



Elementary Education Apprenticeship Pathway

Frequently Asked Questions for Prospective Apprentice Teachers

What is a Registered Apprenticeship program?

An apprenticeship program is an industry-driven, "earn-while-you-learn" training model combining paid on-the-job training with classroom instruction. Apprentices are hired employees with structured, hands-on training under the supervision of an experienced mentor. Apprenticeships are registered with the U.S. Department of Labor.

How is this pathway to a degree in elementary education different from the traditional pathway?

This pathway to an education degree is built around on-the-job learning under the guidance of an experienced mentor and allows for the continuation of paid employment as a paraprofessional. It is designed to be flexible and accessible to working students, with coursework that is entirely online and asynchronous. Apprentice teachers will have access to the same curriculum and quality as traditional on-campus students, but with a different way of completing the elementary education degree program.

How much will the program cost me? How do I get financial aid to pay for my tuition?

The exact cost of completing this pathway will vary depending on how many credits you begin the program with. You may qualify for the [802 Opportunity](#) program at CCV or the [Freedom & Unity](#) program at VTSU, both of which provide free tuition for students based on household income. Contact [VSAC](#) for support with determining your eligibility for these programs and for information about completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

You may also have access to professional development funds through your employing school district. Contact your district's central administrative office to learn whether you have access to this benefit.

How do I apply to enroll in the Elementary Education Apprenticeship Pathway?

Contact our Program Manager to find out how to apply based on your individual situation.

I have prior college credits- are they relevant to this pathway?

Your specific circumstances will be reviewed by our Program Manager to determine what your best point of entry is. This program is individualized to you.

Will I have to take time off from working in my current job assignment? Will I still be paid while working as an apprentice?

The Elementary Education Apprenticeship Pathway is designed to allow apprentice teachers to continue to work in their current role while completing coursework and on-the-job learning. Apprentice teachers will be paid by their employing school district throughout the duration of the apprenticeship.

How long will the apprenticeship take me to complete?

Completion time will depend on your specific circumstances (number of classes taken in a semester, prior credits, etc.) Our Program Manager will work with you on a plan.

How much time should I expect to devote to my coursework as an apprentice?

For every course, expect to spend 20 hours a week on coursework. This number may be variable and some of those hours may be integrated into your on-the-job learning.

What qualifications will I have when I complete the apprenticeship program?

Upon successful completion of the program, apprentice teachers will be granted a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education with Special Education, and a recommendation for teacher licensure in Vermont, with endorsements in both Elementary Education (K-6) and Special Education (K-8).

How many credits do I need to enroll in the Elementary Education Apprenticeship Pathway?

There is no minimum required number of credits to enroll.

Program Manager: Rebecca Pastor, email: Rebecca.Pastor@VermontState.edu