



DISTRICT GRADUATE PATHWAY OVERVIEW

What is the OSSE Apprenticeship in Teaching Program?

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is excited to announce a new, cost-free opportunity to becoming an Elementary, Early Childhood or Special Education teacher in DC: the OSSE Apprenticeship in Teaching Program!

This innovative new program will remove financial barriers to entering the teaching profession by providing prospective DC educators with a tuition-free bachelor's degree, flexible coursework offerings and paid on-the-job learning. Apprentices who successfully complete the program will be eligible for an OSSE standard teaching credential.

Who is eligible for the District Graduate Pathway?

Any candidate with a high school diploma from a DC high school and fewer than 48 higher education credits is eligible for the **District Graduate Pathway**. District Graduate apprentices will work approximately 30-35 hours a week in placements at DC local education agencies (LEAs), with wages funded by OSSE. This pathway will lead to a bachelor's degree and eligibility for an OSSE standard teaching credential in Special Education, Elementary Education or Early Childhood Education.

What is the benefit of the OSSE Apprenticeship in Teaching Program?

This program has three core components:

- Flexible coursework that leads to a degree
- On-the-job learning in DC public or public charter schools
- Wages that increase based on years of experience

As an apprentice, you will work in a DC school under the guidance of a mentor teacher to learn the skills needed to become an effective, career educator. In the evenings, you will engage in coursework that leads to a bachelor's degree. Coursework is flexible and designed to meet your needs - a combination of hybrid, virtual, asynchronous, and traditional in-person courses will be offered. In exchange for your commitment to teach in DC schools after graduation, your coursework and degree will be cost-free.

How can I learn more about the OSSE Apprenticeship in Teaching Program?

Anyone interested in becoming an apprentice should visit the [OSSE Apprenticeship in Teaching webpage](#) for additional information.

For questions, please email OSSE.Apprenticeship@dc.gov.

SAMPLE PROGRAM TIMELINE: District Graduate Pathway

YEAR 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates are hired as an apprentice and work in a paid placement at a DC public or public charter school for approximately 30 hours per week.• Apprentices take 12-15 credits of coursework per semester.
YEAR 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates are hired as an apprentice and work in a paid placement at a DC public or public charter school for approximately 30 hours per week.• Apprentices take 12-15 credits of coursework per semester.
YEAR 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates are hired as a paraprofessional and work as a full-time employee at a DC public or public charter school.• Apprentices take 12-15 credits of coursework per semester.
YEAR 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates are hired as a paraprofessional and work as a full-time employee at a DC public or public charter school.• Apprentices take 12-15 credits of coursework per semester.
SUCCESS!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates graduate with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education or Special Education.• Candidates apply for an OSSE Standard Credential in Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education or Special Education.• Candidates are hired as a full-time classroom teacher!

SAMPLE DAILY SCHEDULE: District Graduate Pathway Year 1

8 a.m.-2 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apprentices will report to their placement school to participate in the on-the-job learning component of their apprenticeship.• Apprentices will spend the day observing instruction, assisting with classroom management, pulling small groups of students for targeted instruction or tutoring, monitoring lunch or recess, etc.
2-5 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apprentices will release from their placement sites early in order to complete coursework assignments, travel to campus, and tend to other personal needs.
5-8:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apprentices will engage in evening coursework either in-person on campus, virtually or via a hybrid model.