driving license to get a [Thai driving license](#) without taking a Thai driving test. This applies to whatever class of license you bring, i.e. car or motorcycle.

Even if you don't plan to drive in Thailand, a Thai Driving License can still be valuable as it can be **used as ID** for many situations where you're asked for your passport. I have even used mine to buy Thai entrance price tickets (read: lower priced tickets) as a 'Thai resident'. It certainly pays for itself.

And because it's credit card-sized, it's super easy to carry in a purse or wallet so it's always with you. You can leave your passport safely at your Thai residence.

One more benefit: your Thai Driver's License also has your passport number on it. It's valid for 2 years—renewals for 5 years—and, at 500 baht, it's cheap.



Key 2

Become Thai contactable

Potential employers need to be able to reach you. They will almost never use the 'snail mail' address or a foreign telephone number that's posted at the top of your resume.

That leaves two, maybe three, ways they'll contact you. Your Thai mobile number or your email address. And increasingly a messaging app like Line, which is popular in Thailand.

Soon after arrival, you need to get Thai "e-access." This is easily done.

No need to buy a new phone. You simply **buy a local SIM card** for your existing smartphone. You only need to present a photocopy of your passport ID page and pay 50 baht.



They'll ask you how much credit to put on it—200 to 300 baht is more than enough to get started.

Now you have a new **Thai mobile number**—with nationwide coverage—and importantly **internet access** when you're not within a free Wi-Fi zone.

When your credit gets low, you can simply top-up at any of the ubiquitous 7/11s or other convenience stores throughout the Kingdom. Or you can switch to one of the many pre-paid monthly plans that may be having attractive promotions.

But the bottom line is those future employers can now easily reach you—and you them.

If your phone is 'locked' when you bought it back home, don't worry. It can be 'unlocked' for as little as \$5 to \$10 at many cell phone shops or stalls in Thailand. In Bangkok, the easiest way to do this is at one of the many phone shops on the 4th floor at [MBK Mall](#) next to the National Stadium Sky Train BTS station.

For a good primer, check out [How To Use a Cell Phone in Thailand](#).

Key 3

Develop your Power Resume (and Cover Letter)

Power Resumes do what effective marketing brochures should: they spark an interest in a particular product—you.

The terms CV and resume are often used interchangeably, but they're really very different. A resume is a brief summary of your *select* skills and experience and should not exceed two pages. A CV can be far more detailed and can stretch into half a dozen pages.

In all but very specific applications, you will want to submit a resume. Many recruiters and job hiring authorities typically spend somewhere around 6 to 16 seconds on your resume. No one can read a resume in that timeframe; resumes are scanned.

We'll teach you how to create your own [Power Resume](#) at Vantage TEFL and show you how you can survive the first-pass scans so you can achieve the goal of an effective resume: to get an interview.

We'll also craft **Cover Letter templates** so you're ready to tackle Thailand's educational market segments.

And we'll coach you on interview techniques and how to handle objections—typically a signal of buyer interest.



Key 4

Think about what you want to teach—and to whom.

There are two broad categories of teachers.

Most TEFL graduates teach **English as a second language**. These are general English classes that aim to develop students to achieve a basic competence in the language. This is the largest segment of English teachers.

Secondly, there is demand for **content teachers**. A number of schools offer a more immersive English experience and teach content subjects like math, science, geography, literature, IT and others in the medium of English.

You typically need a bachelor's degree in an appropriate major to teach content English.

Key 5

Work Vantage's Definitive Job Lists

One of the first things to do is to **post your resume for free**. For Thailand, we recommend ajarn.com and for a more international footprint, Dave's ESL café. And we list more sites as well.

Then work Vantage's [Definitive Jobs Lists](#) webpage. These lists segment the education market. You can target the specific segments to send your resume and cover letter. The lists are divided into categories:

- ✔ The Top Thai 100 Public & Private Schools,
- ✔ 170 Thai Universities,
- ✔ Teacher Employment Agencies
- ✔ Private Language Schools throughout the Kingdom
- ✔ The 64 "Satit" (Demonstration) Schools
- ✔ Volunteer Organizations
- ✔ Thailand Teacher Focused Facebook Groups
- ✔ Online Teaching Recruiting

Add some Common Sense

First Impressions Count

While you don't need a three-piece suit to work as a teacher in Thailand, a smart dress style and a well-groomed appearance are essential. During interviews, this is particularly important.

