



# Foreign Language Assistant Programme

## Introduction

The Foreign Language Assistant Programme, administered by ILEP and the respective donor government organisations, enables young native speakers to be employed as Language Assistants in New Zealand schools for 12 contact hours per week. This provides an invaluable source of up-to-date language and cultural input for New Zealand students of French, German and Spanish.

Some of the specific ways that Language Assistants can support teachers and students include:

- working with individuals and groups,
- general in-class support,
- sourcing and adapting materials and resources for the target language,
- preparing presentations for the class
- language support for teachers.

## Employing a Foreign Language Assistant

Foreign Language Assistants are employed on a part-time 0.6 FTE basis on an Individual Employment Agreement (IEA) for a total of 15 hours (12 hours class contact plus 3 hours preparation and administration time) per week. It is preferable for a Language Assistant to be employed by one school, however, groups of schools often cooperate in sharing a Language Assistant with one of those schools technically the 'employer'. Particular focus is placed on the Ministry of Education's priority groups: Maori and Pasifika students and students with special learning needs.

## Costs Involved

The scheme is available to schools offering languages at secondary, intermediate and primary level. ILEP covers 1/3 of the overall cost of employing a LA. Participating schools cover the balance but often share these across a cluster of schools. In a typical scenario of four schools sharing one Language Assistant, the costs for each school would be approximately \$169.00 - \$197.00 per fortnight.

## Duration

The Language Assistant Programme is for the 2017 school calendar year commencing Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017 (the day after Waitangi Day), through to the end of Term 4, 2017.

## Contact

**Applications for schools to apply close on Friday 1 July, 2016.**

For more information on registering for the employment of Foreign Language Assistants through this scheme please contact our Intercultural Programmes Coordinator, Jennifer Thomson by email: [programmes@ilep.ac.nz](mailto:programmes@ilep.ac.nz) or by phone: 09 623 8899 Ext. 46-377.

