

Teaching Positions in Baicheng, Jilin, China

Attention Couples and Singles!!

How does this sound: Teaching in a small Chinese city of 300,000 people where the bicycle and pedi-cab to car ratio is still quite high and where the sight of donkeys and horses pulling their cart loads of fruit and vegetables to be sold on the street corner is prevalent. Interest piqued? Then you will love Baicheng.

That was the clincher for me.

First let us introduce ourselves to you. We are Americans who has been teaching here in Baicheng since August 2006. Currently there are five foreign teachers from America at Baicheng Normal College and numerous Chinese English teachers. We have really enjoyed our experience here and would like to give others interest in teaching in China the same opportunities we were given.

We are not recruiters.

We are simply helping the college find new teachers for the 2007/2008 school year because we have truly enjoyed our stay here. We really want to find good people to help the students continue to improve their Spoken English over the next year(s).

Baicheng Normal College is located in Baicheng City, northwest Jilin Province near the border with Inner Mongolia. The college was founded in 1958 by the State of China and is a not-for-profit school. The English Department was added to the school in 1979. Since its inception, the English program has continued to grow and in Spring 2002, was promoted to a 4-year Bachelor degree program. In the year (2002/2003) the English department also began to offer a Major in English geared towards the tourism business industry. The English program currently has about 700 students and will take on approximately 160 more next year.

What the College is looking for:

Native English Speakers only!

Applicants should be easy-going and energetic teachers. A Bachelor of Arts degree is a minimum requirement. TEFL and China experience preferred.

Ideally we are looking for a teaching couple with an interest in China and Chinese culture. Singles are also welcome to apply.

The Job: The positions are to teach oral English to students aged 18-23 who are full-time English students. One position will be open for an American Literature and oral English teacher. You have near-complete autonomy in the classroom.

Salary: 4,000 RMB - competitive with all teaching jobs in China, especially since the cost of living here (in the Northeast) is so low. In fact a single person can easily live very well on 800 RMB a month. A salary of 4,300 RMB for teachers who stay a second year and 4,600 RMB for teachers who stay a third year is provided. There are also other teaching opportunities in the community to earn extra money.

750 USD travel allowance: As well, a school official will meet you in Beijing about one week prior to the beginning of the contract and provide transportation to Baicheng from Beijing.

2 months paid vacation in January and February. Exact dates may vary depending on when the vacation ends and begins.

The Contract: Start on August. 26, 2007. You should arrive in Beijing on or before Aug. 22, 2007 to be met by a representative(s) of the college who will bring you to Baicheng. We will leave Beijing on Aug. 23rd.

Contract is through July 10, 2008. Foreign teachers are provided with an office to meet with students, which has a computer and printer, and the school has a modern lecture hall complete with computer (with Office, PowerPoint, etc.), VCD player, projection TV, and digital overhead projector.

Hours: Up to 20 hours per week. You are a member of the faculty and are given near-complete autonomy in your classes. Your time outside of teaching is your own and you do not need to stay on campus when not in class.

Housing: The provided housing is excellent. There are brand new (completed September, 2003) spacious and bright on-campus apartments, which are much larger than the average teacher apartment in Japan. Each apartment is 51 square meters or 520 square feet.

Each apartment has: 1 Bedroom, Living Room, Kitchen, Bathroom . Also, 1 queen sized bed, wardrobe, satellite TV, VCD player, sofa, 2 reading chairs, coffee table and TV stand, desk and chair, desktop computer with free Internet connection, shelving, oven, fridge, stove, microwave, sink, water cooler, kitchen table, western toilet, hot shower, and clothes washing machine.

All utilities, except for long distance telephone calls and gas for cooking, are paid for by the college.

The apartments are fully equipped with good heating system, dishes, cookware, bedding, an extra electric heater and sundry items.

Other Perks: Although there is no formal Chinese instruction, the students are all eager to help you learn Chinese. The neighborhood is filled with excellent and inexpensive restaurants and shopping is a short taxi or pedi-cab ride away. There are many fruit and vegetable stands within a half block radius of the apartment. We have not had any reasonable request denied by the school, including changing vacation times and teaching times.

At the east campus, there is gym available to teachers. You can use the body building machine, the free weights, treadmill machine, table tennis, and the punching bag. The gym, also known as the parlor, is equipped with a brand new Karaoke machine, plus DVD/VCD machine.

Letter of invitation (required for Visa) provided. Work permit and Foreign Expert Card will be provided at school.

Direct trains to cities like Beijing - 15 hours, Changchun - 4 (the capital of Jilin Province, air travel to most places in China), Jilin City - 7 hours, Dalian - 14 hours, Harbin - 6 hours, and many others. Baicheng is in the middle of a small train hub with connections to many places.

Contact: teachinbaicheng@hotmail.com or teachinBCTC@hotmail.com

The students and the cultural exchange are definitely the best things about working here in Baicheng. The only potential drawbacks to the job are the lack of utilities (sometimes the water and electricity are turned off for hours at a time) and the location, although for us this has not been a drawback at all. Baicheng City is not modern China (i.e., Shanghai). It is a city of roughly 300,000 people in a quiet corner of Dongbei (Northeast China). Dongbei is cold (-30 C) and Baicheng is no exception. The upside is that you will have the months of January and February off to enjoy the warmer climates of Southeast Asia. The city is surrounded by farms (which are only a 10-minute bike ride from the school) and has no major industry, leaving the air very fresh and mostly unpolluted. The tap water is drinkable and the people are wonderfully welcoming. Of course, one of the highlights is the presence of donkeys and horses, as they add a charm that you simply cannot find in a city like Beijing or Shanghai!

The following is the listing for Baicheng Normal College in [China's 2002 Guide to Employment of Foreign Experts](#) in the Field of Culture and Education:

Baicheng Normal College is nestled in the west of Jilin Province, on the Kerqin Prairie in Baicheng City, commonly known as the City of Cranes. Also found in Baicheng City is Xianghai Nature Park, an idyllic place which plays host to many nesting cranes, Mongolian Huangyu trees, and other rare plant and animal species.

Baicheng Normal College is a public college, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Educational Ministry of China and is funded by Jilin Province. Founded in 1958, it has developed into a regional and comprehensive four-year college. Its main focus is Teacher Education, however, other technically based education is also offered. Currently Baicheng Normal College employs 346 professional teachers and boasts a student population of over 6300, plus 1800 of who are correspondence students.

The school sits on a 521,000 square meter campus lined with trees and other greenery. Foreign teachers are provided with a fully furnished apartment with amenities including furniture and appliances, water, electricity, heat, local phone and computer - long distance phone calls and Internet are extra. Since 1989, we have hired over 30 Foreign Expert teachers with excellent results. All Foreign Experts, scholars and students are welcome. We here at Baicheng Normal College sincerely hope you will come to our college to teach, to share in a wonderful cultural exchange and to learn together with us.