



Welcome to EBC

This document contains a list of frequently asked questions. If your questions are not answered here, please do not hesitate to contact us. Contact information is available on the last page of this document.

Welcome to EBC and we hope you enjoy your course in Buenos Aires, a truly exciting city that lives up to its nick-name the "Paris of South America."



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The course

Who accredits the EBC course and certification?

The EBC course and certificate is accredited by Ascentis, a British government regulated examination board.

The **EBC International Certificate in TESOL** award from Ascentis meets British Council requirements for those teaching in its accredited schools.

EBC is one of an elite few certificates in the world that meet British Council requirements. The EBC International Certificate in TESOL is a proven, top-quality certificate and one of a very select few that is [good enough for a world-famous institution like the British Council](#).

Our accredited status also means that the quality of our course is independently checked regarding:

- the syllabus we use
- our course manuals
- the qualifications and experience of our tutors
- the quality of our training centre
- the content of our web site

Finally, it means that many more doors will be open to you regarding jobs. The British Council is a case in point. You can only work for them if you have a qualification, like the EBC International Certificate in TESOL, that meets their minimum teaching qualification requirements. (You don't have to be British to get work with the British Council.)

How much does the programme cost?

Beat the exchange rates with EBC

EBC tries to make your course selection and payment as simple as possible.

We know that exchange rates can be a problem so we've come up with a solution.

Simply put, we have a fixed annual fee in 2 currencies that are roughly equivalent to each other.

When you decide to send your course fee you can choose which currency you prefer to use.

US Dollars

The full course fee in US Dollars is 1,599.

- \$550 non-refundable deposit
- \$1,049 Remaining course fee
(airfare, accommodation and food are not included)

Euros

The full course fee in Euros is 1,275

- €400 non-refundable deposit
- €875 Remaining course fee
(airfare, accommodation and food are not included)

Once you have sent your fee (deposit or full fee) your course place is GUARANTEED.

What does the programme include?

- A TEFL/TESOL course that is accredited and externally moderated by Ascentis
- Both a TEFL and TESOL certificate that are amongst the most well known and recognised qualifications in the world
- Guaranteed: Personalised JOB introductions to over 240 reputable local language schools in Buenos Aires
- Guaranteed: Lifetime global JOB placement assistance
- FREE course work printing
- FREE 100 pages of photocopying
- FREE WIFI internet access if you bring your own WIFI ready laptop
- A 174 page course manual that covers all the main aspects of teaching English as a foreign language
- 160 page English grammar reference manual containing key elements of English grammar plus examples
- A welcome pack containing: city and metro maps, restaurant, museum and activity guide etc.
- Advice about finding short and long term housing, mobile phone rental, short term storage and other convenience services
- Job counselling workshop
- Job interview preparation workshop
- EBC initiated and managed CV/Resume distribution to ESL schools
- Priority access to teaching jobs with our sister company EBC y Asociados in Madrid (subject to availability)

- A web based CV/resume formatting and storage service
- A web based list of almost 2,000 different language schools around the world so you can apply for jobs wherever you are using your stored CV/resume
- Organised farewell party. (Attendance is optional)
- ON REQUEST: Referral to an immigration lawyer (legal fees are not included in the course fee)

What are the entry requirements?

You don't need previous experience in teaching English to join the EBC International TEFL Certificate + EBC International Certificate in TESOL programme.

EBC's minimum entry requirements are possibly the highest for any 4 week intensive TEFL course in the world. They are certainly higher than both Celta and Trinity course minimum entry requirements.

Why? simply because we want to attract you, the best qualified people to receive top-quality training and then help you get the best jobs.

Mandatory requirements

- You must be 21 years old by the course start date
- You must have a high level of competence in all aspects of English (*)
- You must have a degree or a recognised professional qualification (**)

(*) Non-native English speakers are eligible if they have passed one of the tests mentioned in the Non-native English Speakers section shown below.

(**) You may also apply if you have at least 5 years of relevant professional work experience. In this case you will be asked to provide supporting documentation and references.

Optional TEFL course acceptance enhancers

If you have experience in any of the following areas please include it on your TEFL course application

- Lived, worked or travelled abroad
- Knowledge of a second language
- Work experience
- Recent additional studies
- Experience in dealing with groups of people
- Volunteer work
- Mentoring, tutoring or teaching
- Teaching experience

Non-native English speakers

If you are a non-native English speaker you can apply for the course but you must have a highly advanced level in all aspects of the English language. This must be demonstrated by having one of the following:

- A degree from a university in one of the following countries: Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, United Kingdom or the United States of America
- Cambridge CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English)
- IELTS level 6
- TOEFL (minimum scores 520 on the paper-based test or 80 on the computer-based test)

How do I apply to take the course?

