

The Inspired Teacher Certification Program

Through a 24-month residency program, Inspired Teaching Fellows are prepared for successful and sustainable careers as teachers and changemakers in Washington, DC while earning a DC teaching license and a Master of Arts in Teaching.

The Inspired Teacher Certification Program is rooted in the belief that teachers, as *Instigators of Thought[™]*, can be changemakers in their classrooms, schools, and society as a whole. Becoming a part of Inspired Teaching means joining a movement to change the way children are educated. Inspired Teaching believes that teachers will ultimately change schools in our country to ensure that all children reach their full potential.

Through a year-long residency, Fellows learn the skills and dispositions of an Inspired Teacher under the guidance of a lead teacher, arming them with the knowledge and experience necessary for a smooth transition into their teaching career. In their second year, as teachers of record in District of Columbia public schools, Fellows continue to receive intensive classroom mentoring. Fellows pursue a Master of Arts in Teaching at Trinity Washington University during both years of the program.

The Inspired Teaching model for teacher preparation ensures that teachers are well-prepared for sustainable and effective careers as urban teachers. A 2013 Fellow reports, “as a new teacher this year, I can proudly say that I am not survival teaching. Though I have innumerable areas where I would like to grow as a teacher, I believe I am serving my students daily as an Inspired Teacher.” Inspired Teaching Fellows significantly outscore peers on nationally normed assessments, and 94% of school leaders report that their Fellows meet or exceed their expectations for first year teachers.

Key aspects of the program:

- **Receive a DC teaching license** in early childhood (preK-3rd) or elementary (1st-6th) education.
- **Experience a residency year** that seamlessly connects theory and practice by training in classrooms of lead teachers and learning best practices while immersed in the realities of daily teaching responsibilities.
- **Earn a Master of Arts in Teaching** from Trinity Washington University through a customized program of graduate coursework.
- **Benefit from intensive classroom mentoring** which provides constructive feedback, instructional coaching, and personal support.
- **Learn to be an Instigator of Thought**, teaching students how to think, not what to think. Through Inspired Teaching's instructional model, students benefit from an education that is inquiry-based and student-centered.
- **Serve as a full-time AmeriCorps member**, joining a national network of individuals committed to public service, and access benefits including a financial education award, childcare benefits and student loan deferment.
- **Join a network of educational changemakers**, and influence the education landscape both inside and outside of the classroom. Work to transform education as a means to achieve social justice by hosting classroom visits, writing for blogs, and presenting at local and national conferences.

What Does It Take to Become an Inspired Teaching Fellow?

Inspired Teaching is interested in attracting passionate, hard-working individuals from all walks of life to become outstanding teachers. Admission is highly selective and is open to recent college graduates, mid-career professionals, early retirees, or others with at least a bachelor's degree and the personal characteristics that will enable them to advance educational reform. Specifically, we are looking for individuals who demonstrate:

- Willingness to embrace teaching the whole child
- Potential for leadership in and beyond the classroom
- Holistic, asset-based approach to problem-solving
- Commitment to self-reflection
- Respect for teaching as a profession
- Fit with Inspired Teaching's mission and values
- High standards of professionalism
- The ability to thrive in an urban school environment

Minimum eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Minimum of a bachelor's degree; must be conferred by June 30, 2015
- US citizenship or permanent resident status
- Minimum GPA
 - If you are a recent college graduate (less than 5 years of work experience): 3.0 on a 4.0 scale OR 3.25 in the major area.
 - If you have more than 5 years of work experience: 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
 - Consideration may be given for outstanding personal/professional achievement.

Center for Inspired Teaching is committed to building a teacher workforce that reflects the diversity of DC's student population. Speakers of languages other than English, and individuals with disabilities are welcome and encouraged to apply; alternative application formats are available upon request.

Apply Online

January 11: Deadline #1

February 16: Deadline #2

March 15: Final Deadline

Visit our website to learn more and apply today:
certification.inspiredteaching.org.



Trinity

