



FAQs

Teaching Pathways & Local Opportunities

What pathways are available to become a certified teacher?

Holders of an Associate Degree in Education may enroll in a Bachelor's Degree programme, locally at the University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI) (primary education only) or an accredited/registered educational institution overseas. This should be followed by enrollment in a Postgraduate Certificate Education (PGCE) programme at an accredited/recognised educational institution. Learn more at <https://www.ucci.edu.ky/postgraduate-certificate-in-education>.

What is a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE), and why is it important?

A PGCE from an accredited/registered institution certifies individuals with degrees in other fields to teach. It is important as it fulfills the professional training component required for teachers in the Cayman Islands.

Do I need a postgraduate qualification to teach in the Cayman Islands?

If you already have a Bachelor's degree without teacher training, a post-graduate certificate in education (PGCE) or equivalent is often required to meet teaching standards.

Can I apply to teach if I hold only a post-graduate qualification without a teaching degree?

Yes, applicants with a PGCE or equivalent post-graduate qualification in teaching are eligible, provided they have relevant experience and subject expertise.

Does the Cayman Islands Government offer any financial support for teacher training at UCCI?

Yes, the Ministry of Education provides scholarships and funding support for Caymanian students pursuing a degree in primary education at UCCI and other accredited/registered educational institutions.

I am currently pursuing my academic studies (locally/overseas) and am interested in an internship within the public schools. How can I apply?

Contact the recruitment team at edu.recruitment@gov.ky, providing a cover letter, resume, and transcript. Placements are subject to availability and review by the recruitment team.



As an educator, I'm seeking available career opportunities within the government school system. What is the application process?

Vacancies within the Cayman Islands Government, including the Department of Education Services, are published on careers.gov.ky. The annual recruitment cycle for school-related vacancies typically begins in November but may be extended as vacancies arise.

Are there opportunities to volunteer within a public school?

Volunteers are welcome in Cayman Islands public schools. Interested individuals should contact edu.recruitment@gov.ky or hrservicesedu@gov.ky for information on available opportunities. However, all volunteers will have to undergo the relevant Child Safeguarding training.

As a prospective candidate, are there opportunities for professional development and training in the public school system?

The Ministry of Education and the Department of Education Services support lifelong learning by embedding professional development days into the academic calendar for system-wide, school, and team training sessions.



Application and Employment Process

Do I need a work permit to teach in the Cayman Islands?

Yes, all non-Caymanian teachers need a valid work permit, which is facilitated by the Ministry of Education or Department of Education Services.

How long are teaching work permits valid in the Cayman Islands?

Work permits for teachers are typically valid for 1 to 2 years and must be renewed based on continued employment and Ministry guidelines.

Are housing and relocation allowances available for teachers relocating to the Cayman Islands?

Many schools and government positions provide relocation assistance, housing allowances, or temporary accommodation for new teachers.

Is school placement available for my dependent children as a new hire?

Due to high demand, placement in public schools may be limited. Queries should be directed to the Department of Education Services school registration team at edu.registration@gov.ky or by visiting the school registration page.

Can teachers from outside the Cayman Islands bring family members with them?

Yes, teachers may bring family members, but they must consider visa requirements and the cost of living. Work permits are generally issued only to the teacher, so spouses or partners may need to secure their own employment permits if they plan to work.



General FAQs

What is the standard teaching schedule like in Cayman Islands public schools?

The school year generally begins in late August and ends in June, with scheduled breaks for holidays, mid-terms, and summer. Teachers follow a typical five-day work week, and each day includes instructional time, planning periods, and professional development as needed.

Are there resources or support networks available for new teachers adjusting to the Cayman Islands?

Yes, the Ministry of Education and the Cayman Islands Department of Education Services offers resources, orientation programmes, and peer support to help new teachers familiarize to the public education system.

Does the Cayman Islands Government offer incentives for teachers to stay long-term?

The government offers competitive salary packages, professional development, and opportunities for career advancement.

What are the classroom sizes and student-to-teacher ratios in public schools?

Classroom sizes can vary, but public schools in the Cayman Islands aim to maintain manageable student-to-teacher ratios. Typically, primary school classes have fewer than 25 students, though numbers may differ based on grade level and school resources.

Is there support for teachers in managing students with special educational needs?

Yes, public schools in the Cayman Islands have resources and trained staff to support students with SEN. The Department of Education Services provides specialized training, and many schools have SEN coordinators to assist teachers with accommodations and strategies.

Are there specific cultural considerations I should be aware of when teaching in the Cayman Islands?

Cayman culture is diverse, with influences from the Caribbean, British, and American traditions. Teachers are encouraged to respect and integrate local customs, cultural values, and community engagement into their teaching practices.