Application is free and places you under no obligation to study with EBC.

- Fill out and send your application form that can be found on our web site on page http://www.teflgap.org/tefl_course_apply.html
- Within two working days, we will review your application and inform you of your acceptance status
- Upon acceptance, you must complete the application process by sending a non-refundable deposit. The deposit guarantees your course place
- We confirm your payment and your place is guaranteed
- You make travel arrangements
- You make your final payment (course fee less the deposit you sent) one month before the course starts

When are the course start dates?

How do I pay for the course?

FOR YOUR PROTECTION EBC USES PAYPAL BECAUSE:

- The service is free for you
- You can send your fee without sharing your financial information
- You get 100% protection against unauthorized use of your credit card
- You get to choose which currency you want to use - Euros, US Dollars or British Pounds
- Your important financial information is protected from identity theft.

Once you have been accepted onto a course you will be sent instructions about how to use the EBC PAYPAL SECURE PAYMENT system.

Your course fee is paid in 2 parts:

1. A non-refundable deposit to reserve your course place
2. The remaining balance one month before the course starts

The non-refundable deposit can be paid at any time after you have been accepted.

Sending your deposit is the only way to guarantee your place!

Please keep in mind that our courses are in great demand and can fill up months in advance.

Once your payment has been processed, we will send you a confirmation via email that you must sign and return to us.

What is an average course day like?

The course runs, full-time over 4 weeks. Course hours are: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with one hour for lunch, Thursday and Friday - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. followed by teaching your 1 hour class during the afternoon. Once you get to the course, you will be given a detailed course timetable and your teaching practice schedule.

If you want to get an overview of the schedule, go to web page:

http://www.teflgap.org/documents/daily_schedule.htm

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

The maximum class size on the Buenos Aires course is 24. Normally we've been having somewhere around twenty trainees. Most of the participants are American, British, Canadian, Australian and New Zealanders, although we do accept non-native speakers of English who have a high proficiency in the language.

What are the teaching practice students and classes like?

We use local Argentinian students for your teaching practice. Argentinian students are very keen and enthusiastic and because we don't charge them to attend. All the students come to class purely because they want to!

What accommodation options are available?

We provide a list of options for you to choose from. You arrange your own accommodation so that it costs you less and you get what you want. Please refer to web page:

http://www.teflgap.org/documents/buenos_aires_accommodation.htm

for a list of options.

If you want to see the areas we recommend when you are choosing your accommodation, please refer to web page:

http://www.teflgap.org/documents/buenosaires_barrios.htm

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

Yes! You can have things sent to.

EBC
Anchorena 1676
1425 Capital Federal
Buenos Aires
Argentina
Tel (+54 11) 6379 9391

We will accept correspondence before, during and up to one month after the course. Any correspondence received more than one month after you have graduated will not be accepted. We will not accept correspondence on which fees are due.

Can I bring my laptop?

We strongly recommend that you bring your laptop as we provide free WIFI access in the training centre.

We do not provide internet terminals in the training centre. If you don't bring your laptop you'll have to use local internet cafes that cost between 1.5 and 2 Pesos/hour (50 to 75 US cents).

The job market and teaching in Argentina

What will EBC do to help me get a job?

The EBC Job Placement Assistance Programme will help you get working in Argentina within a week of finishing the course.

EBC has been very successful in getting our course graduates into jobs. So far, every graduate that has wanted to find work has done so.

EBC's unrivalled Job Placement Assistance Programme includes:

- Professional CV/resume formatting
- Job preparation workshops
- Professional cover letter
- Personalised introductions to over 240 language schools in Buenos Aires
- EBC applies for jobs for you
- EBC makes sure that schools contact you to offer you jobs
- EBC makes sure that you get work after finishing the course at FULL MARKET RATES
- Store your CV/resume, personalise your own cover letter and apply for jobs around the world using our exclusive Student Zone web site
- Get job advice/help from EBC at any time after you graduate
- The EBC job assistance programme is lifetime and world-wide

We give you 2 job workshops regarding local employment conditions, provide a web based CV/resume template that satisfies local needs, give you a list of over 240 schools and we also send your CV/resume to all these schools as well.

