

K12 ACADEMICS — TEACHING ABROAD SERIES

Teaching in Namibia

A guide for aspiring & qualified teachers — how teaching in Namibia works, the routes and requirements, visas, pay, and how to find the right role.



Find Your Community
2026 EDITION

The world's largest education resource.

Online since 2004, K12 Academics has helped millions of families, students and educators **find the right school, college, camp, business and program in their community** — for every kind of learner.

A SMALL, VOLUNTEER-LED MARKET WITH STUNNING SCENERY

Namibia is a **small, largely volunteer** market where **English is the official language**, set amid stunning desert-and-safari scenery. Paid roles exist mainly at private and international schools. Roles span **schools, volunteering, and international schools**. This program-neutral guide covers the **routes, requirements, the work visa, and pay**, and points you to the K12 Academics directory to find roles.

General guidance, not legal, immigration, or employment advice. Rules, pay, and requirements change and vary by employer. The details here are recent examples and **must be confirmed with Namibia's immigration authorities and each employer**. K12 Academics does not run or endorse any specific program — use the K12 Academics directory to find and compare your options.

Understand Why Teachers Choose Namibia

WHAT TO KNOW

Namibia offers **English as an official language, spectacular desert-and-safari scenery, safety by regional standards, and meaningful volunteer work** — a small, photogenic market best for community-minded teachers.

BY THE NUMBERS

English

is official

Volunteer-led

+ some paid

Stunning

scenery

HOW TO HELP

Weigh Namibia's **scenery and safety** against a small, largely volunteer market — for community work in a stunning country, it's a rewarding, off-the-trail choice.

WATCH OUT

The market is **largely volunteer-led**, with some paid roles at private and international schools — best for community-minded teachers.

Understand the Types of Teaching Roles

WHAT TO KNOW

Route types include: **volunteer and NGO/community programmes** (the main route, often a modest stipend plus board), **private and international schools** (the best pay, for licensed teachers), and **language and support roles**. Most are in and around **Windhoek**. Browse and compare options in the **K12 Academics directory**.

BY THE NUMBERS

Volunteer/NGO

main route (stipend + board)

Int'l schools

best pay (licensed)

Base

Windhoek

HOW TO HELP

Match the **route to your profile** — a volunteer/community programme, or an international school if licensed — then find options in the K12 Academics directory.

GOOD TO KNOW

Find and compare **specific schools, language centres, and recruiters** in the K12 Academics directory — this guide stays program-neutral.

Check the Requirements

WHAT TO KNOW

Because English is official and used in schools, roles focus on **English support and subject teaching**. A **TEFL, a degree, and native or near-native English** are commonly expected; **international schools** also want a **licence and experience**. **Volunteer roles** are more flexible.

BY THE NUMBERS

TEFL + degree

commonly expected

Int'l schools

licence + experience

Volunteer

more flexible

HOW TO HELP

Line up your credentials — a **TEFL and a degree** (native or near-native English) are commonly expected; international schools want a licence and experience, and volunteer roles are more flexible.

GOOD TO KNOW

Volunteer and community roles are the **most accessible** — often a TEFL and enthusiasm suffice.

Understand the Visa & Work Authorization

WHAT TO KNOW

Paid teaching requires an **employer-sponsored work visa**, arranged by your school or programme with your documents; **volunteer programmes** typically arrange the appropriate permits. Secure a role first, and confirm current rules with Namibia's immigration authorities.

BY THE NUMBERS

Work visa

employer-sponsored

Volunteer

permits arranged

Secure

a role first

HOW TO HELP

Know your route — paid teaching needs an **employer-sponsored work visa**, and volunteer programmes arrange the appropriate permits; secure a role first.

GOOD TO KNOW

Reputable schools and **organized volunteer programmes** arrange the permits — a help for newcomers.

Know the Pay & Benefits

WHAT TO KNOW

Salaries are **modest**: **volunteer roles** often pay a stipend of around **\$350/month plus board**, and **international schools pay the most**. The low cost of living means paid work covers daily life, though substantial saving is unlikely — the reward is scenery and community impact.

BY THE NUMBERS

Volunteer

~\$350/mo + board

Int'l schools

pay the most

Low cost

covers daily life

HOW TO HELP

Set expectations — volunteer roles pay a stipend (~\$350/month plus board), international schools most; the low cost of living covers daily life.

GOOD TO KNOW

The reward is **scenery and community impact**, not savings — pay is modest in a small market.

