



# English Language Teaching Assistants in Metropolitan France and its overseas departments *Guide for Australian Applications*

  
**AMBASSADE  
DE FRANCE  
EN AUSTRALIE**  
*Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité*

**FRANCE  
EDUCATION  
INTERNATIONAL**



# FOREWORD

The **Language Teaching Assistants Programs** are coordinated by [France Education International](#) in France and facilitated in Australia by the Embassy of France. This international youth mobility program is designed to give university students the opportunity to discover a new region and culture by working alongside an English teacher in a French school environment. The programs are not aimed at experienced teachers, and whether or not the participants intend to become a teacher, it is a fantastic opportunity to gain seven months of international professional experience. Participants gain work experience and professionalism, bringing undeniable added value to their career.

These programs are open to students of all disciplines who can demonstrate a competence in French, and who are seeking to increase their linguistic and cultural proficiency. Your stay as an assistant in France will give rise to unforgettable memories and you will make friends for life. For your future professional life, this stay in France will be an advantage. You will be leaving with essential knowledge, backed up by internationally-recognised program experience.

Since French is an **international language**, you will also have the tools to continue building connections throughout your professional career and around the world. Spoken on all five continents and the official language of many states and international organisations, French is the world's fifth most widely used language, with 274 million speakers. After English, French is the most widely studied language in the world. It is the world's third most common business language and second most common language of international news.

Read this introductory guide for more information about applying, eligibility and more.

## Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to apply, candidates must be enrolled at an Australian university at the time of application, in at least the second year of studies. When applying, candidates are given the opportunity to express their preferred geographical location and level of teaching (primary or secondary).

- ▶ Candidates must be Australian citizens. Permanent residents are not eligible.
- ▶ Candidates must be between 20 and 35 years of age on 1 October 2021.
- ▶ Candidates must have completed their secondary education in Australia.
- ▶ Candidates must be enrolled at an Australian university or be recently graduated at the time of application.
- ▶ Candidates must have completed at least two years of university studies.
- ▶ A minimum Level B1 in French is required (see the [\*Cadre européen commun de références pour les langues\*](#)).
- ▶ Candidates must be native English speakers.
- ▶ Candidates should preferably be single.
- ▶ After placement offer, successful candidates will be required to submit a National Police Check dated no older than three months.

## Calendar

- A seven-month contract from October 1 until April 30.
- A 12 hour per week schedule (varies depending on the school)
- Holidays according to the local academic dates.

Applications open in December/January and close in March for the program in October of the same year. Application results will be published in July at the latest.

## Remuneration

Per month:

- ▶ Metropolitan France ~1000€ net
- ▶ La Réunion ~1200€ net
- ▶ Guadeloupe, Guiana and Martinique ~1100€ net

The assistant is responsible for food, accommodation and travel to and from France.

## Regions of placement

Candidates can indicate preferences for three academic regions – one per group. Preferences of region indicated in the application may be accommodated according to availability but placement location cannot be guaranteed. Please do not apply for this program if you are intending on visiting France for any reason alternative to a contract as a language assistant.

## MAINLAND FRANCE

By choosing to work in France, you will have the chance to discover a society that is **multicultural** and open, proud of its history and looking forward to the future. The French state is founded on the principles of Freedom, Liberty and Fraternity. These values are reflected in the national education system, and the contribution of foreign language assistants helps develop students' language abilities. In France, you can discover [the French art de vivre](#), an art celebrated around the world. **France offers many opportunities to discover during your stay.** Outside the classroom, an extraordinary adventure awaits. Whether your interests lie in theatre and music or in travelling in nature, no one leaves disappointed: in France, there's something for everyone.



In mainland France and its overseas territories, you can swim in three seas and three oceans, explore four continents and roam five mountainous European regions. [All of this in the heart of a continent where travelling is easy.](#) [Here](#) you can find information on about 40 different cities and regions in France. **France is the world's top tourist destination** in terms of number of foreign visitors. More than 40 000 monuments and protected sites, 43 cultural sites appearing on UNESCO's world heritage list, 8000 museums, 2000 cinemas, and more than 500 festivals attest to the richness of French cultural life. French artists are influential in every creative field. With 15 winners, France is home to the largest number of laureates of the Nobel prize in literature.

## OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

Don't make the mistake of thinking mainland France is the only part of France worth visiting and working in. The overseas territories offer all the same benefits of social security and educational support as the mainland, while allowing assistants to explore beautiful nature and beaches.



### Guadeloupe

Both a department and a region, [Guadeloupe](#), nicknamed "l'île aux belles-eaux", is an archipelago in the Lesser Antilles located between the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. It has a population of over 380,000 and is 6,700 kilometres from France. Guadeloupe is home to just under 200 cultural sites and facilities, including heritage sites, venues for visits and shows, media libraries and reading points, and accredited bookshops. Of these, almost 110 are buildings classified as historic monuments, a label that imposes obligations to protect certain buildings because of their heritage interest. There are five museums devoted to the island's archaeology, colonial history and popular arts and traditions.

