

Teachers of Tomorrow

WHAT IS TEACHERS OF TOMORROW?

Teachers of Tomorrow is a for-profit, national organization founded in Texas in 2005. During the 2017 legislative session, the General Assembly authorized Teachers of Tomorrow as a non-traditional or alternative route to certification. Candidates must have a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution or from an institution with teacher-preparation programs approved for certification purposes by the state of South Carolina and must have earned a GPA of at least 2.5. Candidates must also pass all Praxis Core and subject area assessments. Once in the program, Teachers of Tomorrow candidates participate in 300 hours of comprehensive online and field-based coursework. They also receive on-going support from a Field Supervisor during their first year of teaching. The Field Supervisor works alongside the mentor and school administrator.

Candidates for Teachers of Tomorrow may pursue certification in the following P-12 areas: art, dance, ESOL, health, media specialist, music, physical education, and theatre. Candidates for Teachers of Tomorrow may pursue certification in the following middle level areas: language arts, math, science, and social studies. Candidates for Teacher of Tomorrow may pursue certification in the following high school areas: agriculture, biology, business/marketing/computer technology, chemistry, English language arts, family and consumer science, history, industrial technology, math, physics, science, and social studies.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE GENERAL ATTRIBUTES OF THIS GROUP OF TEACHERS?

While these teachers possess a bachelor's degree or higher, they have not completed a student teaching experience or a teacher preparation program. Some Teachers of Tomorrow candidates are career changers and bring work experience from another field. Alternately, some are traditional college graduates who have just completed a four-year degree and now wish to obtain teacher certification. Similar to PACE teachers, Teachers of Tomorrow candidates are hired as a teacher of record and begin teaching before they are fully certified. The coursework that this group of teachers complete includes instructional rigor and student engagement, lesson preparation and content knowledge, instructional decision making, classroom management, child development, strategies for meeting the needs of all learners, and ethics.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE GENERAL CHALLENGES OF THIS GROUP OF TEACHERS?

These teachers have no experience as a teacher in the public school classroom setting and are completing the program coursework while simultaneously working in the field. As a result, they may feel overwhelmed by the stresses of being both a teacher and a student. Depending on the time of the year and the teacher's progress through the Teachers of Tomorrow curriculum, they may have had little exposure to educational topics such as planning, assessment, instructional strategies, and classroom management. Working with a Teachers of Tomorrow assigned Field Supervisor and mentor, as well as a school-level mentor, may present a challenge for these beginning teachers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TEACHERS OF TOMORROW, GO TO:

<https://www.teachersoftomorrow.org/>