

PROJECT OVERSEAS 2018



Project Overseas Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can I request a preferred host country if I am selected?

A. No. CTF matches educators where they will do the most good, based on the country of assignment's needs, the participant's background and areas of expertise.

Q. Can my spouse/partner accompany me to my host country if I am selected?

A. No, family members are not allowed to accompany a Project Overseas participant. You may consider meeting your partner after the conclusion of Project Overseas in that country if you wish to travel further.

Q. My valid passport expires in May, but I cannot renew it right now as I will need it to travel in a few weeks' time.

A. If you are selected for Project Overseas, you will have time to renew your passport. Please note this on your application. CTF and the travel consultant will work with participants regarding passport renewal, obtaining visas and other travel arrangements. If selected, participants should bring any travel plans during the months of March – July to the attention of CTF as soon as possible

Q. Do I need a doctor's note for my application to be complete?

A. No, you are no longer required to include a doctor's note for the ETFO application; however, a completed medical form is required. This medical disclosure is only for information and will not affect whether you are selected or not. Health remains a very important factor for both ETFO and CTF, and there is a section in the application regarding the condition of your health. Also, it is

important that every participant is fully aware that conditions and medical systems in the country they are visiting are not the same as those in Canada.

Q. Do I require a letter for reference from my principal or has that changed?

A. No, a reference letter from a principal is no longer required, but members can still submit a letter from their principal if they choose.

Q. Can I apply again if I am accepted into Project Overseas?

A. Yes. CTF often assigns returning Project Overseas participants and draws Team Leaders from the pool of experienced participants.

Q. How many years in a row can I participate?

A. ETFO recommends you take a pause after being selected three years in a row to allow other members more opportunity to participate.

Q. Is there training before I go to my host country?

A. Yes, From March to June you will communicate with a Team Leader via Skype or teleconference with the rest of your team, with periodic input from CTF. Also, CTF provides workshops as part of a three-day Orientation for Project Overseas participants in Ottawa the first week in July, before your assignment starts. Following your assignment, you will be expected to attend a Debrief session hosted by ETFO on the first Saturday in October.

Q. If I am selected after my telephone interview and then approved by ETFO's provincial Executive, when will I get a confirmation from CTF?

A. Applicants will be informed of their selection and their country of assignment in mid-January. You will be contacted by your Team Leader the following month and will begin working with your team in preparation for the assignment

Q. What happens if I have to drop out at any point in the process?

A. Emergencies happen. If you have to drop out, please contact ETFO and CTF as soon as possible. If there is a situation that arises that could cause you to drop out, please let CTF or your team leader know. In some cases they can work with you and make minor adjustments to accommodate a situation.

Q. Do I have to have my vaccinations up-to-date before I can travel abroad?

A. Yes. CTF will let you know what to do to take care of this well in advance of your travel date.

Q. I did not attach a required document to my application. What should I do?

A. Your application will NOT be complete or considered without all the required documents. Please email (jgiles@etfo.org) right away to let us know, and then submit missing documents. Applications will not be considered after the Project Overseas application due date.

Q. Can I submit my application electronically?

A. You are welcome to send your application electronically (jgiles@etfo.org), but you must also mail, courier or deliver three hard copies (original plus two copies) of your application to ETFO Provincial Office by the Project Overseas application due date.

Q. Can I apply as an occasional teacher? Do I need only five years of OT experience?

A. Yes, we welcome applications from occasional teachers. However, if you are an occasional teacher who has only done daily supply, you would need 10 years of part-time teaching experience to meet the requirement of five FULL years of teaching.

Q. Can I apply if I do not have international travel or work experience?

A. Yes, members can apply without international experience but be aware that ETFO receives many applications from members who have a passion for international development and have volunteered with other organizations or taught in other countries.