Teacher Fellows is a collaborative effort involving Texas State University and several Central Texas school districts. Through the 15-month program, Teacher Fellows earn master of education degrees in elementary education while working as fully certified teachers in participating school districts. In exchange, experienced teachers (exchange teachers) from these districts are released from classroom assignments to serve as on-site mentors to the Teacher Fellows during their first year.

As on-site mentors, the exchange teachers provide the novice teachers with many types of support: information about procedures, guidelines and expectations of the district; use and availability of materials and resources; teaching and assessment strategies; classroom organization and management; and methods for working with family and community members.

Since 1994, approximately 400 new teachers have participated in the program. Participating school districts currently include Hays CISD, Leander ISD and Round Rock ISD.

“The Teacher Fellows Program was the best experience in my learning career, and I am so proud to say that I was a part of it. Not only was the academic instruction beneficial, but working with other Fellows helped me experience problem solving through shared discussion. Teacher Fellows gave me the opportunity to accomplish goals and succeed in becoming a better educator and a lifelong learner.”

— Erin Devetski Campbell  FORMER TEACHER FELLOW
Course Work

Teacher Fellows complete 36 hours of course work to earn master of education degrees in elementary education. Courses include:

**Summer I (program begins in June)**
- Research in Human Growth and Development
- Classroom Management and Legal Issues

**Summer II**
- Elementary Curriculum
- Integrating Technology

**Fall**
- Research Seminar
- Elementary Teaching Strategies

**Spring**
- Action Research for Practitioners
- Principles and Practices in the Elementary School

**Second Summer I and II**
- 12 hours of electives to be determined with advisor

The first summer I and II session classes meet daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the San Marcos campus and at area elementary schools. During the fall and spring semesters, classes meet each Monday night and one Saturday per month. Monday night classes meet from 5:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the San Marcos campus; Saturday seminars are held at one of the participating campuses. The second summer I and II session classes are electives and will meet as stated in the course schedule.

Admission Policy

The Teacher Fellows Program is open to beginning teachers of pre-K through sixth grade. Admission is a selective, multi-step process that begins with applications being screened by a selection committee. Candidates deemed qualified by the committee then interview with the school districts, which make their final selections during a draft procedure. This entire selection process is completed within five to six weeks after the application deadline.

Each applicant must have or submit:
- a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from a regionally accredited college or university
- an undergraduate GPA of 2.75 or higher
- résumé
- strong recommendations from cooperating teachers and student-teaching supervisors. Three recommendations are required.

Submit the following to the Graduate College:
- the online Graduate College application through ApplyTexas
- application fee
- official transcripts from each college or university attended
- three recommendation forms
- résumé
- background inquiry release form
- A two- to three-page, double-spaced, computer-generated statement of purpose that addresses the following (this statement will be evaluated for content, style and quality):
  1. prior teaching experiences
  2. rationale for pursuing graduate study in the Teacher Fellows program
  3. applicant’s strengths and weaknesses with respect to being admitted into this program

Visit [www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply](http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply) for access to an online application and additional details. Applications to the Graduate College must be postmarked by April 1 of the same year. Applicants must be fully certified to teach by August of the year accepted. The program begins in June, at the start of the summer semester.

Costs and Stipend

Teacher Fellows receive a $18,000 stipend in lieu of a district salary. The stipend is paid in 12 monthly installments beginning September 1. The program also covers all tuition and fees for the 36 semester hours of course work taken during the 15-month program. With the exception of books and materials for elective courses, the program provides all books and materials needed during the program. The program does not pay graduation fees. Please note that program admission priority deadlines must be met in order to be considered for scholarships, fellowships and assistantships.

Contact

Teacher Fellows Program
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education.txstate.edu/ci/degrees-programs/graduate/Teacher-Fellows