

CII Teach Argentina

COLONIAS DE INMERSION AL IDIOMA

www.ecolonias.com

Av. Forest 1213 – (C1427CEJ) Buenos Aires – ARGENTINA

experienceargentina@ecolonias.com



Live in Argentina for 3 to 12 months (2 months in **Buenos Aires** and the rest in another province) and gain valuable teaching experience in both formal and non-formal education. Become part of a family and your host community, get to travel around the country and improve your command of the Spanish language.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

CII Teach Argentina is an all-inclusive programme.

- Teaching placements in two main and distinctive settings:
 - As a **Culture & Language Facilitator** at a school (primary or secondary), language institute or university
 - As a **Camp Counsellor** in our unique English Immersion Camps, mainly addressed to children and teenagers
- Improvement of your **Spanish** skills:
 - One-on-one **Spanish tuition** during your placement
 - Homestays with local families.
- Full-board accommodation with host families
- TEFL Workshop delivered by CII in Argentina
- On-going Orientation & Support

Colonias de Inmersión al Idioma (CII) has 20 years' experience in the design of exchange programmes. Over 650 students and graduates from English-speaking countries have joined our CII Teach Argentina Programme. Additionally, **CII** has been running English Immersion Camps in Argentina since 1988. Over 35,000 students of English from all over Argentina and Uruguay have attended our camps. For the last 10 years we have also been taking students abroad (mainly to Ireland, UK and US) on tailor-made study and exchange programmes.

INDEX

HOW DOES YOUR INTERNSHIP WORK?	2
WHO CAN APPLY	2
TEFL.....	3
ON GOING ASSESMENT.....	4
DURATION & DATES.....	4
OUR SERVICES.....	5
OUR FEES	6
HOW TO APPLY	6



HOW DOES YOUR INTERNSHIP WORK?

Before and upon arrival you will receive assistance, guidelines and resources so as to help you prepare yourself for the placement. Your internship will focus on facilitating English learning among locals in three different ways:

- By assisting at educational institutions located across the country. You will help develop a sense of authenticity in the classroom by bringing living aspects of your culture in the manner of workshops and projects, and you will work co-operatively with qualified teachers who will guide and supervise your work.
- By joining our team of camp counsellors in our English Immersion Camps, which re-enact life in an English speaking community, giving Argentinean students the chance to practise English in context. These camps are held in countryside venues and usually last three days. Camp Counsellors design and run themed programmes that revolve around historical or contemporary events, the mythology and traditions of English-speaking countries. Dances, songs, sports, games, foods, crafts and rituals make up an unique cultural event, with the staff of Camp Counsellors acting as MCs. Design an intricate Murder Mystery in Victorian England; stage a Medieval camp where participants overcome quests and challenges on their way to knighthood; lead a group of “49ers” in their search for gold in California; or even help your agency find evil Dr. Doomsday at the end of a Spy Camp, just to mention a few examples of our themes!
- Sometimes, by providing your local host family with English tutorials to help them improve their communication skills. This only applies in some occasions.

The amount of time assigned to each activity may vary slightly depending on the time of the year, the geographical location of your placement and your background.

Important: *As our calendar of camps does vary during the year, participation in the camps may be partially replaced by the delivery of cultural workshops at different schools. This situation is particularly applicable to the first term of the year (March to July).*

Please note that these categories do not represent alternatives you can choose from. CII will decide which category you fall into, according to specific criteria: the school's profile requirements, school's location, the applicant's profile and our calendar of English Immersion Camps to be held during your placement.

WHO CAN APPLY

In order to be eligible for this programme you must:

- Be a university student or recent graduate from an English-speaking country
- Have English as your mother tongue, and have been raised in an English-speaking country *
- Show strong communicative and interpersonal skills.
- Be imaginative, fit and team-minded,
- Be aware of your own culture and highly interested in cultural exchange
- Show a high level of commitment, responsibility and flexibility
- Be physically and mentally healthy
- Adaptability
- When you work for us, we will expect full preparation, commitment and creativity. These are all mandatory. Failure to comply with all these requirements is a reason to be dismissed from the programme.



