



LANGUAGE ASSISTANT INFORMATION

BEDA Program

The BEDA program is a STUDENT Program

The BEDA Program aims to implement and optimize English learning efficiency in schools. This is accomplished by means of three fundamental aims:

1. Linguistic Phonetics English modeling.
2. Language Assistant training
3. External evaluation of student and school teaching staff progress by a testing body of unquestionable prestige – Cambridge ESOL.

The program consists of a step-by-step implementation of bilingual Spanish-English teaching and is an Educational Project which reinforces and extends various aspects of the linguistic community present at the school. This is accomplished by working English into the curriculum as well as the overall educational environment.

It is a GLOBAL, OPEN and FLEXIBLE program.

There are currently over 500 Language & Culture Assistants participating in the BEDA Program from Canada, USA, Australia, United Kingdom and several other countries. The program consists of 365 schools (of which 300 are located in Madrid) but also including Andalucía, Canary Islands, Castilla-La Mancha, Galicia, Aragón Asturias, Valencia and Murcia communities – and we are growing!

Last year, the BEDA Program examined 25,000 students as part of the prestigious Cambridge ESOL Examinations.

LANGUAGE & CULTURE ASSISTANTS

What does the assistant do?

- Attend a specialist course at the University of Comillas..
- Participate as an assistant in a concertado (semi-private) school as part of the University Course
- Encourage the students to speak English
- Act as a linguistic role model for correct pronunciation and grammar
- Collaborate with teaching staff in creating teaching materials and planning classes
- Teach students and staff about their country's culture



- Conduct activities and tutorials as the school requires for advancement of the program within the given assistant's schedule
- The assistant will carry out these tasks accompanied by a teacher in the classroom

Who is the ideal assistant?

- Must be a native English speaker
- Must be older than 20 years of age
- Must enjoy working with children and/or young people and be energetic and imaginative
- Possess a Bachelor's degree
- Have no prior criminal convictions (working with children specific) and a provide background check
- Available for a minimum of 9 months (September – June)

Assistants receive remuneration based on hours of work in the classroom. Hours range between 18 and 24 teaching hours per week.

| Teaching hours per week | *Gross remuneration per month |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 24 | 1165 € |
| 22 | 1068€ |
| 20 | 970€ |
| 18 | 873€ |

(Please note there is an enrollment fee upon selection into the program of €175)

In addition to this:

- Private health coverage and repatriation coverage
- A course through Comillas University to aid in their work carried out in the classroom & to learn about Spain (obligatory attendance)
- Language assistants training & workshops throughout the year both in and outside Madrid. In Madrid, participants must attend classes and complete an online element.



Outside Madrid, participants must attend some sessions in their region and complete the online element. All participants must also attend a 2 day Orientation session at the beginning of September.

- Professional support services from *Escuelas Católicas Madrid* to assist with residency applications and social security.
- Certificate of completion of the program along with certificates of participation for training sessions (if attendance requirements are met).

Please note we do not pay for the Visa applications, flights, accommodation, travel insurance etc. We advise that applicants research well the long term student visa requirements at their corresponding Spanish Consulate as it is a lengthy process.

Previously the advice has been that non Europeans applying from other programs should apply for a new visa from their home country. Last year's experience shows that it is possible to renew an existing visa from another program as long as the studies are similar.

UNIVERSIDAD PONTIFICIA COMILLAS

Comillas University was founded on the 16th of December 1890 in the north of Spain. It has two main campuses in Madrid, one in Alcobendas and the other in the centre of Madrid (Moncloa). The classes are done on weekdays except one or two Saturdays.

The University is a Catholic University and holds strong values in line with those of Escuelas Católicas Madrid, hence the choice to collaborate with them as part of the BEDA Program.

Our language assistants do a specialist course with the University which looks at the Spanish culture, lesson planning, classroom management, different teaching methods, the Cambridge evaluations and English Grammar.

There are 2 separate courses, Methodology (1st & 2nd years) and Innovation (3rd & 4th years); both contain 2 modules, each module lasting 1 academic year. An assistant can participate in the program for a maximum of 4 years (if they wish) thus completing both modules of both courses. A post graduate diploma with credits attached can be claimed directly from Comillas after completing both modules of the particular course.

The course is designed to give the language assistants some training and background in the skills they will use in the classroom with the students. The course is obligatory for students who aren't ERASMUS students. At the completion of each module you receive a certificate.

If assistants wish to stay another two years they can enroll in the innovation course.



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