



Visiting International Teacher Permit

General Information

The Visiting International Teacher Permit (VITP) is a one-year permit, which may be renewed annually upon district request, as allowed under United States laws governing the J-1 visa and teacher exchange programs. Currently up to a total of five years is allowed. For the teacher to stay beyond this time, they must meet all requirements for full Connecticut teacher certification.

VITP candidates all have completed a teacher preparation program and have at least two years of teaching experience. Most have much more. They must demonstrate oral proficiency in English, and must come to Connecticut through a program approved by the US Department of State specifically for teacher exchange.

Connecticut currently hosts visiting international teachers from China, teaching Chinese, and from Spain, teaching Spanish as a world language or bilingual education. In addition, we have re-established a pathway to bring teachers from India to teach math and science.

For more information about the VITP, contact:	For information about New Haven's experience with VITPs, contact:
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District Application Process

1. Work with each candidate to submit an ED 170 General Application. Write “Visiting International Teacher Permit” at the top of the form. There is no fee.
2. Assist candidate with registering to take the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI). Information about the ACTFL OPI is at www.languagetesting.com. This test is not required if the candidate can document a score of at least B1 on the Common European Framework Ratings test (CEFR).
3. Prepare a letter, signed by the superintendent, requesting the Visiting International Teacher Permit. This letter should:
 - List each individual candidate;
 - Provide dates of service for each;
 - Include grade levels and subject(s) to be taught;
 - Verify a plan of support is in place for the candidate; and
 - Confirm the applicant holds a valid J-1 visa.
4. Submit the application and letter from the superintendent with copies of the documentation provided by the sponsoring organization (e.g. Cordell Hull, College Board). This documentation should verify:
 - Award of a bachelor’s degree or equivalent;
 - Major studied;
 - Completion of a teacher preparation program;
 - Educator certification in home country; and
 - Teaching experience, including subject and grade levels taught.
5. For renewal of the Visiting International Teacher Permit only, submit an ED 126 documenting successful service under the previous permits.