



CFTU

China Red Alert No. 89

China Foreign Teachers Union - December 05, 2020 – ChinaForeignTeachersUnion@gmail.com

In response to numerous inquiries we've received this year, we felt it is best to put this out to our membership as an alert and reduce the work load on our volunteers who have to answer 50-100 emails every day. Also we do not have the resources to review your employment contracts one by one. Likewise, we do not evaluate every single one of the 79 TEFL Courses being offered on line (The CTA does that and sometimes if many complaints are received, we will ask China Scam Patrol and/or China Scam Watch to investigate especially if they are operating in China.

1) It is against China Labor laws for any recruiter, job, agent, or headhunter to collect ANY portion of your wages on a monthly or any or regular basis. Their fees are capped at one (1) month's salary. This is why you should only sign one "Employment Contract" with your direct employer, not a broker, agent, or recruiter that you obtain DIRECTLY from your direct employer. Read more here:

<https://chinaforeignteachersunion.wordpress.com/2020/10/23/most-expats-including-art-ib-subject-and-tefl-teachers-cheat-themselves-out-of-10000-every-year-by-signing-illegal-employment-contracts/>

2) It also against the labor laws of China for any job agent, recruiter, or headhunter to offer, solicit for, recruit, contract, or employ any foreigner for any job within China unless they have a SAIC business license, a tax identification number from the Ministry of taxation, and are registered with SAFEA. Here is a link to China's Basic Labor Laws in English. If you can read Chinese we can send you all 400+ pages of the complete Labor Law manual pages by email.
<https://govt.chinadaily.com.cn/s/201711/26/WS5c0e1e40498eefb3fe46e833/labor-law-of-the-peoples-republic-of-china.html>

3) TEFL certificates are NOT an official requirement of the Chinese government to teach in China, however a verifiable 4 year degree from an ACCREDITED university and a Z visa (work visa), police certificate, medical certificate, and 2 years verifiable teaching certificates are MANDATORY requirements. HOWEVER, if you never taught English before, we highly urge you to take a 120-150 hour in-class TEFL course offered at an accredited university, not an on-line course. (see our reasons on page 7) Here is an official link to the Chinese government requirements. If some recruiter or agent tells you otherwise they are misleading you as part of a sales pitch <https://english.www.gov.cn/services/workinchina/>

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