

MediaKids Academy



Information Pack



“Your Journey Begins Here”

Introduction

MediaKids Academy is a Thai organization that aims to improve the English language skills of Thai children by implementing English programs for schools across the country.

English has become one of the most important languages for communication. At MediaKids Academy, we recognize the importance of educating the young generation to become knowledgeable and competent in the English language so that they can effectively communicate and collaborate with people of other nationalities. Not only do we aim to place good and able teachers in our contracted schools, we also emphasize high-quality teaching techniques. We provide our teachers with a curriculum that is constantly adapted and developed by our dedicated curriculum team, in order to ensure a consistently high standard.

MediaKids Academy also emphasizes cultural differences and how that plays a role in education. Through this, we maintain constant contact with our schools and our teachers in order to better help them adjust to each other's culture and ways of life.

A message from our CEO:

“I am very pleased that you are looking to join MediaKids Academy, and I hope that your application will be the start of a long and happy working relationship between us, both for your benefit and for the benefit of the next generation of Thai children.”

Wachira Tepamat
Chief Executive Officer



Why MediaKids Academy?

Since our founding in 2001, MediaKids Academy has grown to become well-established and is now one of the largest placement agencies in Thailand. Our aim is to educate Thai children in English language with an emphasis on cultural differences and its role in education.

Since MediaKids Academy was founded, the dream was to bring English to rural Thailand, providing students with opportunities to make a better life for themselves and their families. This is still one of the core values at the heart of MediaKids Academy, which is why we still offer many placements in rural towns. In recent years, as the country has developed and grown, we have also branched out to place teachers in larger cities and more urban locations.

Benefits of working with MediaKids Academy

- ✓ Unique locations in kindergarten, elementary and high schools throughout Thailand
- ✓ Competitive salary package depending on qualifications and experience
- ✓ Accommodation allowance of 3,000 THB per month and assistance finding accommodation
- ✓ Provided documents for work visa and reimbursement of 3,000 THB per semester towards visa costs
- ✓ Full coverage of work permit fee
- ✓ English-speaking Thai consultants offering 24/7 assistance
- ✓ Fully provided curriculum with consultant support
- ✓ Three-day orientation course (Thai language, culture, school system, curriculum, visa etc.) including free accommodation
- ✓ Contract renewal bonuses and opportunities for raises
- ✓ Semester-to-semester contracts
- ✓ Accident insurance
- ✓ Bank account and ATM card

Programs

MediaKids Academy currently provides four programs, each of which has a unique curriculum:

English for Communication Development (ECD)	
Weekly Contact time (per class)	1-2
Subject(s)	English
Skills	Speaking, Listening
Description	Teaching as an auxiliary teacher through interactive activities, focused around pronunciation and situational conversations.

English for Communication Development Multimedia (ECD-MM)	
Weekly Contact time (per class)	1-2
Subject(s)	English
Skills	Speaking, Listening
Description	Teaching as an auxiliary teacher through interactive multimedia resources (slideshows, videos, and online materials), focused around pronunciation and situational conversations.

Intensive English Program (IEP)	
Weekly Contact time (per class)	4-5
Subject(s)	English
Skills	Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing, Phonics, Grammar
Description	As the main English teacher, teaching engaging lessons focused around all English skills. Guiding students through a more concentrated curriculum.

Mini English Program (MEP)	
Weekly Contact time (per class)	4-16
Subject(s)	English, Math, Science, Health, Computer, Social Studies
Skills	Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing, Phonics, Grammar
Description	As the main teacher, teaching specialized programs, tailored towards the individual needs of your students. Teaching various different subjects through the use of English.

Placement Locations

MediaKids Academy works in partnership with over 70 schools throughout the country, placing teachers in the Northeastern, North and Central areas of Thailand. We offer you the chance to state your preferences prior to the placement process; we then find an available placement that best matches your preferences.

The Northeastern area, known as Esan, is home to the majority of our placements; it has the lowest cost-of-living in Thailand and is the richest area in terms of culture. Most people embark on a journey to teach in Thailand to embrace a new culture, and the Esan area will give you an authentic experience and a chance to see the *'real Thailand'*.

Even our most rural locations are usually never more than a 1-2 hour bus ride from a big city.