### La Réunion

[Reunion Island](#) has a wealth of activities, excursions, hikes and sports to offer, as well as a unique heritage and culture to visit and discover, particularly in the Creole villages and, of course, in contact with the local people. On the coast, beaches, seaside activities and a lively lifestyle, in the highlands, grandiose landscapes and authenticity, a different kind of tourism at the heart of Reunionese culture, still preserved from mass tourism. It houses a large university which connects the region to Australia.

### Guyane

With a surface area of 83,534 km<sup>2</sup>, [French Guiana](#) is the second largest region in France, but the last in terms of population. The only French territory on the South American continent, French Guiana's surface area represents 15% of the national territory.

French Guiana is home to the largest national park in France and the European Union, which protects one of the areas



with the highest biodiversity on the planet, as well as unique ways of life and the human activities of the people who live along the rivers and in the forests. In terms of heritage, French Guiana has three museums dedicated to its history and popular arts and traditions.

### Martinique

Situated at the heart of the Caribbean arc between the islands of Dominica to the north and Saint Lucia to the south, [Martinique](#) stands out from the other French overseas departments because of its small size and high population density. Martinique's cultural landscape is characterised by a wealth of heritage that bears witness to its history, and which has been gaining recognition since the 1970s (the Fort Saint Louis was listed for the first time in 1973). Martinique's artistic creation is showing great vitality, with seven museums around the island highlighting the island's rich history.



Apply for regions in groups of preference

**Group A**

Amiens  
Créteil  
Lille  
Martinique  
Nancy-Metz  
Normandie (périmètres Caen et Rouen)  
Reims  
Versailles

**Group B**

Besançon  
Clermont-Ferrand  
Dijon  
Guyane  
Limoges  
Lyon  
Nantes  
Poitiers  
Orléans-Tours  
Strasbourg

**Group C**

Aix-Marseille  
Bordeaux  
Corse  
Grenoble  
Guadeloupe  
La Réunion  
Mayotte  
Montpellier  
Nice  
Paris  
Rennes  
Toulouse



## Schools of placement



Positions are available at the primary school, middle school and high school level. Assistants are affected to one central school for administrative purposes and then move between two or three throughout the placement, these can be various levels of schooling based on preference.

## Social Security

The assistant has the status of non-permanent (contractual) public staff. Insurance in the event of accident or illness is covered by Social Security. As a language assistant, you will be registered with the primary health insurance fund (CPAM) in Paris, regardless of your assigned academic region. Registration with the CPAM is compulsory even if you already have insurance in your country of origin. It is recommended to apply for a European Health Insurance Card (CEAM) and/or take out civil liability insurance and insurance providing for repatriation if necessary.

## How to Apply

1. Ensure you are available for the entire 7-month contract, meet the eligibility criteria and can afford to live and work in France.
2. You must **create an account on ADELE** [here](#); And here is a [Tutorial for ADELE Account creation](#)
3. Fill out your profile and required information, before end **March**.
4. You must get a French teacher to evaluate your language ability, they must create a **teacher's account** on ADELE [here](#)
  - *If you do not have a current French teacher, you can contact the local [Alliance Française](#), or contact us on [education.canberra-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:education.canberra-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr) for an evaluation.*
5. Once all your documents are submitted, your application status will be moved to pending.
6. The next step is to have an **interview** over the phone or Zoom with the Embassy, in French, to discuss your motivation for the program and why you want to become a language assistant. We will email you to arrange a time that arranges your schedule. This will be an informal chat of around 10 minutes.
7. The outcomes of the applications will be announced no later than **June**, and you will be affected to a region around July.
8. Your paperwork will be sent to you in **September**, and you should not plan any holidays before you receive your visa around then.
9. The program starts in **October**, your school will welcome you and you can meet all your incredible students!





Assistants will receive a full guide to the program once accepted that outlines all administrative processes, visas, banking and accommodation help. An online training module designed to prepare candidates for the role of language assistant is available on the [FEI+ platform](#). This module presents the French education system and the role of the language assistant. It also includes numerous testimonials from former language assistants, who share their experiences and give practical advice on setting up classroom activities and projects in the schools and establishments to which they have been assigned.

**DO NOT APPLY FOR THIS PROGRAM if you do not intend to follow through with the contract. Before applying, you must be sure that your current situation permits your activities in France for the entire period indicated.**

## Further information

- If you have any questions, please read the [FAQ](#) before sending an email to:
- [education.canberra-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:education.canberra-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr).
- For further practical information, please visit [France Education International's website](#).
- To help candidates apply and answer questions, France Éducation international organises weekly sessions via Microsoft Teams, the link will be available asap.

Apply today for this incredible program and experience the life changing opportunity to be a language assistant in France!