You may not get a chance to make a second impression.

At Vantage, you'll need to dress smartly for your practicum and we'll help guide you to what's acceptable within Thai culture.

We'll teach you the do's and don'ts of Thai schools—that's part of our Thai cultural awareness training.

You can either bring some smart clothes from home or you can easily buy them here as there are many major malls with boutique shops and department stores.

There are also 'second hand' markets selling most everything under the sun—including Dockers, business shirts/blouses, and shoes—often from leading brands in surprisingly good condition. Being 'smart' doesn't have to be expensive.

Please make sure your clothes are clean. Thailand is a hot and humid country...you can't avoid sweating. This is an incredibly conscience of body order and if your wardrobe is carrying yesterday's work, it's the kiss of death in an interview. I've literally seen Thais get up and leave the room from someone enters whose clothes reek of lack of personal hygiene.

A Few Final Thoughts

Pdf Format

Send your resume and other job supporting documents in pdf format. Pdf is an image format. Like any photograph in will *look the same on any device* and on any platform. If you send your resume in MS Word, other versions of Word can change your formatting making your professional format looking all mangled on their computer.

Create your resume in Word and send it and other job supporting documentation in a pdf format.

Your Name is a Brand

Don't forget to put your name in the resume file title. A filename of "Sally Douglas Resume" is much better than just "resume." The latter could get saved over thus losing your resume to a more recent download.

Importantly, your name on your resume also helps keep you 'top of mind' among the clutter of other candidates applying for the same position.



Teaching English can be a Career—not just a Job (thinking long term).

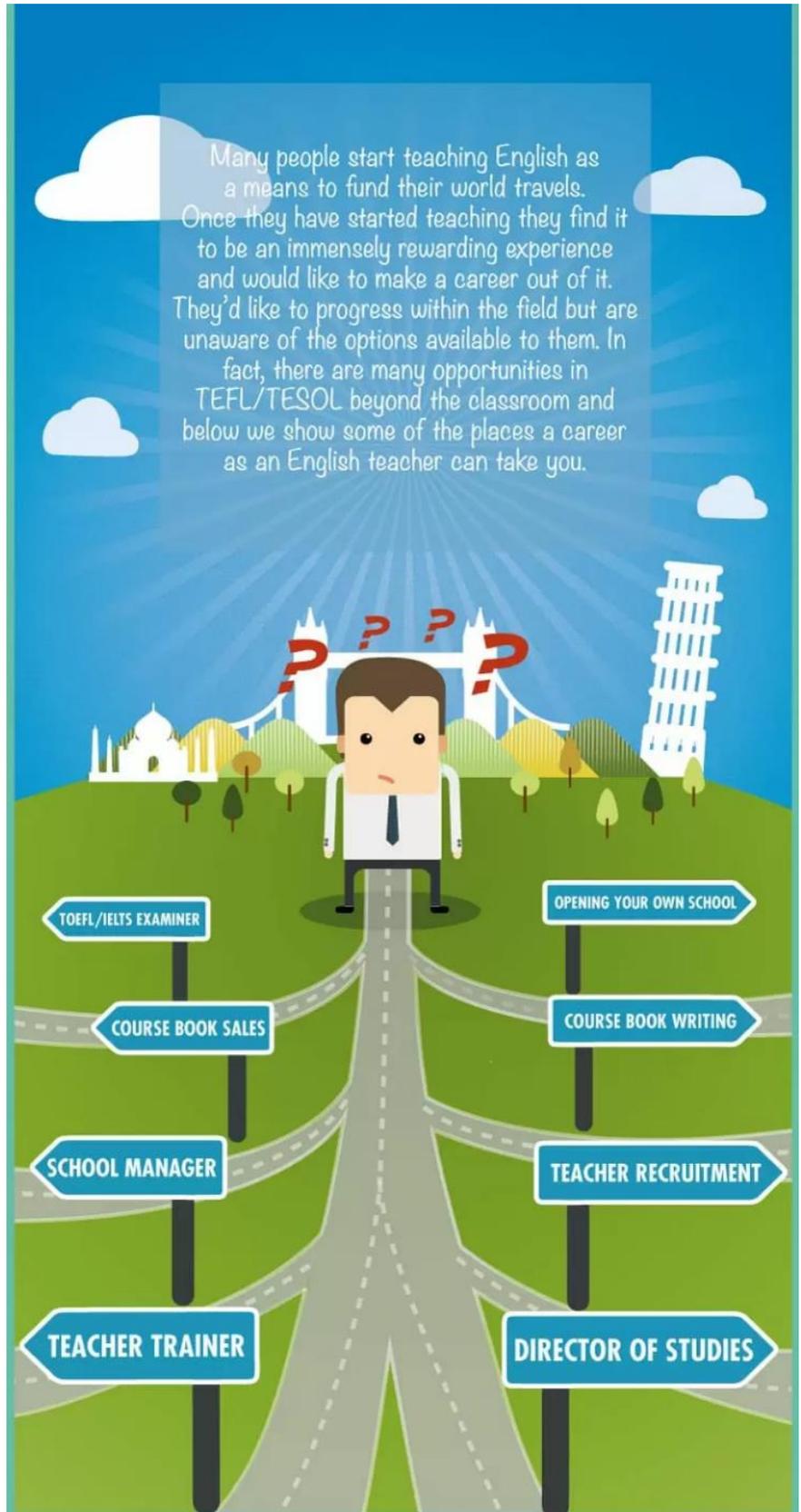
A TEFL Certification is your entry key to the world of English teaching.