Accommodation

At MediaKids Academy, we provide a housing allowance of 3,000 THB per month. To make your relocation to Thailand as easy and smooth as possible, we arrange an accommodation for every placement, usually within the 3,000 THB allowance. In some circumstances, where the accommodation cost is slightly over 3,000 THB per month, we will deduct the additional cost from your salary.

Should you wish to find your own accommodation, we can provide you the allowance on top of your monthly salary. We are more than happy to assist you with finding somewhere to suit your needs.

Once you have been accepted to join MediaKids Academy and we offer you a placement, you will receive more specific information about the accommodation.

Visa & Work Permit

Before you arrive in Thailand, we recommend that you apply for a tourist visa from your nearest Thai Embassy or Thai Consulate, in most cases this will be a 60-day visa but may be more/less depending on your nationality.

Alternatively, most nationalities can receive a 30-day visa upon arrival; however you will likely need to extend this in Thailand in order to give us time to process your working visa, which is why we recommend applying for a tourist visa prior to arrival.

Two important documents that you need to work in Thailand are the Non-Immigrant B visa (working visa) and the work permit. There is a lot of paperwork involved in order to apply for both of these, which is why we have a dedicated team of staff responsible for processing all of your paperwork and ensuring that you have the correct visa and that you are in the country legally.



MediaKids Academy Staff

MediaKids Academy promotes staff growth and development; we regularly ask for feedback and try to ensure that we are constantly improving the service that we offer. There are many different departments, however the ones that directly affect you are:

Human Resources and Overseas Recruitment Consultants	
Who are they?	A team of English-speaking Thai and foreign staff.
What do they do?	Interview, hire, provide information, assign placements
Why do I need them?	They will be your first point of contact. They will be the ones contacting you throughout the interview process, organizing your placements and ensuring that you are fully prepared to arrive in Thailand.

Human Resources Generalists	
Who are they?	A team of English-speaking Thai and foreign staff.
What do they do?	Assist with contractual questions, help with personal issues/questions, provide references
Why do I need them?	They deal with all contract-related questions and issues. They will be the ones to help you if you have any questions relating to your employment with MediaKids Academy and ensure that you have a good working relationship with the company and school.

Curriculum Consultants	
Who are they?	A team of English-speaking foreign staff.
What do they do?	Provide curriculum, assist with teaching-related matters, observe classes and provide constructive feedback, support your teaching
Why do I need them?	They will be the ones to help you throughout the semester; they will help you with ideas for activities, classroom management and assessments.

Curriculum Development Staff	
Who are they?	A team of Thai and foreign staff.
What do they do?	Create new curriculum, edit current curriculum, prepare flashcards, suggest activities
Why do I need them?	They work behind the scenes to ensure that the entire curriculum is ready and that you are equipped with a high-quality curriculum that follows the requirements from the Thai Ministry of Education.

Operations Consultants	
Who are they?	A team of English-speaking Thai staff.
What do they do?	Run paperwork for visas, process work permits, liaise with the school, organize accommodation, provide day-to-day assistance
Why do I need them?	They are responsible for processing all of the paperwork for your working visa and work permit. They can help you with translations and liaise between you and the school. They are available 24/7 to help you as much as they possibly can.

Accountants	
Who are they?	A team of Thai staff.
What do they do?	Deposit monthly salary, provide reimbursements, process cash advances
Why do I need them?	They work to ensure that you receive the correct salary on time; they are here to help if you require a cash advance and in most cases they process the payment for your accommodation



Why Thailand?

Thailand is one of the most desirable travel destinations in Asia. Known for having a vast contrast of mountainous areas to picturesque beaches, peaceful villages to bustling cities, Thailand really does offer something for everyone.

Travel in Thailand

Traveling around Thailand is easy, cheap and comfortable. The most popular method of transport is by bus. Thailand has a bus system that is superior to many other countries worldwide. Comfortable and affordable buses with air-conditioning, personal TV screens, plenty of leg room, free snacks, and hostess service are available. There are airports throughout the country and many companies offering low-fare domestic flights.

Food

Thai food is known for its unique combination of different flavors including sweet, sour and salty. Thai food is distinctive for being spicy, use of fresh herbs, spices and vegetables. Vegetarians need not to worry as many vegetarian dishes are easily available.

