



Teach Gwinnett is the teacher alternative preparation program conducted by Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) designed to provide the knowledge and skills needed for 21st century, diagnostic, prescriptive educators. Teacher candidates who successfully complete the requirements of the program will qualify for an Induction Level 1 teaching certificate issued by the state of Georgia. Candidates in the program have between one and three years to demonstrate proficiency in the outlined competencies and dispositions found in the GA TAPP Rule 505-3-.05.

Admissions Criteria

- Bachelor's degree or higher from PSC-Approved Accredited Institution with a GPA of 2.5 or higher
- Passing score on the GACE Program Admission Assessment or proof of exemption
- Completion of the Georgia Educator Ethics- Program Entry (350) modules
- Passing score on GACE content assessment aligned with job assignment, except SPED fields which are required to pass prior to completion
- Have not completed a teacher education program or held any type of teaching certification in any state
- Employed in at least a half-time classroom teaching position in Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) that aligns with certification goals
- Recommended for Teach Gwinnett by GCPS principal

Teach Gwinnett Alternative Preparation Program

Each candidate has an individualized Course of Study that outlines the program requirements for completion. The chart below describes the major program components.

Program Components	Description
Summer Institute	GCPS candidates participate in a mandatory , two-week summer institute that helps to prepare them for the upcoming school year. The institute covers the "Essentials of Effective Teaching", which is a certification requirement from the GA Professional Standards Commission (PSC).
Candidate Support Team (CST)	Candidates will be assigned a support team that consists of a school-based mentor, administrator, and a district appointed supervisor. This team will work with the candidate on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis to ensure the candidate is progressing as a teaching professional and receiving any necessary remediation.
Best Practices Seminars	Throughout the year, Candidates will attend ongoing professional learning seminars on evenings and Saturdays to deepen their pedagogy and work with facilitators to plan and reflect on their implementation of the professional learning.

Field Experiences	Candidates will observe four (4) experienced teachers across the school district. Observations are scheduled by the Teach Gwinnett office and follow PSC guidelines.
Clinical Practice Observation	Each mentor and supervisor will conduct a minimum of four (4) classroom observations and debrief conferences with the candidate. The observations are scored and are part of the candidate's records and measure the candidate's proficiency in the classroom.
Professional Dispositions Inventory	Each member of the Candidate Support Team will complete an evaluation of how the candidates are performing their professional duties, responsibilities, and behaviors (ethics, communication, time management, collaboration, etc.).
Coursework	Candidates will complete coursework throughout the program to demonstrate their understanding of the professional learning and provide evidence and reflection of their implementation of professional learning. *Coursework may vary depending on certification area and college transcripts.
Learning Units	Candidates are required to create two (2) instructional learning unit plans during their first year in the program. Should a candidate continue on for year two or three, only one (1) instructional unit will be required for the subsequent year. All instructional units are scored by the supervisor.
Student Learning Evidence Evaluation	Candidates are required to provide evidence of student learning at three (3) different points in the program using various methods for assessment. The results are analyzed and used to inform adjustments needed in instructional practices to improve student learning.
Portfolio	Candidates are required to complete an electronic portfolio. The portfolio consists of artifacts and reflection items created by the candidate. Guidelines are included in the candidate handbook.
edTPA Assessment	Candidates will complete the edTPA assessment during the second semester of their program. The assessment consists of 3 tasks: planning a learning unit, recording and reflecting on instruction, and providing evidence of student learning.
GACE Assessments	Each Candidate's individualized Course of Study outlines the required GACE assessments required to complete the program based on certification areas.

Mailing Address: Teach Gwinnett Program
Staff Development Office
437 Old Peachtree Road
Suwanee, GA 30024

Email : Teach_Gwinnett@gwinnett.k12.ga.us

Phone: 678-301-7071