So what are your lifelong career prospects in this growing and dynamic industry?

The experience you'll get in the classroom facing real non-English speaking students will build the foundational skillset that you can draw upon whether you eventually pursue a more business role or academic-related position within the ELT industry.

In our [Careers in EFL](#) webpage, we take a look at some of the roads your TEFL certification and a subsequent successful teaching background and could bring you down the road.

And we will look at some trends that could be in future of education.



Two Vantage TEFL Certification Courses

Vantage offers two accredited TEFL programs—each one with a practicum.

The In-Class Course

Vantage's [In-Class Course](#) lasts for four weeks and has **six key areas** of study. It's given 100% onsite in our Bangkok training center.

You learn both teaching theory and how to facilitate your lessons through the communicative approach to language teaching—an international standard, which is being adopted by Thailand's Ministry of Education for Thai English teachers Kingdomwide.

We strongly believe in learning by doing. You will teach real students under observation for at least 6 hours in our practicum.

Vantage was [#1 worldwide](#) as the **Top TEFL Course** in the Community Choice Awards presented by the major TEFL course review site, Gooverseas.com.



The Hybrid Combined Course

Our hybrid [Combined Course](#) gives you the best of both worlds.

In **Phase One**, you'll first complete the online course book—with full tutor support—will concentrate on teaching theory and best practices.

Then in **Phase Two**, you'll combine that with observed practice teaching sessions (the practicum) where you'll teach non-English speaking students in a real Thai classroom.

The practicum is where your course knowledge is transformed into teaching skillset you'll need to be successful in the classroom.

Vantage's Combined Course was ranked [#1 in The 9 Best Online TEFL Courses](#). Since the award-winning Phase One course is the same in both programs, you can start studying the course book first and decide later when to do their your practicum or OTPs.

All Vantage TEFL programs have a practicum or OTPs.

New teachers are born in the classroom because you can only develop teaching skills through practice.

Observed Teaching Practices are the heart and soul of any professional TEFL teacher training program.

That's we've written extensively on why practice teaching is so important on this page: [how we conduct our practicum](#).



Bangkok Accommodation



*Bangkok welcomes more visitors than any other city in the world
...it doesn't take long to realize why.*

Rooms, Rooms & Rooms

Bangkok is chocker block full of rooms of all. Places to stay in Bangkok go well beyond just hotels and guesthouses.

There are also apartments and/or condos—including many one-room flats. For these units, the low end would be approximately THB 4,000 (US\$ 115) per month with nice one bedroom studios in the THB 7,000 (US\$215) to THB 12,000 (US\$ 350) range.

These studio units can be well designed and many apartments have websites/FBs with photos of the room and common facilities. Most air condition accommodation includes a fridge and a cable TV. There are extra charges that are not usually included in the rent. You'll pay utility bills—water and electric—on a per unit basis. Water is cheap; electricity not so much. You typically pay the first month's rent and a second month, which is your refundable deposit.

