



### Frequently Asked Questions

#### Accommodation

- **Housing allowances**

All men receive a housing allowance equivalent to 25% of basic salary.

Women already resident in Saudi with their husband will also receive housing allowance.

- **Provided housing**

All single females will be accommodated in provided housing. They will share a flat with one other teacher. There are also a few family flats available upon request.

- **What furniture is included?**

The provided accommodation includes all major furniture (bed, desk, sofa etc) as well as bed linen, curtains and kitchen equipment. Teachers should bring their own towels but anything else they might need is either provided or can be cheaply bought while in Riyadh. We encourage teachers not to pack too much as baggage allowances on flights are quite limited.

#### Arrangements for families

- **Visas**

- We do not offer family visas.
- Any teacher wishing to bring their family to Riyadh does so at their own expense after they have secured their own iqama.

#### Flights

- **Flight allowances**

Our policy is that we pay for a return flight from the country of visa issue to Riyadh. A second flight allowance of **up to** 3000 SAR is payable for staff arriving in semester 1.

#### Life in Saudi Arabia

***For full details please refer to the document Living and working in Saudi Arabia which is available on the website.***

- **Dress code**

**Men:** Should wear smart trousers and a shirt. A tie and suit jacket are optional. Colours should not be too bright.

**Women:** In public women must have an abaya (which should be purchased before arrival). This should be black and fairly loose fitting. They must also wear a head scarf. At work women should wear ankle length skirts and long sleeves. Colours should be muted (black, brown). Women are not permitted to wear trousers and should always carry a headscarf with them.

- **What to pack**

The apartments are fully furnished so it is not necessary to pack any household items.

There is a teacher resource room with reference material so teachers do not need to a lot of books with them.

Clothing should be fairly lightweight but it can become cool in the evenings so bring a jumper.

Saudi customs can be strict. Pork products, drugs and alcohol are forbidden. Any medication brought into the country should be accompanied by a letter from a doctor stating what it has been prescribed for. Full customs regulations should be checked online before departure.

### **Start dates**

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The programme start date for academic year 10-11 is 28th August. Teaching does not start until after Eid, the first 2 weeks are for induction, training and placement testing. Your contract starts on the day that you report to work (usually the day after arrival in the Kingdom).

### **Visas**

- **Why do I have to travel back to my passport-issuing country?**

As all embassies require that you have a medical in the country that you are applying through, applicants must physically return to their country of nationality to complete the process.

***It is not possible to complete the visa process by post from another country.***

- **Reimbursement of visa costs**

Teachers must keep their receipts and present them to Obeikan upon arrival in Riyadh. Reimbursements are usually made in the first pay check.

### **Salaries**

Our salary range for teachers is between 9,000 and 14,000 SAR based on qualifications and experience. All salaries are offered in line with our scale. It is possible to move up the scale on completion of new qualifications.