Saving Money

The amount of money that you save in Thailand is heavily dependent upon your lifestyle. Food, accommodation and entertainment are cheap in Thailand. Most of our teachers manage to live very comfortably and still can save a good portion of their monthly salaries. So if you're looking to save money, Thailand is perfect for those on a budget.



Historic Ruins

Thailand is home to important historic ruins dating back as far as the 13th century.

Islands

Known for a variety of beaches and affordable accommodation, Thailand has hundreds of islands for you to explore, experience and unwind.

Average costs

Item	THB	USD	GBP
Meal (average)	฿35 – ฿70	\$1 – \$2	£0.80 – £1.60
Water (1.5L bottle)	฿15	\$0.40	£0.30
Taxi (base fare)	฿35	\$1	£0.80
Minibus (per 100km)	฿50	\$1.50	£1.20
Tuk-Tuk	฿60 – ฿100	\$2 – \$3	£1.60 - £2.40
Motorbike (monthly rent)	฿1,500 – ฿3,000	\$45 – \$80	£36 - £64
Motorbike Taxi	฿20 - ฿100	\$0.75 – \$3	£0.60 - £2.40
Apartment	฿3,000 – ฿6,000	\$90 – \$180	£72 - £144
Utilities (electricity / water)	฿1,000	\$30	£24
Phone & Internet	฿300 – ฿1,000	\$8 – \$30	£6.40 - £24
Laundry (monthly)	฿300	\$8	£6.40
Massage (1 hour)	฿200	\$6	£4.80

All prices are average costs based on current information and experience. Exchange rates vary

Budget Planner

Below is an estimated budget planner on your first month of teaching.

Item	Cost	Notes
Non-B Work Visa and Visa Run (required)	About 6,500 THB (6,800 for Canadian citizens)	Food, transportation, hotel, Laos visa, and Non-B Visa (3,000 THB reimbursed after Visa Run)
Non-B Visa Extension (required)	1,900 THB	To extend the Non-B Work Visa before it expires
Re-Entry Permits (optional)	1,000 THB: Single-Entry 3,800 THB: Multiple-Entry	Allows you to leave the country without cancelling your Non-B visa
Tourist Visa Extension (may be required)	1,900 THB	If entering Thailand by visa on arrival, you may be required to extend it at your own expense
Degree Legalization (may be required)	1,000-2,000 THB: Embassy 200 - 400 THB: MoFA	Your recruiter will inform you if you need to have your degree legalized
Bank Account (required)	300 THB -ATM Fee 500 THB - Initial deposit (+15THB per month SMS alerts and standard withdrawal fees)	Collected at Orientation
Document Photos (required)	350 THB	Collected at Orientation
Thai SIM Card and Mobile Phone (SIM card required)	SIM: no more than 600 THB Phone: 300 THB +	Available for purchase at Orientation (also available at airports, 7/11, or phone shops)
Teacher Uniform (optional)	200 THB +	Free MK neckties and blouses provided. Additional clothing can be purchased
Hotel (optional)	425 - 1,000 THB	For checking in earlier than first day of Orientation, or for booking a private room
Transportation to Your Placement (required)	500 - 1,500 THB	Varies based on your placement location and modes of transportation
Motorbike or Bicycle Rental (optional)	1,000 - 3,500 THB	For personal use
Health Check (required)	150 - 1,000 THB	Required for the work permit. Costs vary based on location
Police Check (if not obtained yet)	Fee: 100 THB Transport: 200 THB Hotel: 1,000 THB	If the police check cannot be acquired before arriving and must be done here in Bangkok
Accommodation Deposit	3,000 - 10,000 THB	We recommend all teachers prepare this cost.
Utilities (required)	500 - 3,500 THB (depending on usage)	You will be responsible for your own accommodation utilities
Bedding	600 THB +	It is advised to bring a bed sheet and pillow cases from home
Supplies and Living Essentials (optional)	Depends on lifestyle / accommodation	Ie. Dishes, kettle, electric pan, iron, mini fridge, microwave
First Month Personal Expenses (varies per person)	10,000 - 20,000 THB Avg. (Depends on lifestyle)	First salary will be after one month of teaching. So teachers must be prepared to support themselves for the first month

Teaching in Thailand



Thailand offers you the chance to experience a relaxed and easy-going lifestyle. If you're looking to escape the day-to-day stress of a fast-paced lifestyle, then Thailand is the perfect place for you.