After you have a teaching job and know where you want to put down roots, you can enter into longer term rentals. Most apartments and condos require a **minimum of a 6-month commitment**. Here you pay three months' rent to move in—the first month's rent and two months as a deposit. If you move out before the six-month lease has expired, you forfeit your entire deposit. The way around this is to find a hotel, hostel, Airbnb rental or a service apartment—such as those listed on this page—that will accept shorter term stays.

RentHub, Airbnb, & MrRoomFinder.com

[RentHub](#) is a service that lists available flats, Just type in your desired area to see what's available. Each listing details monthly rate and deposit fees, room and building amenities and contact info. And plenty of pictures.

[Airbnb](#) is a global company that operates an online marketplace and hospitality service. There are many condos in our neighborhood so some private owners are offering their units through Airbnb as they seek renters for stays at their private residences.

[MrRoomFinder](#) has a huge list of Bangkok Condominiums for ALL budgets—check out their Quick Property Search by MRT & BTS train lines.

On these sites, you can type in **Ratchayothin** or **Sena** to search for rooms that are in Vantage's neighborhood.

Two Recommendations for Short Term Stays—Within a Country Mile

Each of our recommendations is within walking distance of Vantage's training center and they don't have the typical six-month commitment. Here you would pay two months' rent to get the keys, with the second month being your deposit. Your deposit is refundable (minus a small cleaning fee) when you check out.

Poonchock Mansions (Budget Option)



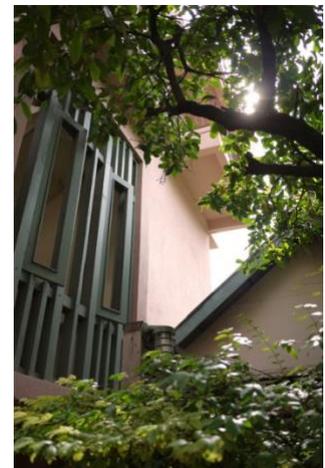
[Poonchock Mansions](#) (opposite the Elephant building) operates as a service apartment so it has monthly rentals available. Reasonable rooms starting at **THB 6,500 per month** (\$210). Good location...400 meters from the BTS trains that open up most of Bangkok. This place is on a soi—so it's quiet—yet walkable from the main road. The rooms and common facilities are kept very clean. All the basics are provided so it should have most everything. **Vantage TEFL candidates enjoy special discounted prices.**



On our website, there's a downloadable **Info Pack** just below with complete details and contact info.

Tuscany Avenue (Boutique Class Option)

Built in 2008, this is a service apartment that's been decorated in an rural Italian style. Each room is unique with a slightly different design. It's about a mile away from Vantage's training center. There are different types of units such as the Poco Studio (little type), the Mezzo Studio (medium type) or the biggest unit, a Duplex Room that has a double floor level with a space that separates the bedroom, living room, bathroom, pantry, and balcony.



The room rates on their website are for annual contracts. However, monthly stays are welcome too. These range from THB 8,000 to THB 18,000. Details about the room types with photos are on the [Room Rate page](#).

We found the overall ambiance quiet and delightful. They've attempted to create a rural Tuscan feel and to a large extent, they've succeeded. The THB 8,000 baht (\$260) unit is a bit small with only a single bed. However, for THB 9,000 (US\$ 290), you get a double bed in a decent sized room. All rooms have a balcony.

The neighborhood is pretty quiet with a nearby large roundabout that serves as a small park. A private gym is also nearby. They also have the Café de Tuscany where you can eat Thai and western cuisine or order to your room.

The monthly rates include bed sheets. Wi-Fi is also available. Electric and water will be charged separately as is normal in Thailand. The pictures on their website should give you a pretty good feel for the place.

The deposit is only half your monthly rental and reservations require a THB 3,000 (\$797) fee which will be deducted against your monthly rental. Finally, very unusual for Thai service apartments, Tuscany Avenue allow pets (see FAQ #6 on their website).

The Luxury Side

Bangkok has no shortage of world-class accommodation. So if you're looking for something more luxurious—something with at least three to five stars—start with [this page](#).

Bangkok's Trains



The recent extension of the BTS “Skytrain” system has brought mass transit to our neighbourhood making almost all of Bangkok easily accessible, which really opens up your accommodation options.

The nearest BTS “Skytrain” Station is **Ratchayothin Station**—only 300 meters—a five-minute walk or so from our Training Center.