Here is how it works:

As part of the course you will participate in 2 job workshops that deal with the following key areas:

- The job market
- Working conditions (rates, hours etc.)
- What to ask/say at the interview
- What to expect when you are teaching
- Other important information you'll need to pass an interview
- We also provide you with a standard CV/resume template that is designed for market requirements. You fill out the template online (we will review it then assist and give advice if you need it)

On the last day of the course your CV/resume will be sent out to over 240 language schools in Buenos Aires.

You will also get access to our Student Zone database of over 786 schools throughout the world allowing you to apply for jobs from any internet terminal in the world.

Your job help continues after the course too. If you need advice or assistance, you just need to contact EBC and we will help. We'll advise on other countries and send your CV to the cities of your choice whenever you ask.

You will never be a number to EBC. Once you've joined one of our courses, you've joined the ever-growing family of satisfied and highly employable EBC graduates.

Will I be able to get work in Argentina?

The short answer is yes. In Buenos Aires it's fairly easy if you have a recognised certificate

- Buenos Aires has the greatest demand for native English teachers in the whole of Argentina
- 90% of language schools in Buenos Aires don't care if a prospective teacher has a work permit
- EBC is always being asked for teachers by language schools as early as the first week of a new course
- All EBC graduates are usually working shortly after finishing the course at full market rates (20 to 30 Pesos per hour)

This is the reality of the current work situation in Buenos Aires

What is the TEFL job market in Argentina like?

The TEFL job market in Argentina is excellent at the moment. Finding employment becomes difficult if you leave it until you start running out of your savings. The best time to look is when you finish the course and we get your resume sent out to the 200+ schools that we supply teachers to in Buenos Aires. Most schools do not care whether you have a work permit or not.

What is the average salary like?

The average salary in Buenos Aires is about 20 to 30 Pesos per hour. This varies depending on what type of school or company you work for and whether you work full or part-time. We do not recommend that you accept less than 20 Pesos an hour unless the school is also throwing in some other incentives like free Spanish lessons.

How many of the TEFL graduates actually find work in Argentina?

All of our course graduates that have wanted to work in Argentina have been able to secure teaching positions.

Do schools provide health insurance?

Generally, no. However, everyone in Argentina (tourists included) can make free use of the national health service.

Do schools provide work permits?

This runs on a case by case basis, some may, others may not.

What is a typical teaching position like?

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

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

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

Questions about living Buenos Aires

What are the average housing and living expenses when working in Argentina?

Most likely you will rent a room in an apartment or house with other teachers or with Argentinians, and of course it depends on where you choose to live. A room in a shared house or apartment in a good neighbourhood costs about 500 to 700 Pesos a month. It is fair to say that TEFL teachers are quite well-paid by local standards in Argentina, which means they can afford a comfortable standard of living.

A starting local (Argentinian) school teacher earns around 1,000 Pesos a month while a TEFL teacher can expect to earn between 1,600 and 2,400 Pesos per month working 20 to 30 hours per week at 20 Pesos per hour. While this may not sound a lot by international standards, it means you can live quite comfortably in Buenos Aires. As a rule of thumb, for everyday articles, 1 Peso in Argentina generally buys the equivalent of 1 Dollar in the USA.

How much money should I bring?

You should budget to spend between 500 Dollars (spartan life) to 1,000 Dollars (good life) for the period covering the 28 day course. If you want to stay and work in Buenos Aires or the rest of Argentina you should budget between 1,000 to 2,000 Dollars to cover finding apartments in Buenos Aires and living expenses until you get your first pay-check.

What if I get sick in Buenos Aires? Are there western-standard medical facilities?

If you find yourself requiring medical attention, you can use the Argentinian National Health service free of charge. There are a number of private hospitals that offer their own health insurance services (similar to US style HMOs), however we do recommend that you get health insurance before you travel.

The Hospital Britanico provides private English speaking medical assistance and also has 5 clinics around Buenos Aires. For more information visit web page: <http://www.hospitalbritanico.org.ar/sitio/eng/>

What's the public transportation system like?

There is a metro/subway/underground rail system, the "subte", that reaches most parts of central Buenos Aires and an extensive public bus system, the "colectivos", that operates in central and outlying Buenos Aires. Tickets cost about 1 Peso per trip (about 33 US cents).

