

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION



RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC.

Credentials Evaluation Service

Filling the Need for Teachers: Recruiting Teachers from Abroad Evaluating Foreign Teaching Credentials

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Making sense of international
credentials

What Makes Your District Unique?

- ☐ Size
 - ☐ Location
 - ☐ Demographics
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Has Your District Benefited from the Buyers Market?

- ☐ The Numbers Game Part I
 - ☐ Are you fully staffed?
 - Math
 - Science
 - Special Education
 - ☐ Mild/Moderate
 - ☐ Moderate Severe (Preschool)
 - ☐ DHH
 - ☐ Speech Pathology
 - ☐ IF NOT
Maybe International Recruitment can help!
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Where to Begin?

- ☐ Review your district's employment trends
 - ☐ Identify needs
 - ☐ Will your District Support International Recruitment?
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Looking at the International Teacher

- ☐ Begin the process early
 - ☐ Just like any other teacher
 - ☐ Application Process
 - ☐ Bachelors Degree or Higher
 - ☐ Prescribed course in Education to include subject matter
 - ☐ Student Teaching/Practicum
 - ☐ Three (3) years teaching experience
 - ☐ Certified true copy of their transcript of record
 - ☐ Letters of recommendation and verifiable experience
 - ☐ Interview
 - Be Prepared for High Volume
 - Check English Fluency
 - ☐ Contract Offer (\$41,000 USD Per Year)
 - ☐ Finger Prints
 - ☐ Request for exemption form mandatory electronic fingerprint submission request form (see CA. DOJ Website) 4 cards (DOJ/FBI)
 - ☐ Complete all required CTC Forms (Use psuedo #SSAN No.)
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Immigration

- ☐ H -1B Professional Visa

1+3+2 (can apply for labor certificate)

- ☐ J -1 Exchange Visa

3 yrs maximum stay, employee must return to country of origin

- ☐ Submit to Immigration Lawyer

Prospective Employee Pays Preparation Fee

Immigration cont...

☐ District Cost

\$500 – Federal Fraud Prevention

\$320 – Federal Filing Fee

\$1000 – Expedited Fee (Verification by the second week of May)

☐ Documents Prepared

Submit to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

Must be received by April 1 of the prior school year
(e.g. by April 1, 2009 for October 1, 2009 start)

The Numbers Game Part II

- ❑ US Allocation 65,000 Visas
 - ❑ Last year 140,000 applications received
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Approved Teachers and Specialists

- ❑ May enter the US one (1) week prior to October 1st

- ❑ Ports of Entry

San Francisco International Airport

Los Angeles International Airport

- ❑ Have that friendly face meet your new teachers at the airport! 😊

District Reception

☐ Prior to Arrival

- Housing
- Transportation
- Signing Bonus/Relocation Allowance
- Salary Advance
- Community Orientation
- Staff Development
 - Classroom Management #1
 - IEP Process

☐ Social Security (10 days after arrival)

What You Get

- ❑ Teachers and Specialists with outstanding content knowledge and presentation
 - ❑ Employees that are cooperative and polite
 - ❑ Employees that are focused on completing requirements
 - CBEST
 - CSET
 - CLAD
 - BTSA
 - ❑ Committed to Long Term Employment with your District
 - ❑ The Method behind the madness ???
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Why use a credential evaluation service?

An IERF evaluation report can provide the following information:

- ❑ U.S. equivalencies of foreign credentials
- ❑ Accreditation status of each institution issuing a foreign credential
- ❑ Level of education (secondary, undergraduate, graduate, professional, etc.)
- ❑ Length of study
- ❑ Teaching eligibility in country of study
 - Student teaching component

The Philippines

- ❑ Educational system is very similar to the U.S. system
- ❑ Transcripts look similar to those issued by U.S. schools, but students typically take closer to 40 semester units each year
- ❑ Teaching eligibility depends on specific degrees in Education or by supplementing a bachelor's degree with additional units in Education
- ❑ Trend of unrecognized programs aimed at training potential U.S. teachers

Common question IERF can answer: "This person has a bachelor's degree, but is he/she qualified to teach?"

Russian Federation

- ❑ Teachers can be trained at either the secondary or the undergraduate level
 - The *Diplom* is issued at various levels of education
- ❑ No additional licensure needed to teach
- ❑ Diplomas state the qualification earned
- ❑ Pedagogy is a common required course for undergraduates in various disciplines and does not necessarily grant teaching eligibility

Common question IERF can answer: “This person is eligible to teach, but did he/she complete the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor’s degree?”

India

- ❑ The first undergraduate degree is three years, unless in a specialized field such as Pharmacy
- ❑ Teaching eligibility requires an additional undergraduate degree
 - Bachelor of Education is one additional year
- ❑ Some universities offer a 4-year integrated Bachelor of Education
- ❑ No additional licensure process

Common question IERF can answer: “Why does this teacher have academic records from two different schools for the same program?”

Canada

- Teaching requirements depend on the province in which a student studied
 - 1982 Constitutional Act allows each province or territory to oversee its own educational administration
- Most provinces require at least 4 years of post-secondary education, but the credentials vary
 - Teaching eligibility can be achieved in programs lasting anywhere from 3 to 5 years
 - Additional years of practice teaching required in some provinces and territories

Mexico

- ❑ Teachers can be trained at either the secondary or the undergraduate level (depending on the period of study)
- ❑ Type of school attended determines the type of teaching credential awarded
 - Primary teachers attend *Escuela Normal de Maestro*
 - Secondary teachers attend *Escuela Normal Superior*
- ❑ Special “leveling” programs available
- ❑ Additional licensure process

Knowing what to ask for: Sample documents

- ❑ IERF always requires **ORIGINAL, OFFICIAL academic records** when preparing a report for teaching licensure
- ❑ Knowing what to look for can help determine whether or not documents may be fraudulent, and it can help avoid delays in the evaluation process

Avoiding Delays in the Evaluation Process

- ❑ Always provide original documents when requesting an evaluation for teaching licensure
- ❑ Provide English translations for all documents issued in a foreign language
- ❑ Be sure to include both the diploma/graduation certificate and the academic records/transcript
 - Evaluations cannot be done based on a diploma alone
- ❑ If student teaching is not clearly stated on the academic records, provide a syllabus or course descriptions for the practice teaching component