For Tuscany Avenue and Poonchock Mansions, they are located close to Phaholyothni 24 station—one stop before Ratchayothin.

The nearest MRT “Underground” Station is Phaholyothin MRT Station (2.4 kms away). You can connect to the BTS there and ride 2 more stations/stops until Ratchayothin.



Vantage TEFL Certification has received 204 student reviews and has an overall rating of 4.95 out of 5 stars based on the following criteria.

Overall Rating	★★★★☆
Course Content	★★★★☆
Practice Teaching	★★★★☆
Quality of Feedback	★★★★☆
Lesson Plan Guidance	★★★★☆
Instructor Competency	★★★★☆
Job Assistance	★★★★☆
Facilities/Resources	★★★★☆

Thailand Visa Requirements

“When you visit Thailand for the purpose of leisure, sight-seeing, and personal enlightenment, you are a tourist.

[-ThaiEmbassy.com](http://ThaiEmbassy.com)

Permission to Stay

For those who are coming from outside Thailand to do our In-Class or our Combined TEFL Courses, you'll need to consider your visa status.

The options below are the easiest way to enter Thailand and stay either 60 or 90 days...more than enough time to become TEFL certified and find a teaching job.

Visa Exemption (VE)



First off, the VISA Exemption is NOT a visa--it's an exemption from getting a formal visa.

THE VE allows tourists from 93 countries to **enter Thailand without a visa**. They are granted to stay for 60 days if they are entering Thailand via an international airport.

VEs were extended in July of 2024. They used to be for 30 days, now you get 60 days upon arrival. Please note, that even more recently, there is talk of VEs returning to 30 days. Check with your Thai Embassy for latest information.

VEs are your easiest option...**no paperwork** required...they're **free**. You can literally grab your toothbrush and passport and hop on a plane!

A VE can be **extended one time** for a further 30 days—for a **90-day total** stay—by visiting any Thai Immigration office. Extensions are THB 1,900.

While the VE can only be extended one time, you can start the whole process all over again by flying to a neighboring country like Cambodia or Malaysia and flying back in. Voila, you will be stamped in with a new VE.

A VE is not a Visa on Arrival

Finally, do not confuse the Visa Exemption with Visa on Arrival. The Visa on Arrival is an actual visa—you just get the convenience of getting it at the airport instead of a weeklong process at a Thai Embassy overseas.

For the Visa on Arrival, you'll fill out a form, pay a fee and wait at the airport until its processed. Also, it's a different list of 31 countries that can get a Visa on Arrival. The link above also has the VoA country list.



Thai Tourist Visa

There are two types of Tourist Visas.

The **Thai Single Entry Tourist visa**, which is obtained outside Thailand, is **valid for 60 days**. This visa can be extended one time for a further 30 days at any Thai immigration office, thus giving you a 90-day stay option.

There is also a **Multiple Entry Tourist Visa (METV)**. It's good also for an initial 60 days that can be extended for 30 more days to reach a 90 day total. The METV has 3 entries, so after your 90 days are up, you can start over by leaving Thailand and re-entering the country. You could do this three times for a total of 270 days. This visa has to be obtained in the applicant's country of residence.

The rules on this visa were changed in 2015 and the METV now has more rigorous applicant process.

As all visa regulations can change without notice, we advise our TEFL trainees to contact their Thai embassy for the latest information.

Other Options

Non-immigrant ED Visa

Sometimes this visa is called a Non-Ed where "non" refers to non-immigrant and `Ed' to education. This visa is issued to foreign Thai-language students, foreigners studying at a formal Thai school or university, and for foreign students attending a cultural study. This visa can be given for as long as one year or as short as 3 months depending on the study program.

This visa **requires additional documentation** and often takes up to 8 to 12 weeks to receive. Given that it's good for only 90 days (or less) and that you cannot work on this visa, it has **no advantages** over the VE or Tourist Visa options.

Once You Start Working

You cannot legally work or do business on a VE, Tourist Visa or Non-ED visa. To legally teach in Thailand, you'll need a **Non-Immigrant-B (Business) Visa**—usually obtained outside Thailand.

Typically the school that hires you will provide you with an **Offer of Employment** letter and the other necessary documentation for this visa. Most apply at the Thai Embassy in a neighboring country. (In these days of eTickets, you can fly to these countries return for \$100 or less.)

