



The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) Adult Educator Scholarship Program

THE INITIATIVE:

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) has forged a partnership with the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), to provide adult educators with the academic training necessary to meet the qualifications for state licensure and/or license renewal, as appropriate. UDC offers a Graduate Certificate in Adult Education (24 credit hours) and a Master of Arts (MA) in Adult Education (36 credit hours). The programs share core courses and design features, permitting the transfer of up to 21 credits earned in UDC's Graduate Certificate program to the MA program. This OSSE/UDC partnership also offers 1-credit modules, workshops and seminars—many of which are aligned with the Graduate Certificate curriculum. Additionally, participation in these courses may meet professional development requirements for adult educators. Information about UDC's program requirements is provided as [Attachment I](#).

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Depending on funding availability, OSSE supports eligible adult educators to pursue academic opportunities that culminate in licensure and/or license renewal, as appropriate. OSSE pays for applicable tuition and fees for eligible adult educators at UDC's graduate resident rate¹, for:

- A. **Up to 10 qualifying adult educators**, who are admitted to UDC's Graduate Certificate program, in the fall semester, to pursue their education at a rate of 6 credit hours of coursework each semester (including summer sessions).
- B. **Up to 10 qualifying adult educators**, who are admitted to UDC's Graduate Certificate program, in the fall semester, to pursue their education at a rate of 3 credit hours of coursework each semester (including summer sessions) and/or at a rate of one thematic module (1 credit) per month.
- C. **Up to 5 qualifying adult educators**, with an earned Master's degree, to have their transcripts analyzed to determine if they could meet the qualifications for licensure, as appropriate.
- D. **Up to 30 adult educators** (per session) to participate in professional development (PD) workshops/seminars provided under the partnership. For license renewal (every 4 years),

¹ Please see Attachment II: UDC's 2018 Tuition and Fee Schedule for Graduate Resident and Metro Tuition Rates.

adult educators are required to earn 120 professional development hours or eight credit hours of coursework.

SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: To be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must meet the following criteria:

A. Education:

1. Hold an undergraduate degree from an accredited university.
2. Meet UDC's admissions requirements² for the Graduate Certificate program.
3. Adhere to the University's requirement that students must pass Praxis Core (Math, Reading, and Writing) to participate in more than nine credit hours of coursework. Praxis Core is mandatory to advance beyond nine credit hours in the UDC teacher education programs; students are not allowed to continue their studies without a Praxis Core passing score. The program uses the cohort model whereby students move through all classes and phases together, and a new cohort is admitted to the program once each year. Failure to meet the Praxis Core requirement may result in a delay in the completion of the program and may cause a discontinuance of the scholarship.
4. To retain the scholarship, students must comply with/exceed the university's retention standard of a "B" or higher in each course (3.0 GPA or above).

B. Employment:

1. For scholarships to credit-bearing Graduate Certificate and/or Professional Development Modules:
 - priority is given to adult educators employed in key positions in adult education programs funded by OSSE AFE, and if space is available, consideration is then given to adult educators who work in other adult education programs in the District of Columbia.
2. For OSSE AFE-sponsored professional development workshops/seminars (non-credit):
 - priority is given to adult educators, volunteers, tutors and/or staff who work in adult education programs funded by OSSE AFE,
 - consideration is then given to adult educators, volunteers and tutors and/or staff who work in other adult education programs in the District Columbia.

² Please see Attachment I: UDC's Adult Education Program and Admissions Requirements

C. **Residency:**

- For scholarships to credit-bearing Graduate Certificate/Professional Development Modules:
 - priority is given to adult educators who reside in the District of Columbia and who are employed in key positions in adult education programs funded by OSSE AFE,
 - priority is next given to adult educators who are employed in key positions in adult education programs funded by OSSE AFE, but reside outside of the District of Columbia, and
 - if space is available, consideration is then given to adult educators who reside within or outside of the District of Columbia and who work in other adult education programs in the District of Columbia.
- For OSSE AFE-sponsored professional development workshops/seminars (non-credit):

All adult educators working or volunteering in adult education programs in the District of Columbia are eligible to participate in professional development workshops/seminars regardless of residency. However,

- priority is given to adult educators, volunteers, tutors and/or staff who work in adult education programs funded by OSSE AFE, and
- consideration is given to adult educators, volunteers, tutors and/or staff who work in other adult education programs in the District Columbia.

D. **Commitment Agreement**

1. Recipients of a Scholarship to the Graduate Certificate program must commit to taking the necessary steps to become licensed within 6 months of successfully completing the necessary academic requirements.
2. Recipients of a Scholarship, who matriculate for a Graduate Certificate in Adult Education, must additionally commit to working with adult learners in an OSSE AFE funded program or another adult education program in the District of Columbia for no less than two years after graduation.

For more information, contact the OSSE Adult and Family Education team at OSSE.AFETA@dc.gov or Dr. Heather Bruce, Adult Education Program Coordinator at heather.bruce@udc.edu.