** Exceptions can be made for applicants whose mother tongue is not English provided that you are fluent in the language and that your application is backed by your university.*

The ideal candidate should:

- Feel comfortable adapting to new environments.
- Have the ability to improvise when required.
- Be flexible in both their working and family lives.
- Be accepting and tolerant of the differences of new culture.
- Enjoy working with children and teenagers.

Desirable experience and skills

- Drama, sports, outdoors, music and dance
- Experience as camp counsellor or coach working with children or teens
- Community involvement and a sense of volunteerism
- Experience studying, working, or volunteering abroad

Adaptability, flexibility, tolerance, resilience

CII Teach Argentina is not for just anyone. Even though you are not expected to have any special qualification or work experience, your natural skills and attitude are extremely relevant.

Before you apply, please rethink this:

- Are you sure you've got what it takes for this sort of placement?
- Do you understand that when you apply there aren't many filters, but that doesn't mean that this position is just for anyone?

TEFL (Teaching of English as a Foreign Language)

CII Teach Argentina will deliver an intensive TEFL Workshop as part of your programme in Argentina, at no cost. The TEFL Workshop we offer is not an accredited programme and it aims at providing you with the basic teaching tools required for your placement in Argentina. Prior to the programme, you will receive reading materials and assignments that will prepare you for the TEFL Workshop. Once in Argentina, you will attend an intensive 2-day scheme as part of your welcome programme.

If you would prefer to take an accredited TEFL Certificate, you should do so. You can enrol through us to a 60-hour course delivered by TEFL Bridge ©, which will equip you with the principles, theories and methodologies of teaching English as a foreign language.

Applicants who already hold a TEFL, CELTA or TESOL qualification or those who attend related subjects as part of their degree, do not need to take a TEFL Course. However, every applicant must submit assignments that are clearly in preparation for the placement in Argentina.



ON GOING ASSESMENT

- While in Argentina you will be performing as a Culture & Language Facilitator, as a Camp Counsellor, as a family member, as a member of a local community. And it is all connected. Your host family will probably have children at the school where you perform as a Facilitator. Your performance as a Counsellor at a camp could probably impress a school teacher who decides to host an exchange student for the first time. The camp co-ordinator enjoys working with you and asks to have you as part of the team again on future camps. A camper from across the country has a great time with you at the camp and goes home excited about asking his/her family to consider hosting one of the cool international counsellors he/she has met at the camp. This is the ideal scenario in which we network to create new placement opportunities. When a participant in CII Teach Argentina goes against this trend, things start going in the wrong direction: teachers or kids state it in their feedback forms, we find it difficult to arrange a new placement for you, co-ordinators ask not to have you on their team for future camps.

There is an ongoing assessment system which includes schools, host families and camp co-ordinators. You will also be asked to give your feedback. If you display a positive attitude we will be happy to arrange new placements for you. Otherwise, after a while, it will become more and more difficult for us to arrange new placements. You must understand that it's all tied together. Your performance at the school will have implications in other parts of the programme. For good and for bad.

When you work for us, we will expect full preparation, commitment and creativity. These are all mandatory. Failure to comply with all these requirements is a reason to be dismissed from the programme.

DURATION & DATES

The programme lasts from 3 to 12 months, with two major starting dates:

- 2nd Monday of March
- Last Monday of July

You should always arrive the Sunday before the official start date.

Some placements last a whole semester. However, some placements last for one or two months. Hence, depending on the programme and placement duration, you are likely to experience a series of consecutive placements at different locations.

