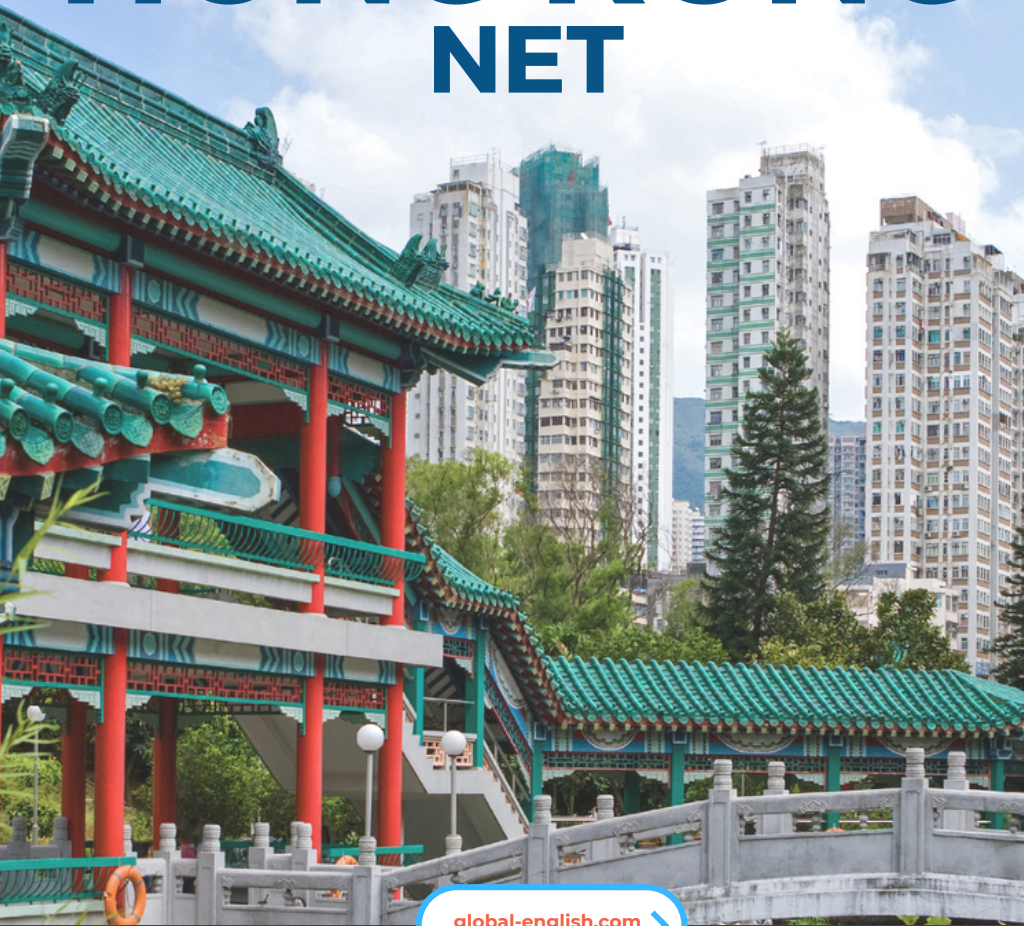




GLOBAL
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HONG KONG NET



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e-guide to being a Native-speaking
English Teacher (NET) in Hong Kong

2025/2026

Index

In this e-book, we look at some general advice for candidates hoping to become a HK NET in the future, divided into the following categories:

- **What is the NET scheme?**
- **What are some of the requirements?**
- **Where do I apply?**
- **Where do I start my TEFL journey?**
- **Online TEFL training**
- **Teaching Practice**
- **What about benefits, cost of living?**
- **When are decisions on NET candidates made?**

What is the NET scheme?

To teach English at a prestigious, well-paid school in the vibrant Hong Kong, you'll need to apply to be a Native English Teacher (NET) and that means getting approval from the HK Education Bureau (EDB).

This is a government-run scheme that aims to improve the English proficiency of children and teenagers by employing native (or native-level) English teachers. The scheme offers positions to hundreds of teachers throughout the region in both secondary and primary schools.



DOWNLOAD

Application for
Employment as
NET under the NET
Scheme 2025/26
School Year



What are some of the requirements?

You'll need to be a native English speaker (or possess near-native English speaker competence) with a degree, an approved TEFL/TESOL certificate and one years' experience teaching English in a secondary school.

The EDB has set recruitment criteria for secondary school NET jobs and ranks applications according to experience and skills. Applications for NETs open towards the end of each year.



