

SPIRIT

cultural exchange

Foreign Credential Evaluation Guide

J-1 Teacher Program

What is a Foreign Credential Evaluation (FCE)?

A Foreign Credential Evaluation (FCE) is an official assessment of your academic degree to determine its U.S. equivalency. For the J-1 Teacher Program, an FCE is required to confirm that you hold the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor's degree in Education, Teaching, or the academic subject you intend to teach.

The evaluation is completed by an independent credentialing agency that is accepted in the U.S. state where you will teach.

Cost & Processing Time

The FCE ranges in cost from approximately \$150-\$225 dollars. The process can take anywhere from 7-15 business days.

Additional services (such as transcript translation, verification, or expedited processing) may result in extra fees. Spirit recommends comparing multiple organizations to find the option that best fits your budget and needs.

Accepted FCE Organizations

Spirit does not endorse specific organizations. However, the following credential agencies are commonly accepted by the U.S. states where Spirit places J-1 teachers. If you choose an organization that is not listed below, please consult Spirit to confirm that the organization is accepted within the state you plan to teach. Pricing may change, so it is best to contact each organization directly for up to date fees and to request a Course-by-Course evaluation (required for certification/licensure purposes).

The Evaluation Company

Estimated Cost: \$150+, but Spirit applicants can use [this link](#) for a discount

Note: Not accepted in California

World Education Services (WES)

Estimated Cost: \$160-\$200+

International Education Research Foundation (IERF)

Estimated Cost: \$165-\$185+

Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)

Estimated Cost: \$160-\$195+