In addition to the lifestyle, you will instantly fall in love with Thai people. Known for their friendly and welcoming nature, you will

soon realize why Thailand is known as 'The Land of Smiles'.

While living in Thailand is an adventure, teaching here is a full time job. Teaching hours are typically between 18 – 24 periods per week, Monday - Friday. With the support and guidance from our curriculum consultants, we expect teachers to plan creative and engaging lessons. If you want to be a successful teacher in Thailand, you should aim to bring a lot of energy into the classroom, and while we expect you to take teaching seriously, we also recommend that our teachers have a lot of fun in the classroom.

TEFL Course

As the job market for teaching jobs in Asia and worldwide is becoming more competitive, TEFL certificates are becoming more and more valuable and are now required in many countries. A TEFL is not a required certification in order to teach in Thailand; however it is something that we strongly recommend. In our experience, we have found that those that are TEFL certified tend to be the ones that stand out as being confident, engaging, prepared teachers.

We do partner with many TEFL schools that offer courses online or if you prefer in-class experience, we have TEFL partners in Bangkok and Pattaya, Thailand. For more information on getting your TEFL certification, ask your recruitment consultant.

Perks of getting your TEFL certification online

Online gives you a lot of flexibility. It is perfect if you live in a small town without a class nearby, or don't want a long commute to class. Online class can be a lot cheaper since you can take this program in the comfort of your own home.

It's also great if you have a tight schedule; many online classes can be on your own time.

Perks for taking in-class TEFL certification

TEFL certification classes in-person can allow for an awesome group bond with your fellow students. It allows you to network with future colleagues, and gives you a taste of what the real teaching life could be like. Unless you teach an online ESL class, you probably will need to get used to working a room and controlling the crowd.

Online	Pattaya	Bangkok
<p>A unique course that has been written by TEFL experts designed to give you the knowledge and confidence to teach.</p> <p>One of the most up-to-date TEFL courses and very relevant to the teaching market today.</p> <p>Unlike many online courses our TEFL uses a blend of video and text to facilitate the learning process.</p> <p>Completely online so you can do it around other commitments</p> <p>Very cost effective with prices from £95.</p>	<p>This course offers various exciting 'new' courses to meet the needs of our trainee teachers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular TEFL course is 39,500 THB • Regular TEFL course with 4 weeks accommodation is 49,500 THB • Part-time (120 hour) TEFL course is also available for 35,000 THB • Professional development course – practical methodology combined with classroom experience to supplement and endorse your existing online qualification or education degree at 35,000 THB <p>At the conclusion of each of our courses you will receive a valid TEFL certificate.</p> <p>Each course is registered and fully approved by the Ministry of Education of Thailand.</p>	<p>The course offers three main TEFL programs - all of which are 120-Hours, and one Further Education Program.</p> <p>Each program caters for the needs of new and graduated trainees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STANDARD TEFL COURSE with job guarantee - \$ 1,495 • HYBRID TEFL COURSE Combination course with job guarantee- \$1,200 • PREMIUM TEFL COURSE Scholarship program with job guarantee - \$2, 000

For more information, please contact your recruiter.

How To Apply?

In order to proceed with your application, we require you to send us the following documents electronically:

1. Introductory video – a short video introducing yourself and telling us your reasons for wanting to teach in Thailand
2. Bachelor's degree certificate
3. University transcript
4. Photo page of your passport
5. TEFL Certificate (if applicable)
6. 2 recent photographs
7. Résumé / C.V.
8. Letter of Reference

You will need to bring all of your original documents with you when you come to Thailand, as they will be required for your visa and work permit applications.

After receiving your documents, we will review your suitability and one of our recruiters will contact you to arrange a Skype video interview should your application be successful. Once you have been interviewed your recruiter will email you, if your interview was successful, to offer you a position. However, specific placements will not be offered until our teacher placement period (March – May / September – October).

Orientation Course

Successful applicants will attend a three-day orientation course in Bangkok. Specific dates will be given to you in advance by your recruiter.

During the course you will receive more information about teaching in Thailand, Thai culture, Thai language, teaching skills, MediaKids Academy expectations and school-specific information. You will also be provided with all of the paperwork to open a Thai bank account, apply for accident insurance and you will sign your contract.