Understand Contracts & What to Watch For

WHAT TO KNOW

Clarify whether a role is **paid or a volunteer stipend (plus board)**, and check **hours, pay, and permit support**. International schools offer the fullest packages. Favour reputable schools and established programmes, and confirm terms in writing.

BY THE NUMBERS

Clarify

paid vs stipend

Int'l schools

fullest packages

Favour

established programmes

HOW TO HELP

Read every offer for **whether it's paid or a stipend, hours, and permit support**, and favour reputable schools and established programmes.

GOOD TO KNOW

For volunteering, favour **established, organized programmes** with a good track record.

Get Qualified & Prepared

WHAT TO KNOW

Earn an **accredited TEFL** and have a **degree** (native or near-native English is commonly expected); international schools want a **licence and experience**. For volunteering, enthusiasm suffices. Prepare your documents, and decide between **paid work and a volunteer placement**.

BY THE NUMBERS

TEFL + degree

commonly expected

Int'l schools

licence + experience

Decide

paid vs volunteer

HOW TO HELP

Get an **accredited TEFL** and a degree (a licence and experience for international schools), and decide between paid work and a volunteer placement before you go.

GOOD TO KNOW

For volunteering, **enthusiasm and adaptability** matter most — a welcoming way to gain experience.

Plan the Hiring Timeline

WHAT TO KNOW

International and private schools recruit **ahead of the school year**; **language centres, NGOs, and volunteer programmes** hire more **year-round**. Because much hiring is local or programme-based, reaching out directly helps. Allow time for the work permit.

BY THE NUMBERS

Int'l schools

ahead of the year

Language/volunteer

year-round

Reach out

directly

HOW TO HELP

Plan around the calendar — international and private schools recruit ahead of the year, language centres and programmes year-round — and reach out directly.

GOOD TO KNOW

Much hiring is **local or programme-based** — reach out to schools and programmes directly.

Prepare for the Move

WHAT TO KNOW

You **don't need a local language to teach** (English is official). Most roles are around **Windhoek**, the calm, compact capital. Namibia is safe by regional standards, sparsely populated, and stunning — the Namib Desert, Etosha's wildlife, and Sossusvlei's dunes.

BY THE NUMBERS

English

official (no barrier)

Base

Windhoek

Stunning

& safe

HOW TO HELP

Prepare practically — no language barrier (English is official); most roles are around Windhoek, in a safe, stunning, sparsely populated country.

GOOD TO KNOW

Beyond the classroom, Namibia offers the **Namib Desert, Etosha's wildlife, and Sossusvlei's dunes** — spectacular and safe.

Find Your Role & Thrive

WHAT TO KNOW

Once you know your route, **find and compare specific schools, language centres, and recruiters in the K12 Academics directory**. Reach out directly, verify each contract and work-permit sponsorship, and build toward international schools. Confirm current rules with the local authorities.

BY THE NUMBERS

Find & compare

schools & recruiters

Reach out

directly

Build

toward int'l schools

HOW TO HELP

Use **the K12 Academics directory** to find and compare schools, language centres, and recruiters, reach out directly, verify each contract and work-permit sponsorship, and build toward international schools.

WATCH OUT

Browse **the K12 Academics directory** to find the specific schools and recruiters that fit your route and goals.

Teaching in Namibia: The Essentials

A snapshot — program-neutral. Confirm details with Namibia's immigration authorities and each employer.

The market

A small, largely volunteer-led market where English is the official language, set amid stunning desert-and-safari scenery; paid roles exist mainly at private and international schools, around Windhoek.

The routes

Volunteer and NGO/community programmes (the main route, often a stipend plus board), private and international schools (the best pay, for licensed teachers), and language and support roles — find and compare in the directory.

Requirements

Because English is official and used in schools, roles focus on English support and subject teaching; a TEFL, a degree, and native or near-native English are commonly expected; international schools want a licence and experience; volunteer roles are more flexible.

Visa

Paid teaching requires an employer-sponsored work visa, arranged by your school or programme; volunteer programmes typically arrange the appropriate permits; secure a role first.

Pay & move

Modest: volunteer roles often pay a stipend of around \$350/month plus board, international schools most; the low cost of living covers daily life; English is official (no language barrier).

YOUR TEACHING-IN-NAMIBIA JOURNEY STARTS HERE

Find Your Community.

Explore our other Teaching in [Country] guides, and find and compare programs, schools, and recruiters in the K12 Academics directory — among **1,297 free resources**.

tools.k12academics.com →

