

JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Alternative Certification Elementary and Secondary (ACES) Program

Application and Training Sequence

Screening Application Deadline: February 1, 2015

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale or a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale on the last 60 hours of credit completed, including undergraduate and graduate coursework.* Applicants interested in middle or secondary certification must have a certain number of college-credit hours. For middle school, 24 college-credit hours of upper-level core subject area courses are needed, and for the secondary level, 30 hours of upper-level core subject area courses are needed.

Please be sure to include all parts of the application as follows:

1. Complete the Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) online employment application.
2. Upload transcripts from all colleges and universities attended. Unofficial copies are acceptable during the application process.
3. Provide three professional references. You may also upload letters of recommendation from these individuals.
4. Provide a teacher writing sample (three pages maximum), addressing the following:
 - What subject/grade you want to teach and why
 - How you plan to have a positive impact on JCPS classrooms
 - How you will create a culturally responsive setting for JCPS students

***Work history, GPA, and major (area of concentration) will be considered in the screening process.**

Submit required materials during the online application process. All materials must be uploaded by **February 1, 2015**.

All candidates will be notified of their progress in the program by mid-February.

Interview/Pre-Assessment

5. Complete written assessments.
6. Complete oral interviews (to be arranged).

Candidates who are selected to continue in the process will be notified by the beginning of March.

Praxis Content Preparation and Exam

7. Commit to completing pre-training activities (April).
8. Successfully complete Core Academic Skill Exam requirements (<http://www.ets.org/praxis/ky/requirements>).

Candidates who are selected to continue in the process will be notified by Sylena R. Fishback.

Summer Training Phase

9. Commit to and successfully complete a nine-week summer training program (approximately \$107 stipend provided for training days). This training is scheduled to begin **June 1, 2015**.
10. Successfully complete Praxis II requirements.
11. Eligibility for interviews with principals and school councils will be determined by the ACES Administration Team.

During both the fall and spring semesters, participants will be required to attend seminars, observe experienced teachers, complete classroom assignments, conduct action research, and complete other related projects as part of their training. This program is intensive. Total commitment of time and effort is necessary for all participants.

Elementary Trainees

While participating in this program, trainees will either work as pairs or with a master teacher in an elementary classroom for the school day. Those with a master teacher are considered residents. Those in pairs will be the teachers of record. Together, they will assume the full responsibility of teaching their class. In addition to the teaching assignment, participants will attend classes in the evenings. Various ACES instructors teach these classes.

Secondary Trainees

While participating in this program, trainees will either be in a teaching assignment or work with a master teacher for the school day. In addition to the teaching assignment, participants will attend classes in the evenings. Various instructors teach these classes.

Continuous Assessment Hallmarks

1. Initial admissions
2. Pass Praxis I and Admissions to Summer Training.
3. Pass Summer Training Professionalism Week (month two of summer).
4. Pass remaining Summer Training, Pass Praxis II, and successful interview with school.
5. Midyear review of classroom teaching experience
6. Successful completion of classroom teaching experience and pass Praxis PLT Exam.

Successful completion of hallmarks results in the issuance of a Statement of Eligibility and graduation from the program. The participants must successfully complete the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program (KTIP) to obtain a full teaching license. During KTIP and subsequent years, participants either remain in place at the training location or transfer (if overstaffed or bumped by a paper transfer).

Compensation

Participants are encouraged to discontinue outside employment while participating in the program beginning in the summer phase. Summer phase compensation is approximately \$108 per day. Once hired by a school, compensation ranges from \$40,000 to \$42,000 per year and participants receive full benefits. For additional information, please contact:

Sylena R. Fishback

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