

## English Fluency Program 2023: FAQ

The English Fluency Program at [the SEGA Girls' School](#) in Morogoro, Tanzania will take place on **October 4 - 22, 2023**. We are connecting with you because you have stated you are interested in participating, and we are excited to share further information with you!

We have a FAQ section below with key information as we currently know it. We are in the early stages of organizing this year's trip, so more information will be shared in the weeks and months to come!

### FAQ

#### **1. What are the 2023 English Fluency Program dates?**

- The program is scheduled from October 4 - October 22, 2023! We will arrive in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday, October 4, and depart on Saturday, October 22. Please book your flights to arrive either at 2 PM, 5 PM, or 7 PM if possible so that we can coordinate group transportation to the Mediterraneo Hotel. We will be there for SEGA's 11th annual graduation too!

#### **2. Which students will be participating in the English Fluency Program?**

- SEGA's Pre-Form 1 students will be participating in the program, as in previous years. With more than 120 tribal languages spoken in Tanzania, most students arrive at the school speaking a local language from their home communities and Kiswahili. Kiswahili, the national language, is generally their second language and the language spoken and taught in Tanzanian primary schools. In secondary school, instruction switches to English presenting a huge challenge to most students as they transition from having one English course in primary school, to having all of their subjects, like physics, history, and commerce taught in English. SEGA prepares students for English fluency through English immersion and fluency curricula conducted by teachers and volunteers.

#### **3. Who is leading the English Fluency Program?**

- Nurturing Minds Cultural Exchange Coordinator Myranda along with the group of curriculum developers and return volunteers!

**4. What are the activities of the program?**

- SEGA prepares students for English fluency through English immersion and fluency curricula conducted by teachers and volunteers. The goal is to prepare students for academic success by providing essential lessons to help the students become fluent in English. The program focuses on building confidence and becoming more comfortable with speaking English.

**5. What will I be doing every day?**

- We have built and designed a well-balanced itinerary that keeps our target goal and objective of the program in mind, allows for ample opportunities to get to know the students, and we have planned excursions outside of SEGA's campus for you to explore Morogoro and Tanzania! While on campus you and your counterpart volunteer teachers will lead morning and afternoon lessons, fun activities, and reading sessions. We have a highly detailed lesson plan which provides volunteer teachers with very specific lessons, games, and activities that are easy to follow and implement. Outside of the program, there are cultural exchange opportunities such as chapati cooking lessons and Katanga tying lessons. We want you to explore and enjoy your time in Tanzania, and we have planned a weekend safari trip to Mikumi National Park, a visit to the University's renowned APOPO Facility in Morogoro, a day trip to hike the Uluguru Mountain to the Choma Waterfall, followed by lunch at the Choma Village with a soil cake-making demonstration!

**6. How do I book?**

- We have set up a private WeTravel link for easier booking and managing! Follow the link below to start booking your volunteer experience at SEGA!

**English Fluency Program Booking Page: <https://tri.ps/xO9L8>**

**7. What is included in the land costs?**

- **Single accommodation total land cost is:** \$2,643
- **Double accommodation total land cost is:** \$2,571

*\*\*Single and double accommodation will be available in the Mediterraneo Hotel and Hotel Slipway. The SEGA Visitor House only offers double and triple accommodation rooms on a first-come, first-serve basis. Priority will be given to couples, family, and friends who are traveling together.\*\**

- Included in all land costs are accommodations at the SEGA Volunteer House, accommodation at Hotel Slipway and Mediterraneo Boutique Hotel, food at all hotels and SEGA Volunteer House, excursions around



Morogoro, all tips and gratuities for non-SEGA staff, tips and gratuities for SEGA Volunteer House personnel, all off-campus tours, and activities fees, and all round-trip transportations including drivers tips.

## 8. **What is not included in the land costs?**

- Not included in the land costs are fees pertaining to obtaining a Tanzania Business Visa (\$250 USD), airfare, alcohol, soda, snacks, Travel Health Insurance including emergency medical evacuation, any COVID-19-related costs, and any souvenirs which may be purchased.

## 9. **Is there a deposit?**

- Yes, a deposit of \$500 is required at the time of booking.

## 10. **What is the deadline for booking?**

- The deadline for making a deposit and letting us know you will be volunteering and traveling to SEGA is **at booking**.
- The deadline for making the final payment is **Monday, September 4, 2023**.

## 11. **Is there a payment schedule?**

- We are offering a payment schedule for those who would prefer. You also have the option of making full payment at the time of booking.
  - All Volunteers Pay Deposit: \$500 due by **at booking**
    1. Payment 2 is due by **1 month after booking**.
      - a. **Single accommodation: \$1,071**
      - b. **Double accommodation: \$1,035**
  - Final Payment is **due two weeks before traveling**.
    1. **Single accommodation: \$1,071**
    2. **Double accommodation: \$1,035**

*\*\*Single and double accommodation will be available in the Mediterraneo Hotel and Hotel Slipway. The SEGA Visitor House only offers double and triple accommodation rooms on a first-come, first-serve basis. Priority will be given to couples, family, and friends who are traveling together.\*\**

## 12. **What is the COVID-19 vaccination rate of Tanzania and SEGA Girls' Secondary School?**

- SEGA and Nurturing Minds recommend that all SEGA staff be up to date on COVID-19 vaccines. SEGA has been diligent in hosting 2 COVID-19 health talks and vaccine clinics for teachers and staff. Since November 2022, 28 out of 63 SEGA staff members are vaccinated. 44% of our campus staff is up to date on COVID-19 vaccines.
  - Currently, Tanzania is not vaccinating youth 18 years of age and younger because of this, no SEGA students are vaccinated.



- As of March 2023, a total of 39,392,419 vaccine doses have been administered throughout Tanzania.

**13. What happens if I go to Tanzania and I contract COVID-19?**

- SEGA has developed a COVID-19 response plan to keep all visitors, and the SEGA community healthy and safe. We have identified a local hospital in Morogoro which was established specifically to aid the community with COVID-19. We have identified self-isolating, comfortable spaces for any visitor who may become ill. We highly suggest bringing at-home testing kits with you on your travels and masks, and we will provide thermometers, hand sanitizers, and hand soaps.

**14. Do I need to be up to date on all my COVID-19 vaccinations in order to attend?**

- Yes. Nurturing Minds is requiring, with the goal of keeping the SEGA campus healthy, that all visitors be up to date on all COVID-19 vaccines as recommended by the CDC.

**15. How can I find out more information about traveling and COVID-19?**

- We are advising all travelers to monitor the CDC and the US Embassy in Tanzania websites for all information pertaining to COVID-19 and traveling to Tanzania. You should also register with the **State Departments STEP Program** which will provide you with travel warnings, etc.

**16. I am not a teacher, but I am enthusiastic and want to help! Will I be trained in teaching and the program curriculum?**

- Yes! Our English Fluency Committee will be hosting 4 Zoom training sessions prior to our scheduled departure date to review important information including teaching and the curriculum. Once we arrive we will meet multiple times for Group Planning Sessions to discuss the daily plans, curriculum, and teaching. Every evening after dinner we will debrief, evaluate, and plan for the following day's plan.

**17. What if I do not want to travel to SEGA, but I want to support the program? What are my options?**

- We appreciate all your help in ensuring our program is a success! Donations towards supplies and programmatic expenses along with volunteering on our English Fluency Committee are two very great options to be involved!

**18. Who should I contact if I am interested in participating in this year's program?**

- If you are interested in participating in this year's program contact [myranda@nurturingmindsinafrica.org](mailto:myranda@nurturingmindsinafrica.org)