



Visiting Teachers – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Why would my school hire a Visiting Teacher?	Visiting Teachers (VTs) are highly qualified teachers in their home countries. These teachers bring with them a strong desire to share their heritage providing a rich cultural experience for students and faculty in their receiving school. The native speaking abilities also provide high levels of comprehensible input for students and can help a community and faculty better understand other cultures.
2. How long can a Visiting Teacher stay?	Each program varies for how long a teacher can stay with their visa. Teachers from Spain, Taiwan and the Zhejiang Province will come on a 3-year J-1 Visa with the potential for an extension up to 2 additional years. Teachers through the Confucius Institute come for one year and may renew for a second year.
3. How does my school get a Visiting Teacher?	Please complete the application (posted online) and assurances at your earliest convenience and send to Jill Woerner at IDOE at jwoerner@doe.in.gov . Once you are given a few candidates with whom you will do virtual interviews, you can select your final candidate and begin the contract & visa process with your teachers.
4. How much does the Visiting Teacher program cost?	If there are at least 10 teachers for the 2016-2017 school year, the costs will be \$1200 + the DS-2019 fees (approx.. \$400). There are additional costs for dependents and spouses of the candidates as well. Please see the J-1 Sponsor document on the website for more details.
5. If I send in the application, am I committed to hiring a Visiting Teacher?	No. You may still pursue a search for a local candidate while IDOE pursues a Mandarin/Spanish candidate for you abroad. In May, you will need to decide if you will hire one of the final candidates from abroad as you will need to have them on contract and begin the visa process before June 1, 2016 to have your teacher in the USA before school begins.
6. What is the timeline for seeking a Visiting Teacher?	The timeline varies by country. Please see the timelines posted on the website for each language.
7. How are the Visiting Teachers screened?	<p>Visiting Teachers from Spain are pre-screened by the Ministry of Education in Spain. They then undergo a credential review by the local education liaison in Indiana. Then a local educational representative interviews the candidates either virtually or in person and ensures that they meet both visa and licensing requirements. A few final candidates will be forwarded along to the participating schools to undergo virtual interviews with the local school.</p> <p>Visiting Teachers from Taiwan and Mainland China undergo a very similar process with their own ministries of education, however the educational representative has less contact with candidates before final selection for each school.</p>

Visiting Teachers - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

<p>8. How many schools in Indiana have participated in this program?</p>	<p>In the past 4 years, just over 40 teachers have come through the Visiting Teacher program to teach in Indiana schools. Many of these teachers have come from Spain, but a few have come through the various Mandarin programs.</p>
<p>9. How many participating schools repeat the experience when their visiting teacher leaves?</p>	<p>Many of the schools who choose to participate in this program have shared that they hate to see their Visiting Teacher leave when their visa expires, but they enjoy the perspectives and qualifications that their Visiting Teacher brought to their school while employed. Some of these schools have tough positions to fill due to location or specific required skills for the position. (i.e. Rural area, Immersion program, etc...)</p>