

## Thailand Host School FAQ

### **When does the school year begin and end?**

The school year runs from mid-May to mid-March. There is a two-week break in October and a two-month summer break between March and May.

### **What is a typical school day? How many classes per day?**

Students attend school Monday through Friday. The day usually starts at 8:00am and finishes around 3:30pm. Normally there are seven-eight classes per day, each about 50 minutes long. An assembly is held each morning in which the national anthem is sung while the Thai flag is raised.

### **In what type of school will I be enrolled?**

AFS students are placed in public secondary schools supported by the Ministry of Education.

### **In what grade level will I be enrolled?**

Most AFS students are enrolled in upper secondary levels (grade 10 – 12).

### **Will I be able to choose my classes? What classes are available?**

AFSers can choose among a variety of “programs”, depending on their interests. The Science program (chemistry, physics, biology and mathematics are main subjects) and the Mathematics-English program (Mathematics and English languages are main subjects) are the most popular. Some school may also offer foreign language programs in which a variety of foreign languages such as Chinese, French, Japanese, and German are main subjects. Most AFS students are placed in the Math-English or Foreign languages program. Students will also be able to choose from a variety of non-academic classes such as cooking, Thai dancing, music, arts, sports, handicraft, or Buddhism.

Each student will be assigned an advisor who will help them choose their classes based on their interests and academic needs. Normally, students take non-academic classes and Thai language classes at the beginning of the school year while they familiarize themselves with the new language. Later, the advisor can help them choose more academic classes as well.

### **In what language will classes be taught?**

All instruction, with the exception of foreign languages, is done in Thai.

### **Will I need to buy a uniform, books, or other school supplies?**

All schools require a uniform, which is provided. Textbooks are normally provided by host schools. AFS Thailand gives each students Thai language book.



*Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures*

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### **Are extra-curricular activities available?**

Schools offer academic, sport, and recreational clubs that meet both after school and for one period a week during school sessions. AFSers are strongly encouraged to join a club. Students can also start a club, and should speak to their school advisor if they wish to do so.

### **Are high school graduates accepted?**

Yes. Keep in mind: graduates must be recent grads (less than three months since high school graduation), they must still be within the program age ranges, they must demonstrate that they understand they will be expected to participate fully in school, and they must understand that they may be placed in school with students younger than them.

### **Can I get an official transcript or a certificate of attendance?**

Yes. AFS Thailand presents a certificate of participation to each student, and Thai schools can provide a transcript of grades or academic performance. Students should inform their school advisors what, if any, official documents they need.

### **Can I get academic credit for my study abroad?**

Maybe, but we can't guarantee it. The amount and type of credit you receive is determined by your high school in the U.S. so it's important that you talk with your teachers and guidance counselor before you depart to see what is needed in order to be granted credit. In most cases, AFS students have received language, history, or social studies credits. Be sure to keep a copy of any formal grades or transcripts you receive from your host school. It is your responsibility to obtain any written information about your attendance and grades in your host school before you return home. AFS cannot assist you with course or grade information after you complete the program.

Read tips on how to [Get Academic Credit for your AFS Experience.](#)