Where do I apply?

There are two ways to apply:

1. Applying through the EDB's NET scheme involves passing an interview and written test. If successful, your CV goes into a pool of highly recommended candidates. This means schools looking for a NET may contact you for an interview.

2. Alternatively, you can apply directly to schools that are hiring. While the qualifying criteria is the same, schools that hire directly may be a bit more flexible in allowing you to complete your PGCE whilst working at the school.



If you apply through the NET scheme, the EDB handles all of the document checking. If schools hire directly, they will do the checking themselves.



Where do I start my TEFL journey?

To be successful in your application to the NET scheme, you'll need to complete an accredited TEFL course that is acceptable to the Hong Kong Education Bureau (HK EDB).

At Global English TESOL we have been training people for the NET scheme for over nine years on our recognised and flexible online training and teaching practice programmes.

Which course should I register on?

- For primary, go [here>>](#)
- For secondary, go [here>>](#)
- Remember to add the [teaching practice course for HK](#) at the checkout.
- For more info on our online courses, see our [general FAQ page](#).



Online TEFL training

What do contact hours mean?

The HK EDB scheme says a course must consist of a minimum of 100 contact hours for primary schools and 250 contact hours for secondary schools.

The contact hours are the number of hours taken in the study on a course of study, either face to face or online. The EDB recognises the ACTDEC accredited courses run by Global English TESOL as meeting this requirement.



What Global
English NET
Graduates
have to say:



[CLICK HERE](#)

Teaching Practice

How does the teaching practice work?

You find a school or volunteer organisation where you can teach or observe lessons for a minimum of 10 hours (primary) or 20 hours (secondary). You enrol onto the same programme for both schemes, and if you need 20 hours, just extend the teaching on the teaching timesheet. It's the same price.

Can my teaching practice be online?

Online teaching still counts towards teaching practice, providing it is observed by a qualified English language teacher. This became the norm in lockdown, and we are not aware (as of October 2022) that the EDB have changed those requirements.



[Where can I enrol?](#)

Just add the 10-hour Hong Kong Teaching Practice course to your shopping cart from [here](#)>>

What about benefits, cost of living?

As a Native-speaking English Teacher (NET) in Hong Kong, you can expect a competitive remuneration package complemented by various benefits. Understanding the financial aspects and the cost of living is crucial for effective planning and a smooth transition to life in Hong Kong.

Salary Structure:

- **Basic Salary:** NETs are remunerated on the Master Pay Scale (MPS) of the civil service, with salaries ranging from MPS Point 15 to Point 33. As of the latest available data, this corresponds to approximately HK\$26,785 to HK\$62,235 per month. The exact salary point is determined based on your qualifications and post-qualification teaching experience.



What about benefits, cost of living?

Fringe Benefits:

- **Special Allowance:** For NETs whose normal place of residence is outside Hong Kong, a Special Allowance is provided to assist with living expenses. This allowance is designed to offset the higher cost of living and accommodation in Hong Kong.
- **Passage and Baggage Allowance:** Eligible NETs receive allowances to cover relocation expenses, including airfare and baggage shipment, facilitating a smoother transition to Hong Kong.
- **Medical Insurance:** Comprehensive medical insurance is provided, ensuring access to quality healthcare services during your tenure.



What about benefits, cost of living?

Cost of Living:

Hong Kong is renowned for its vibrant city life and dynamic culture, but it's also known for a relatively high cost of living.

- **Accommodation:** Housing is a significant expense, with rental costs varying based on location and size. Many expatriates choose to live in areas like Central, Wan Chai, or Tsim Sha Tsui, where rents are higher but proximity to amenities is advantageous.
- **Utilities and Groceries:** Monthly utilities (electricity, water, gas) and grocery costs can add up, but local markets and eateries offer affordable options.
- **Transportation:** Hong Kong boasts an efficient public transportation system, with reasonable fares for buses, trams, and the MTR (Mass Transit Railway).

Some NET teachers are also eligible to receive special allowances for rental payments and medical bills etc. It is possible to save on a teacher's salary in HK, and while rent is incredibly high in certain districts, it is much cheaper in others.



When are decisions on NET candidates made?

Most candidates are selected in March of each year, so you'll need to be in the process of completing a TESOL certificate or preferably have your qualifications ready in advance.

For more information on the NET scheme, see the EDB website [here](#).

For more information on training for the NET scheme with Global English TESOL, [please email us here](#)>>. We'd love to help you get trained and succeed as a NET!