School Calendar

The programme calendar is adjusted to school terms in Argentina, as follows:

Jan uary	Febru ary	Marc h	Apri l	Ma y	Jun e	Jul y	Augu st	Septem ber	Octob er	Novemb er	Decemb er	
Holidays		1 st School Term					H	2 nd School Term				H

Be prepared not to teach during holiday periods. You should be prepared to use this time to travel (at your own expense) around Argentina or South America.

Deadline for Enrolment

Deadline for March programme: 1st week of December

Deadline for July programme: 1st week of April

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Also, depending on availability and for an extra fee, it is also possible to fast-track applications in one to three months. (Late application fee applies when you apply less than 3 months ahead of the programme.)

Locations

Schools, language institutes and universities are located all over Argentina. **You will stay one or two months in Buenos Aires and the rest of your stay will be in any other province.** Final decisions on placements are made by the schools and based on the candidates' profiles. Consequently, if you decide to apply, [you must be open to accept any given location.](#)

OUR SERVICES

Before Departure

- Pre-departure online assistance and orientation
- Materials and guidelines in preparation for your work placement.

Upon Arrival

- **Welcome Programme**

Our 7-Day introductory package focuses on key aspects of the experience: general orientation, teaching skills (including our TEFL workshop), basic Spanish skills and staff training for our English Immersion Camps.

The **Welcome Programme** includes:

- Activities
- Full-board accommodation in our own venue in Mercedes (100 kms outside Buenos Aires city).
- Transportation: **airport pickup** (during the week before the official start date), transfer to/from activities, transfer from Buenos Aires to placement.

Your Placement

- Internship combining work at a local school, participation in our English Immersion Camps and (sometimes) English tutorials with your local host family
- 4 hours of one-on-one Spanish tuition a week with a tutor designated by the school
- Monthly stipend
- Host Family accommodation with full board during your placement, except for Summer holidays (Mid-December to February).
- Transportation and full-board accommodation during English Immersion Camps.
- Transportation to and from your placement

On-Going Support

- Monthly follow-up contact with a CII representative
- 24-hour in-country emergency support services via the CII Buenos Aires Office.



OUR FEES

Placement Fee For a 3 to 6-month Placement if you apply up to 3 months ahead of the programme official start date.	USD 1000
Placement Fee For a 6 to 12-month Placement if you apply up to 3 months ahead of the programme official start date.	USD 1200
Late Application Fee When you apply less than 3 months ahead of the programme official start date.	USD 100
Extension Fee If you decide to extend your participation in the programme once you have enrolled.	USD 250

OUR PROGRAMME DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International Medical Insurance. You must show proof of your insurance.
- Round-trip ticket to and from Buenos Aires
- Visa fees, reciprocity fees or similar.

OTHER EXPENSES

The programme covers all major expenses (accommodation, meals) and provides a small stipend for everyday activities, such as transportation, classes, sports, weekend outings.

Participants should have access to a minimum of USD 150 monthly for emergencies and other personal expenses. If you plan to travel around Argentina or Latin-America, we advise you to research and bring additional money.

Participants will also be required to bring to Argentina (to be used at the English Immersion Camps):

- 2 kilograms of sweets.
- 1 bag of regular marshmallows
- 1 box of tea bags
- Pennant of your University, School and/or Club.
- Old/Used sports elements: For example, a Hurley (Ireland), a cricket bat or wicket (UK), a baseball bat or glove (USA). You can bring any old element which you don't use anymore.

HOW TO APPLY

Document Checklist

- **CII Application form**
- **Short Video about yourself** (See below)
- **Health Report signed by your doctor**
- **Recent Graduates:** confirmation of your degree (transcript or copy of diploma)
- **Students:** a letter from your University confirming your student status
- **Two reference letters.** At least one of them must be written by a teacher. Additional reference letters are encouraged.
 - *Letters must be dated, signed, and printed on official letterhead or accompanied by a business card.*
 - *Referees should be persons that are/were directly responsible for the review of your academic and/or professional performance. Referees may include a current or previous professor, academic advisor, supervisor, or manager.*



