



BULGARIAN LANGUAGE & CULTURE ASSISTANTS IN SPAIN

(ENGLISH, FRENCH, GERMAN)

Draft document as of October 30, 2015

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

1. ***Cultural, Education and Scientific Agreement between the Governments of Bulgaria and Spain***, of May 12, 2015 (Art. #9)
2. ***National Official Call by the Spanish Ministry of Education***, announced yearly on Official Gazette (*extract hereafter*)

As stated on Royal Decree 1027/1993 of June 25 (Official Gazette of August 6) in relation with the foreign education policies of Spain and the bilateral agreements signed by the Government with other States' counterparts that regulate the cooperation in the Cultural, Education and Technology fields, a number of Language and Culture Assistants positions is announced on a yearly basis for Spanish candidates who wish to participate in foreign education systems and for foreign candidates in Spanish public schools.

This program pursues the knowledge and promotion of the Spanish language and culture abroad and operates in a dual way: on the one hand by means of the Spanish assistants instilling their culture and language into the foreign host school systems and in a reciprocal fashion the foreign assistants end up getting an in-depth approach of the Spanish system. They also contribute to improve the quality of our bilingual programs in the public schools.

Therefore the objectives of this program are assumed as key elements within a broader process of increasing the quality of bilingual programs in our schools as the Assistants' contribution have a direct impact in the improvement of the speaking and comprehension skills of the students. The Spanish public opinion this day demands such international input in line with that of other surrounding countries within the context of a globalized, connected world.

PARTICIPANTS' REQUIREMENTS

- Bulgarian nationality.
- Recent University Graduates and junior/senior year students in the current academic year.
- High command of English (CEFR level "C" or equivalent).
- Be in good physical and psychological condition. It will be necessary to submit a complete medical evaluation signed by a doctor.
- Have a clear police record. A background check will be required for the selected applicants.

SUPPORTING MERITS

- Knowledge of Spanish/Spain/the Spanish education system.
- Teaching experience and/or Teaching license or equivalent.
- Studies on foreign language teaching and methodology.
- Participation in *Study Abroad* programs, favorably Spanish/English speaking ones.

PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPECTED TO

- Assist and support the class teacher focusing mainly on the reinforcement of the students' oral skills in the target language.
- Assist and collaborate with the class teacher in designing didactic units and materials to be implemented in the class.
- Participate in organizing school and/or cultural events in relation with the foreign language.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

- Monthly stipend of € 700.00
- Medical insurance through the Public Health System. It is necessary to obtain the IHIC (European Health Insurance Card) prior to the departure.
- 12-16 teaching periods weekly in a public elementary or secondary school. Sometimes a second school can be assigned to complete the weekly schedule.
- Appointments are for the entire academic year, starting on October 1 through May 31 on a regular basis.
- Initial orientation course in Spain, in September.
- Travel and accommodation expenses are not included. The schools may provide assistance, especially at the beginning.
- Paid school holidays (Christmas and Easter).
- Official certification upon completion of the program.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESSES

- Official Call announced on Government's Gazette. Positions offered for Spanish candidates abroad and for foreign applicants in Spain. Each Region announces the number of positions offered. Around December.
- January through April :

- Applicants register in PROFEX, an online database for the Ministry of Education's foreign teaching programs. Candidates also state their regional preferences in Spain.
 - Candidates send hard copies of the required documentation. Applications are validated and accepted if in good standing at the Education Office in Sofia.
 - Candidates are prescreened and selected by the Education Office in Sofia. Personal interviews will be carried out for the final selection.
- Positions are assigned by each Spanish region (*Comunidad Autónoma*). May-June.
 - Selected candidates submit background check and medical screening to their regional education authorities.