

PROSPECTIVE RESIDENT RESOURCE SHEET

Residency Overview

University Partners for 2019-2019 Cohort: Drexel University, New York University, University of Pennsylvania, Relay Graduate School of Education and Temple University.

Application and Selection Timeline: November 2018 - May 1, 2019. Initiated with one of five partners. Multiple applications are not allowed.

Program Year: July 2019 - June 2020

Helpful Links: [Website](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Praxis](#) | [University 1-pager](#) | [2018-19 Teacher Residents](#)

About the Teacher Residency Program

What is the SDP teacher residency program?

The School District of Philadelphia's (SDP) Teacher Residency Program, now entering its third year of recruitment, is an alternative pathway to teacher certification rooted in deep clinical training. Teacher residents work alongside an experienced (mentor) teacher for a full academic year. Teacher residents take closely linked coursework from a partnering university that leads to a teacher certification (and often a master's degree) at the end of the residency year.

What are the goals of SDP's teacher residency program?

The main goal of the teacher residency program is to attract bright, enthusiastic, talented individuals who want to teach and inspire our youth in the School District of Philadelphia. Specifically, we are focused on recruiting diverse candidates with in-demand certifications to teach in grades 6-12.

What are the benefits to teacher residents?

Among the benefits SDP offers to teacher residents are a comprehensive salary of \$38,611 plus a full benefits package, a tuition stipend of \$7,500, matching with an experienced mentor, assistance with job placement in the District, and structures of support that allow new-to-teaching residents to learn their craft in a supportive, collaborative classroom environment.

What is the time commitment for the teacher residency program?

In total, the resident-to-teacher experience is four years.

- Year 1: Serve as Teacher Resident with support of mentor teacher and aligned university coursework. Teacher residents begin their work in the summer with their university partner.

When the school year begins in the Fall, residents work alongside their mentor teacher for an entire academic year, concluding both their classroom and coursework the following June.

- Years 2-4: Serve as Teacher of Record (must successfully complete the residency year). Residents must continue to work in the district for a full three years after program completion to fulfill District commitment.

Does the Teacher Residency Program offer content areas outside of math, science or English Language Arts (ELA)?

No. Our teacher residency program is designed to meet the District's most pressing teacher shortage area for STEM and ELA content areas for middle and high schools. This means that we cannot accept candidates that are interested in teaching elementary grades, Social Studies, Art, Music, or Physical Education.

Which grades does the residency program serve?

Teacher residents are expected to teach in (upper) middle school or high school (grades 6-12) during and after their residency year. For those seeking middle grades certification, acceptance to the program means that the resident agrees to teach grades 6, 7, or 8. Please note that although Pennsylvania middle grades certification band is grades 4-8, we only accept and place residents in grades 6th or higher.

Can I choose the school where I'm placed as a resident?

No. Residents will be placed in a District host school based on the content area and grade level of their passing Praxis exam and the requirements of their university coursework. Upon completing the residency year, graduates are able to apply to any school within SDP that matches the aforementioned criteria established above.

Is the Teacher Resident Salary Negotiable?

No. The teacher resident salary of \$38,611 is non-negotiable. Residents that successfully complete the program and move into a full-time teacher position after their residency year will see an increase in their salary that commensurates with their education as listed [here](#) in our Teacher Salary Schedule.

Do I have to live in the Philadelphia area to be considered for the program?

Yes. This program requires a hand-on classroom experience and residents will be expected to report to their host schools in the city of Philadelphia, on time every day. Residents do have to live in the city of Philadelphia but they must reside within the Greater Philadelphia Area.

Do I need to have teaching experience or work experience to apply?

No. The teaching residency program is designed to support those who want to become teachers in Philadelphia public schools. Although substitute teaching or prior work in our schools is highly desirable, it is not a requirement. We highly encourage those with experience working with middle and high school students to apply.

After the residency year can I work at charter schools or other non-district run schools within Philadelphia?

No. The teacher residency program is for those who wish to teach at least three (3) years in a

district-run, non-charter, non-select admissions schools. We currently have over 200 public schools in SDP that meet this criteria.

Will I earn a master's degree?

Residents may earn a Masters degree during their residency year depending on the university partner they choose for their coursework. Residents should consult with their university partner to learn more about Masters programs and other possible add-on certification areas. Any costs associated with a Masters degrees and/or additional certification areas are the responsibility of the resident.

I am interested in the residency program but I have other summer commitments. May I choose a later start date?

This program is designed as an intensive one year certification program. We are unable to adjust the dates of the program or make accommodations to the start or end dates. All residents in the program agree to begin work on the first day of school and finish on the last day of the school year (180 days). This must remain true during the holiday/spring break, even if their university partner's calendar differs from SDP.

I am already working in a SDP school on emergency certification or as a contracted teacher. Am I eligible to participate in the Teacher Residency Program?

No. This program is designed to help new-to-teaching teachers become acclimated to the rigors of teachings. We cannot accept candidates who currently have or have held teacher certifications in other states, other areas (Art, Music, Physical Education or Elementary) or on emergency certification.

Application Process

What is the process for applying to be a resident?

- Step 1: Prospective Resident Exploration - Click for [University Partner 1-pager](#)
 - Reaches out to university partner of choice
 - Submits application materials
 - Step 2: Praxis Preparation and Completion - Click for [Praxis information](#)
 - Prospective resident will schedule and take Praxis content exam as soon as possible
 - Step 3: University Partner Application Review
 - Applications screened
 - Interview scheduled with university partner
 - Decision is made about candidacy status
 - Step 4: Interview with SDP
 - If prospective resident is accepted to university, SDP will invite to an interview
 - SDP will send application link to prospective resident
 - If accepted to SDP, offer letter is sent
 - Step 5: Cohort Confirmation
 - Resident reviews contract and admissions offer
 - Once signed, attends New Cohort Meeting and Summer Session with University Partner
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Praxis Exam

Do I have to take my Praxis before I apply to the Program?

No but it is highly suggested that prospective candidates take their Praxis content exam as soon as they determine their interest. The longer a candidate waits to take their exam, the more likely their chances decrease of securing a spot in the cohort. SDP cannot give any resident candidate an offer letter of employment without a passing Praxis content score.

I took the Praxis over 10 years ago. Are my old scores still valid?

In most cases no, but please check ETS Praxis website [FAQs](#) or [contact](#) them directly. Generally, SDP accepts scores that are within nine (9) years old and in the exact content areas aforementioned in this article.

Does the Residency Program cover the cost of PRAXIS or other exams?

No. Outside of the \$7,500 tuition stipend, residents are responsible for Praxis costs or any other required exams for certification.

Does SDP offer Praxis tutoring?

SDP is unable to offer Praxis tutoring at this time. Listed below are the free Praxis study guides for the STEM and ELA content areas.

- Middle Grades (6-8)
 - [ELA](#)
 - [Math](#)
 - [Science](#)
- Secondary Grades (7-12)
 - [ELA](#)
 - [Math](#)
 - [Biology](#)
 - [Chemistry](#)
 - [Earth and Space Science](#)
 - [General Science](#)
 - [Physics](#)