There is also a commuter rail service that services some parts of Buenos Aires. Tickets cost on a per distance travelled basis, but compared to the US, Canada, UK etc. the cost is still very cheap.

Going to Argentina

What documents do I need to bring?

Mandatory

- Non-Argentinian citizens: Passport and a round-trip air ticket
- Argentinian citizens: either your Passport or your DNI

Laptop computers

- We provide free WIFI internet access, so you can bring your laptop and make use of our free internet access AS LONG AS your laptop is wireless B/G compatible
- We give you the codes to connect, but you are responsible for configuring your laptop and making sure it works properly and connects

Mobile/Cell phone

- If you have a tri-band phone - BRING IT. You will find that it is cheaper to buy a pay-as-you-go card for your phone than it is to buy a new one
- Being contactable by phone is VERY important
- Good local phone companies: CTI, Personal or Telefónica

Recommended items for the TEFL course

- All foreigners can use Argentinian national health, but we HIGHLY RECOMMEND that you take out personal accident and health insurance
- Scissors, notebook, glue, pens and pencils, paper clips, blue-tac (don't forget to put your scissors and other sharp objects in your check-in baggage)
- English-Spanish phrase book and/or dictionary
- Presentable clothes for teaching and job interviews. Business suits are required at some client sites
- Electrical converters. Argentina operates on a 240 volt system

- A travel alarm clock
- Towels and Toiletries
- Money belt
- If you plan to stay and look for TEFL jobs you may need your birth certificate (original or a notarised copy), your passport and original or copies of your University or College qualifications (degree certificate or transcripts)

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

Buenos Aires never gets really cold or really hot so bring clothes that you feel comfortable with taking into account the average seasonal temperatures shown below. Don't forget to pack some smart clothes as well as you'll be required to dress smart casual during the course's teaching practice sessions and of course your employers will also expect you to be smart at interviews and when working.

Don't forget that Argentina is in the southern hemisphere so the seasons are reversed, December is in summer and June is in winter.

Quick guide

- Winter (Jun, Jul, Aug) - cold (5° to 10° C)
- Spring (Sep, Oct, Nov) - pleasant (10° to 20° C)
- Summer (Dec, Jan, Feb) - hot and humid (20° to 34° C)
- Fall/Autumn (Mar, Apr, May) - pleasant (10° to 20° C)

As this description is an average, we highly recommend that you check current weather conditions prior to departure to assist you in your travel preparations.

Check the current Buenos Aires weather forecast here:

<http://weather.cnn.com/weather/forecast.jsp?locCode=SABE>

How do I get to downtown Buenos Aires from the airport?

Bus from Ezeiza Airport to downtown Buenos Aires:

Buses are run by Manuel Tienda León and cost about 25 Pesos (8 USD). They leave every thirty minutes from 6:00 a.m. to 00:45 a.m. They are a quick, reliable and cheap way to get downtown. The buses drop you at the company's central office on the corner of Avda. Madero and Calle San Martín. You will then need to take a taxi from the bus terminal to your accommodation.

Taxis

Go to the official taxi stand in front of the exit into the main hall. A ride downtown will cost about 70 Pesos and you have to pay up-front. You will then be taken to your taxi by an official. DO NOT go with people who walk up to you and offer you a taxi, they are not licensed and not insured to take passengers.

Private Transfer

EBC is happy to arrange a private car service to greet you at the airport and transfer you directly to your accommodation, the cost will vary slightly depending on your final destination but will cost between 55 to 70 Pesos (about 20 to 25 USD). Please email info@ebc-tefl-course.com if this option interests you. Private transfer must be arranged at least 1 week before your scheduled arrival and you will need to inform us of all your flight details.

Contact us to ask more questions

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Email info@ebc-tefl-course.com

Phone

Central enquiries phone: (+34) 91 555 3975
Training centre phone: (+54) 11 6379 9391
Free phone UK: 0800 8456 719
Toll free phone USA/Canada: 1-888-393-4015

Fax

Central enquiries fax: (+34) 91 345 0843
Free fax UK: 0800 8456 819
Toll free fax USA/Canada: 1-888-393-4050

Postal Address:

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Anchorena 1676
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Buenos Aires
Argentina

**EBC International
TEFL Certificate**

**On behalf of all of us at EBC,
we look forward to welcoming you to Buenos Aires,
the "Paris of South America"!**