Once you get your Non-B visa, you are then eligible to apply for a Work Permit, which is a separate process from your Non-Immigrant B visa.

That's because Work Permits are issued and regulated by the Ministry of Labor—not the Ministry of Immigration as are visas.

Some of our partner firms—who place hundreds of foreign teachers each year in their scores of client schools—will take a new hire on probation. That's a three month period under which you're allowed to work with a tourist visa under their jurisdiction.

Near the end of probation, if both you and the school are happy, they will start the non-Immigrant B visa and Work Permit process.

Summary

There are three basic recommendations for TEFL candidates:

- ✔ **Visa Exemption** on arrival at a Thai airport—up to 60 days in the country. Free...no paperwork required. This is the most recommended option for many Vantage TEFL trainees.
- ✔ **Single Entry Tourist Visa** at a Thai consulate or embassy (in your home country or another country) Up to 90 days stay...more than enough time to become TEFL certified, interview and find a job
- ✔ **Multiple Entry Tourist Visa** is also an option



The TEFL Budget Planner

How much money do I need? Determine your costs to get TEFL certified and your running costs until you get your first teaching pay check.

Estimating your Total Expenses

The TEFL Budget Planner is a tool to **estimate your total TEFL-related costs** to become TEFL certified and until you get paid working as a teacher in Thailand.

This this planner is based upon Thai costs—Bangkok in particular. Having said that, it can easily be adapted to use in any country.

Its spread out over three months as that's a *conservative* plan to complete your one-month In-Class TEFL course, interview and secure a position, begin teaching and get your first pay check at the end of your initial month.



As most all schools pay at the end of the month, we're assuming—conservatively again—that it's at the *end of the third month when you will start to receive income.*

Some may receive a partial pay check in the second month, but that depends on the actual start date and the policy of your new employer.

So to be safe, it's best to assume you'll need to support yourself from your savings for approximately three months from arriving in Thailand to getting paid. Expenses for accommodation, transportation, and food are based on real Thai costs and our experience of living in Bangkok for decades.

We have chosen a middle road approach...not too Spartan a lifestyle and not too luxurious. You can, of course, adjust any of these cost inputs based upon your personal preferences and budget considerations.

A 90 Day Plan

In **Month One**, are the core expenses to become TEFL certified over a full 120-hour, four week program. It includes course tuition, internet, and incidental costs as well as food and accommodation.

Add your own row(s) to include additional expenditures like entertainment and personal travel to complete your budget planner.

In **Month Two**, you'll be interviewing after graduation. Transportation costs will probably increase as you need to get around town (and upcountry) to see schools and institutions. Your TEFL tuition fee is listed as paid as that cost was covered in the first month.

In **Month Three**, You'll be working—earning money—but you won't get paid until the end of this month. That usually means you're still living off your off your savings.



Included in this month is the cost of securing new accommodation as you may wish to move closer to your new school. This is, of course, an optional expense.

Long term room rentals are typically one month's rent plus two months deposit. These costs are figured in. We have also returned to you one month's deposit at the end of Month Two for the service apartment near Vantage TEFL's training center you stayed in Months One and Two.

Your TELF Budget Planner Spreadsheet

You can see the total expenses for each month separately as well as a running cumulative total for the months combined.

Finally, in Month Three, we've added all the costs for all three months together to give a good idea of the total investment you'll need to make to become professionally certified and began a teaching career in Thailand.

Your Vantage Excel TEFL Budget Planner is available below by clicking on the XLS icon.



Just Add Airfare

There's just one more major cost to add: your airfare.

We haven't included that as people are coming to Vantage's Bangkok training center from all other the world. And also as airfares to Thailand can vary widely.

Add your airfare costs to the expenses you've already itemized on the planner and you'll have a pretty good idea of the **total investment you'll need** to make to become a professional teacher.

How to Get Started

Step one is to download The TEFL Budget Planner by clicking on the XLS icon. Each month is on a separate tab.

Most of the expenses are already inputted. If you have a particular need that's not on the spreadsheet simply add rows as needed above the month's total row to include that cost.



Add your airfare and you should get a cumulative total on Tab (Month) 3 that will give you an estimate of your total expenses until the pay checks start rolling in.

You can also do scenario analysis, where you change your assumptions on particular expenses.

