

НА ВНИМАНИЕТО НА СТУДЕНТИ 4-ТИ КУРС, СТУДЕНТИ В ОКС МАГИСТЪР

И НАСКОРО ЗАВЪРШИЛИ СТУДЕНТИ

Представяме Ви възможност за участие в **Международна програма за помощник-учители по английски език в Испания**, финансирана от Министерството на образованието, културата и спорта на Кралство Испания.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE LANGUAGE & CULTURE ASSISTANTS PROGRAM

WHAT IS IT?

- The **Language & Culture Assistants** is an international education program sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, managed in Bulgaria by the Embassy of Spain's Education Office
- The assistants are assigned to elementary/secondary public schools in Spain and their duties are supporting and helping classroom teachers reinforce the students' oral skills in English.
- The positions are for a full academic year, from October through May
- The language assistants get a € 700 monthly stipend for a typical 12-16 teaching hours weekly schedule. No travel/accommodation expenses are provided
- Medical insurance is provided by means of an EHIC (*European Health Insurance Card*) that needs to be obtained prior to the departure
- The selection process is run locally, in Sofia (Embassy of Spain, Education Office) in collaboration with the University of Sofia (International Relations Office)

TO BE CONSIDERED AS A CANDIDATE, YOU MUST:

- Hold Bulgarian nationality
- Have an English "C" CEFR diploma by an accredited institution
- Have a basic communication competence in Spanish
- Be a recent University Graduate or a senior student in a field related to Pedagogy/Linguistics
- Be in good physical/mental condition
- Have a clear police record
- Have a strong motivation to work as a teacher assistant with young students.

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS:

- Completed application form
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0p1uvFvEtMSVzhMU29KaFhJeGs/view?usp=sharing>
- A scanned copy of your valid Bulgarian I.D. card or passport
- A scanned copy of your official college transcript or a copy of your degree certificate(s) or diploma(s)
- A scanned copy of a cover letter or statement of purpose for participation in the program, 250-300 words long, addressed to the Education Advisor at the Embassy of Spain in Sofia. The letter must be signed and dated

- A scanned copy of a letter of recommendation in English or Bulgarian, up to 250 words, written and signed by any current or former professor. If you have been out of school for over three years, you can receive this letter from your supervisor at work. Letterhead, author's contact information and hand-signature are required in the letter. We may contact the author of the letter and ask them to elaborate on its content. (This letter could be presented during the selection process.)

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION: 17th September 2017

Please send your application to asesoria.bg@mecd.es.

For more information, please contact the Embassy of Spain in Bulgaria: +359 2 9434907 or +359 2 9434831 or consult <http://www.mecd.gob.es/bulgaria/convocatorias/convocatorias-bulgaria/Auxiliares-de-Conversaci-n.html>

INFORMATION MEETING

An information meeting will be held on 14th September at 16:00h. in Hall 1 in the Rectorate building of Sofia University (South wing, 1st floor). Representatives of the Spanish Embassy in Bulgaria will present the program and the conditions for participation. We invite all interested candidates to register for the meeting via <https://goo.gl/forms/Ek4HBnITQvb5Uqto1> by 12th September. For any questions regarding the information meeting, please contact ila@admin.uni-sofia.bg or +359 2 9308 220.

OPPORTUNITY FOR AN ERASMUS+ GRANT

The Language & Culture Assistants could also benefit from Erasmus+ mobility for traineeships. More information about the upcoming selection (in November 2017), will be available here: <https://erasmus.uni-sofia.bg/site/su/>.

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS IN THE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

"In short: I love it here! During the first month, having never worked with little children before, I felt rather stressed, but the teachers at the school have been very accommodating and helpful, and by now I am actively involved in rehearsing the Christmas show with the kids. It has been a very rejuvenating experience thus far. I have been lucky to have all my classes from Monday to Wednesday, with four days off. The Government of the Canarias offered the auxiliares an additional four hours per week from January onward, so my budget will improve by 233.30 euro a month next year, but at the expense of my free Thursdays. Such is life."

Participant in the program

"Everything in Madrid is lovely, I'm just coming back from Salamanca. The teachers at Rafael Alberti are so nice and helpful not only regarding the classes but learning the language too. The only general feedback I can give to next year auxiliaries is not to stress out, to be themselves and to try to make it interesting. If a presentation/activity is interesting and funny to you, friends and the rest of the teachers, most probably the kids will like it too. I will try to send some photos too around Christmas."

Participant in the program

"I am doing well, everything is fine. The first few days were hard because I had to find accommodation and everything on my own but everything turned out to be ok."

The school where I am teaching is multicultural and is a new experience for me but I enjoy it - I am learning a lot of things about different cultures. The only problem is the low level of English some of the groups have. The language barrier is - I did not think Catalan is spoken everywhere here. But I enrolled in Catalan classes and step by step I am learning. Besides this, I really like Cataluña - it is amazing! I went to Salvador Dali museum yesterday and I am impressed!

About my work in the school - I am giving classes to small groups - 6 students from every class come with me to the English department and we are practicing their conversational skills by playing different games."

Participant in the program

"The schools are both good, we collaborate well with the teachers. There is a bit of chaos sometimes but it is normal and okay. I am dealing with everything very well and give some private lessons. The only issue is that in Canary Islands is a little bit more expensive e and I do some extra work with the lessons."

Participant in the program

"I was assigned a secondary school in La Laguna in Tenerife and it turned out to be a massive one, with more than 1000 students. During the first term I was working with CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) teachers and I had to assist Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths, Technology, Geography, History and Classical Study classes, as they were all taught in English. I have to admit that this was stressful at the beginning, as I couldn't comprehend what would be my role in these classes, but the teachers were very helpful and they created activities in order to include me in the process, so we end up working well together. Now I am working mainly with English language teachers, which gives me a little bit more freedom to interact and create games, presentations and activities for the students. I am very happy with the school I was assigned, as it does not follow the traditional way of teaching, but rather tries to be more innovative using a variety of new teaching methods. Everyone is constantly active and there is always something interesting to do (treasure hunts, solidarity runs, traditional dances classes, museum visits...) and teachers always include me and the French assistant in these activities, so we can make the most out of this experience."

Participant in the program