This will also be a chance for you to meet the MediaKids Academy team, plus all of the other teachers that will be working around the country during the semester. It's a great opportunity to make connections and start your teaching experience in a friendly and supportive environment.

We hope to see you soon!

We are very pleased that you are interested in applying for a position with MediaKids Academy and beginning a new, exciting adventure with us.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns that you may have, or simply if you would like any additional information prior to the interviewing process.

We are here for you and our job is to make your teaching experience in Thailand as safe, comfortable and fun as possible.



MediaKids Academy

40/471 Prueksa B Village,
Klongsam, Pathumthani
12120 Thailand

Phone: (+66) 2-834-1897

hr@mediakidsacademy.com

www.mediakidsacademy.com

Teacher Testimonials



Shanoira

**Teaching in
Chaiyaphum**

"I have worked with MediaKids for over 6 months and so far so great! The MediaKids team will be super helpful with your transition to Thailand and helping you around your new town. I thought MediaKids would only help with school stuff but they have helped me find a place to stay and helped me with my visa runs and many other things. They are awesome and a company you can trust! Being in Thailand has been amazing and working in Thailand with MediaKids has been just as great!"

- 23, Canada



Hannah

**Teaching in
Chaiyaphum**

"MediaKids Academy are the best agency to help you settle into teaching and living in Thailand. They helped me find accommodation, set up a Thai bank account, get my non-immigrant visa and are available 24/7 if I need help and advice about anything. The 3 day orientation course gives you an insight into teaching and prepares you for working life.

The consultants conduct classroom observations to give you feedback which also helps improve your teaching. The consultants are the friendliest people and are extremely helpful and insightful! If you're teaching English abroad for the first time, looking to make new friends along the way, and want advice then choose Media Kids Academy."

- 23, UK



Liudmila

**Teaching in
Khon Kaen**

"If you have ever thought of combining traveling and working, but were not sure for safety reasons, then MediaKids is the best option to do so! You will be taken great care of, from personal experience I can say this company is RELIABLE and TRUSTWORTHY! It is a great job in a paradise, on top of that MK staff is very supportive and helpful and just really nice people! This is one the best decisions I have ever made!"

- 32, Russia



Alexis

**Teaching in
Mahasarakham**

"As a city boy, I never thought I would enjoy small town life so much as I do in Nachuak, Mahasarakham. Besides the financial savings (rent is fully paid for), the social connections one forms in the town and the school, moreover, is next to none. The Isan people are so warm and work with students at Nachuakpittayasan School is indeed the most rewarding part of this experience. I will miss them the most. If you are worried about teaching in a small town, fear not, there is a direct overnight bus from Nachuak to Bangkok every evening and you can connect to major cities in the region via Borabue or Mahasarakham bus stations. The town has some quaint coffee shops and restaurants in addition to Dictionary Park swimming resort for those oh so hot days - and there are many. I fully recommend the program with MediaKids Academy since they provide you with all the logistics support you need."

- 38, South Africa



Lauren

**Teaching in
Khon Kaen**

"I've loved my experience so far in Thailand with MediaKids. They supported me from my application to my arrival in Thailand - the orientation was a great way to meet people and learn more about the teaching experience. There is always a staff member ready to help you if you need it, literally about any problem you might have. I've loved my experience so far and am glad I chose such an established company to work with - especially as it is my first time teaching abroad full time."

- 24, UK



Sherricka

**Teaching in
Chaiyaphum**

"MediaKids Academy has made my experience in Thailand all the more amazing! What I love about them the most is the fact that the staff genuinely care about the wellbeing of us as teachers. They have always been there when I needed assistance. When I have questions and concerns, responses on their part have always been prompt! The staff are all extremely dependable, organized and professional. They take a lot of pride in ensuring that all teachers are happy and feel like they have steady support. I am renewing my contract with them because I trust them to be there to ensure that my teaching experience always goes smoothly. MK is highly recommended!"

- 23, Canada



Trent

"MediaKids is one of the best ways to start your teaching career. I thought moving overseas would be hard and or difficult, but with the hands on team like their consultants, they make everything very easy!"

- 23, USA



DJ

Teaching in Korat

"Still can't believe how comfortable and easy it has been moving over here and start English teaching work. All of it down to MediaKids."

- 28, South Africa