Food is a good example. You can see how that can affect your total bill if you eat more local, which in Thailand will be significantly less expensive

[Click to download
The Budget Planner](#)



Looking for a long-term solution to not having a degree? Here's a way to stay in Thailand legally while, at the same time, working on developing a teaching career.

Several universities and colleges in Thailand offer Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) degree programs in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL).

These programs are designed to equip graduates with the academic foundation, practical teaching skills, and recognized qualifications needed to teach English in Thailand and internationally.

General Requirements & Program Details

Specific admission and program requirements vary by institution, but generally include:

- **Duration:** Programs typically take around 4 years to complete, though flexible options may allow for completion in 3.5 years. Online options can sometimes be completed in a minimum of 18 months.
- **Flexible Scheduling:** Classes are held in evenings and particularly on weekends (see STC).
- **Eligibility:** Applicants need a high school diploma or equivalent. Non-native English speakers will need to provide an English proficiency test score, such as IELTS or TOEIC.
- **Curriculum:** Coursework often covers foundational linguistics, language acquisition theories, teaching methods, assessment strategies, and practical teaching experience (practicum).
- **Teaching License:** A key advantage of some local B.Ed. programs is that some programs make graduates eligible to apply for a professional Thai Teaching License from the Teachers' Council of Thailand, which is required for teaching in public schools and some private institutions.
- **Cost:** Tuition fees in local programs are significantly more affordable compared to international programs. RMUTR, for example, costs approximately 180,000 baht in total over four years.

For more details on specific programs and the application process, you can contact their international admissions offices directly.

Institutions in Thailand Offering BA-TESOL

Institution	Degree / Program	Notes
Siam Technology College (STC)	B.A. in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)	STC's BA TESOL is relatively flexible (designed as an "international program"), often cited as one of the most accessible TESOL bachelor's in Thailand.
Thongsook College (Bangkok)	B.A. TESOL (International program)	Offers a 120-credit BA TESOL. The program can be completed in four years (or accelerated/modified). Thongsook College+2Thongsook College+2
North Bangkok University (International Program)	B.A. in TESOL (English-medium)	The TESOL program under its liberal arts faculty — courses in linguistics, language teaching methodology, intercultural communication, etc. ic.northbkk.ac.th+2ic.northbkk.ac.th+2
Rajamangala University of Technology Rattanakosin (RMUTR)	B.Ed (or B.A.) in TESOL / Teaching — for licensure	Some sources list it as a TESOL-pathway degree that gives eligibility for teaching license under Thailand's teacher licensure system

The End Game

Some of our TEFL graduates who didn't hold a bachelor's degree began teaching with starting salaries of **THB 37,000–40,000 per month** after completing their TEFL certification. After gaining classroom experience and later completing a **BA in TESOL**, all saw significant salary increases—some now earning **over THB 100,000 per month**.

They now had a recognized **degree**, extensive **classroom experience**, and **Thai cultural adaptation**--the profile that international schools actively seek.

Next Steps

For more details on specific BA TESOL programs and the application process, you can contact their international admissions offices directly and arrange a visit to their campuses. Application details can be found on each college's website.

For updates on these programs, [see this page](#)

Getting Started

Another Consideration in your TEFL Course Investment

For many teaching positions, completing your 120-hour Vantage TEFL Certification will increase **your monthly salary by \$100-\$200** over teaching jobs where no certification is required.



That's at least \$1,200 over the course of a year, essentially repaying your TEFL tuition just from the **extra salary** in your first year of teaching. In Year Two, that's all profit.

Your TEFL certification will ensure not only will you know what to do in the classroom, but the market will also recognize your qualification and reward you as a professional teacher.

Are You Ready to Teach Abroad?

[Apply now](#) for your Vantage TEFL certification course and start teaching in just a few months!

Speak with a Vantage advisor today to put together your personal plan for teaching English abroad.

[Send us an email](#) or call us at (66) 08-809-7542 to have a conversation today.



Vantage has been named as a [Top 2025 TEFL Course Provider in Academic Rigor, and Value.](#)

These are **global awards**—from Buenos Aires to Bangkok—in competition against hundreds of TEFL providers worldwide.

Vantage first won in 2018 and every year since—and with these just announced 2024 awards—**seven years running.**

Nomadic Matt—[6 Best TEFL Courses for Teaching Overseas](#)

Gooverseas.com—[The 12 Best Online TEFL Courses in 2025](#)