

TEFL Essential Requirements: Transition to Standard Training Curriculum

The Peace Corps Standard TEFL Training Curriculum establishes standards comparable to the minimal global standards expected of internationally recognized TEFL certificate programs. It also lays the groundwork for a possible Peace Corps TEFL certificate for Volunteers. The standardized training curriculum is comprised of 65 session topics and requires at least 120 hours of instruction and teaching practice, spread over Pre-Service Training (PST) and in ISTs during the first year of a Volunteer's service.

For the next few years, recognizing agency resources will be significantly constrained and that some posts will not be able to fully implement the entire 120-hour curriculum, a transition plan has been developed consisting of a minimum of 70 hours of the most critical elements of technical training.

This guidance is designed to help posts during this transition time to **maximize the resources at hand and devise a way to incorporate essential and elective elements into TEFL technical training.**

Essential Required Sessions – 40 hours

A minimum of 40 hours of PST technical training on the following sessions of the TEFL Curriculum (includes Global Education sessions highlighted in yellow and TEFL sessions):

1. Lesson Planning (*pre-departure*)
2. Your First Lesson (*pre-departure*)
3. Pre-Departure TEFL Grammar and Methodology (*pre-departure*)
4. Language Awareness 1: Socio-cultural to Grammatical Competence
5. Crossing Educational Cultures (*can use post-specific session contrasting local & US ed. cultures*)
6. Informal Needs Analysis & Unpacking
7. Functions and Notions
8. Do It Yourself Grammar (Grammar 1)
9. Functional Grammar (Grammar 2)
10. Creating Dialogues
11. Building Good School Relationships
12. Classroom Management Tips
13. Taking Charge of Your Class; Your Teaching
14. Student-centered Classrooms
15. Correcting Student Errors & Feedback
16. Special Needs/Behavioral Interventions
17. Large Classes
18. Vocabulary
19. Speaking
20. Listening: Introduction
21. Listening: 15 activities
22. Assessment Concepts
23. Assessment Rubrics
24. Limited Resources –OR– Materials Design
25. Orientation to Peer Observation and Debriefing
26. Reading Comprehension
27. Beginning Writing
28. Teacher Communities of Practice in English

Practicum Standards – 15 hours

A minimum of 10 hours of practice teaching in PST (not including time spent planning the lessons) that could include teaching shorter classroom activities as well as instructing complete lessons. Teaching may be delivered to students (preferred) or to peers.

A minimum of five hours of structured classroom observation (observing host country teachers or other trainees).

Other Training Activities Not Considered Elements of the TEFL Essential Requirements

- Processing time for practicum and classroom observations.
- Sessions on country specific educational systems, practices or culture
- Community Assessment, Community Entry or other PACA type activities and are considered as part in the Core Competencies of Focus In/Train Up that all Volunteers will be expected to receive training on.

Essential Required Sessions are identified to help post select the most critical elements and maximize impact during this transitional time. **If post has the ability and resources to go beyond the Essential Required Sessions and incorporate additional sessions of the Standard TEFL Training Curriculum or additional practicum time, please do so!**

MINIMUM TECHNICAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS – 70 Hours