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- CII does not accept letters of recommendation from family members, friends, neighbours, or similar sources.
- References should be provided with the application so please arrange to obtain them before you submit forms
- **Smiling photograph** (please avoid passport photos!). Include a jpg file that we can add to your profile.
- **Scan/picture of your passport** including your name, birth date, photograph, etc. The form of your name should correspond exactly with the name you supply on your application or other official documents. Your passport must be valid for at least six months beyond the programme end date.
- **Proof of Medical Insurance** (to be provided after acceptance). You need to show proof of medical insurance to cover the whole period of your stay. It should indicate countries and period of coverage as well as the procedure to receive assistance.

Instructions for a Short Video about yourself

The video must have two parts (or you can film two different videos) and must be no longer than 5 minutes in total.

Part 1

In the first part we will ask you to talk about a topic of your choice. The objective is to have a more complete impression of yourself besides the information you give us on your application form. It is important to note that we don't expect this to be formal in any way. It is for the purpose of getting to know you better. Just loosen up and talk away.

The topic that you choose should be something that you feel comfortable talking about, that is interesting to you or that you feel passionate about. If you need help for your video, send an email to experienceargentina@ecolonias.com and we will be happy to send you some tips.

Part 2

For the second part of the video (or second video) you should film yourself showing some personal skill that you think will be useful at the schools or at the immersion camps. If you can play a sport that is not played in Argentina (hurling, cricket, American football, etc) you should film yourself playing it or trying to teach us how to do it. If you can play a musical instrument or sing, we would be delighted to listen. If you do art of some kind, it would be great to get to know your work. If you are a good actor/actress, you could do a small performance for us. We would also love to see some dancing, storytelling, stand-up comedy, games (classes or demonstrations) and interesting presentations about your country's history, culture, traditions or strange hobbies, etc. The idea is to see you in action, having some fun and showing us a little bit more about yourself.

Useful tips

- Loosen up!
- Take this opportunity to explore your creative side, as this is the first of many opportunities that the CII Teach Argentina will invite you to do so.
- You can film it as many times as you like before sending it, so don't worry about not getting it the way you wanted the first time round. You can also film it in small parts and then paste them with a video editor.
- We don't expect you to be dressed formally for the video.
- If you feel that we have left something out on the application form that you would like to tell us about, please do so.

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- *Make sure you find the video interesting and enjoyable at the end. We look for people that can be responsible and fun at the same time.*
- *Check the quality of the sound. We don't need high definition images, but we do need to be able to hear clearly what you have to say.*

Send the application package via Cloud Storage Services

- Please upload to Dropbox or Google Drive and share with us the completed Application Form and all required documents (including scanned copies of the originals if applies). You can use the following email address to give us access to the online folder: teachargentiniacii@gmail.com
- Make sure you have collected all the items before you submit your application. CII can only process your application if the package is complete.
- If you require assistance, please contact us at experienceargentina@ecolonias.com

Admission

- CII will send a confirmation email upon reception of your complete application
- Application processing usually takes two weeks, after which we will contact you to provide feedback and communicate our decision regarding your participation in the programme.

Placement

- Once you have complied with all the requirements CII will begin the search for an appropriate internship by matching your profile with suitable schools.
- You will be required to complete a series of tasks in preparation for your work placement in Argentina before you travel. Instructions will be sent once we confirm acceptance into the programme. Failure to submit TEFL assignments can lead to the cancellation of your participation in the programme.
- Placement details are sent as soon as possible (1 week before the official start date tops). In the case of placements finalised during our summer months these details may not be available until later. Placement details will only be sent once you have completed your TEFL assignments.
- **If you arrive to Argentina and your placement details are not finalised yet, we will arrange accommodation for you at The Borough. So there is nothing to worry about!**
- **Colonias de Inmersión al Idioma** manages a wide network of schools across the country and only accepts the number of applicants for whom there are openings.