

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PRE-EDUCATOR PATHWAY

- **Who do I contact for help funding a PreEducator pathway?** Janet.L.Perkins@ade.arkansas.gov or your local Career and Technical Education Coordinator.
- **Is a Master's degree required for the teacher of the concurrent credit pathway?** Yes, to receive concurrent credit.
- **Does the Masters of Arts in Teaching (MAT) meet requirements to teach the concurrent credit courses for second and third level coursework in this pathway?** Yes.
- **Does any education related-master's degree work for the teacher?**
- **Do students have to wait until senior year to start taking those courses?** No.
- **If it is concurrent, do we need a teacher on campus for those students?** No. All three courses are going to be available through Virtual Arkansas.
- **Will the assessment requirement for entry into concurrent credit be the same as the assessment requirement for the ATR?** Students do need a 2.0 grade point average; however, there is a waiver available for this requirement. A qualifying reading score is not required.

EDUCATORS RISING

- **What is EDUCATOR'S RISING?** Educators Rising is a Career Technical Student Organization that aims to inspire high school and college students to serve their own communities by entering the field of education.
- **How do districts pay for the Ed Rising curriculum?** The department is working on an Arkansas specific curriculum for the Pre-Educator program of study that would be at no cost for all districts and would not require a contract with an outside vendor. This curriculum is currently under development and there will be training this summer 2022 for interested districts. Please contact Janet Perkins for more information.

PARAPROFESSIONALS

- **Could we work with our current instructional aides to follow this path?** YES
- **What about paraprofessionals that already have some child growth and development credit or degree?** If they have a bachelor's degree, they qualify for an alternative pathway for licensure. If they do not, they could work on an Associate's degree through the 2-year university as a cohort with support from the district.
- **How are districts supposed to support the paraprofessional/instructional assistants who are interested?** Create a memorandum of understanding with a local two-year

university to get them enrolled in an Associate's of arts in teaching program. The district could provide information sessions on how to register for the AR Future grant that pays for 100% of tuition and fees for students working on an associate degree in a participating 2-year institution. Provide flexibility of scheduling to support the completion of the associate degree in the arts of teaching.

- **If a paraprofessional already has a bachelor's degree, but not in education, is the residency model right for them?** They are better suited to enroll in an alternative preparation program.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- **What is the AR Future Grant?** This grant enables students to go to any 2-year college and get an Associate's degree at no cost- it covers all tuition and fees. Individuals pursuing a degree in education should verify that the desired community college offers an Associates of Arts in Teaching.
- **Can an individual receive both the Future Grant and the Challenge Scholarship?** Yes.
- **What is the Workforce Challenge?** Part of the Arkansas Challenge Scholarship. The Workforce Challenge is for training classes up to \$800 per training class and materials.
- **How long is a student eligible to receive the AR Future Grant?** Until you earn an Associate degree or after 5 semesters, whichever occurs first.
- **When are current college first-year students who qualify for the ARFuture grant able utilize the grant?** They would qualify beginning with the 2022 Fall semester.
- **What funding is available for individuals attending a 4-year college and/or post Associates Degree attainment?** Arkansas Challenge, Governor's distinguished scholarship, funding for a high need area, funding for working in a region of the state
- **Which areas of study are eligible for the ARFuture grant?** Education, Science, Technology, Engineering, Accounting, Finance, Nursing, Mathematics, Computer Science, Information Technology, Data Analysis, Graphic Design, State High Demand, Regional High Demand

GENERAL QUESTIONS

- **What are the requirements for a Level 1 resident?** A Level 1 resident must have the Certified Teaching Assistant certificate, pass the paraprofessional assessment, and have at least part time employment with a school district
- **What is the difference between a level 1 and a level 2 resident?** Level 2 residents are enrolled in an educator preparation program and employed with a school district. The school district must ensure the job role aligns with the individual program of study.

- **Where can I find a list of partnership colleges and universities?** A list may be found [HERE](#)
- **If a paraprofessional has an associate degree, but it is not in education, can they be a level 2 CTA?**
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