

FAQs About Teaching at Sahel Academy

1. Is Sahel Academy an 'MK' school?

Sahel Academy was opened in 1986 initially to meet the educational need of SIM missionary families. Since then, its scope has broadened to serve many other families in the community.

2. What nationalities are represented among teaching staff?

Currently we have staff from the U.S., Australia, Canada, and Niger. We have also had staff from the UK and Switzerland.

3. What curriculum is taught at Sahel Academy?

Because each year there are multiple countries represented in our student body, Sahel uses an English speaking international curriculum for grades K-12. The elementary school has 2 grades per classroom and covers all core subjects plus Bible, French, Physical Education, Art and Music. Junior High, grades 7 & 8, is considered part of the secondary school. Curriculum includes all the basic subjects as well as Bible, French, Physical Education, Art and Music. In Grades 9 and 10, students follow curriculum from the University of Cambridge, England, which prepares them to take the International General Certificate of Secondary exam (IGCSE). Grades 11-12 provide courses that will prepare students for future studies. Advanced Placement courses are available through online instruction.

4. What would a typical school year look like?

School typically starts in mid-August for teaching staff and ends near the beginning of June. We have 2 mid-semester breaks, one in October and one in March/April, as well as 2-3 weeks off around Christmas. There are also some half days built into the calendar as Professional Development days for staff.

5. What are the certification and experience requirements for teachers at Sahel Academy?

A teaching certificate and experience is preferred. All teachers must hold a bachelor's degree at minimum.

6. Would I have to go through a sending mission or church to come teach at Sahel Academy?

Yes, all staff at Sahel Academy are connected with a sending mission or church.

7. How do I find a mission organization?

You may follow the links on our website under the "About Us" tab to four of our partner missions (SIM, SIL, CRWM, & EBM), or research other mission organizations on your own.

8. Is there a minimum term of service for staff?

Length of service requirements vary depending on the needs of the school and your position. Teachers need to commit to a minimum of one academic year.

9. Do Sahel Academy staff receive a salary?

No. All Sahel Academy staff come as volunteers, as missionaries through various organizations, and must raise finances through supporting churches, friends and family. Your mission agency will set the amount needed to be raised.

10. How will I find a place to live?

Sahel Academy has some housing available to rent either on campus or nearby. Your mission organization can also help you in locating housing in Niamey available to rent.

11. What is it like to live in Niger?

Niger offers a unique cultural experience you will never forget. There are many great opportunities you can take advantage of, from camel riding, visiting the National Wildlife Preserve, shopping in the colorful markets, and developing friendships with Nigeriens from many people groups. The weather is quite hot, although there is a cool season for 3 months of the year, and a rainy season for another 3 months. While working at Sahel, you can take advantage of opportunities to get involved in local ministries as well, such as ministering at a local orphanage, teaching English classes to eager students at the University Outreach Center, and getting involved in a local church.

12. What is the process a person goes through to get to Sahel Academy?

Determine a mission organization with which you would like work and complete their application and training processes. You will then work through your mission organization to coordinate with Sahel Academy regarding your placement here.

Raise all needed funds.

13. How long does it usually take to complete this process?

The time needed to complete this process can vary widely, depending on how quickly you are able to complete your mission's application and training process and how quickly your funds are raised. In general however, the process can take about a year.