



Info Sheet for HR & Administrators

ESD-U is operated by the Educational Service District 112

WHAT IS ESD-U? www.esd112.org/esd-u/

ESD-U is a teacher preparation program operated by ESD 112 that offers alternative routes to teacher certification for individuals with a bachelor’s degree, as well as a ‘retooling’ route for currently certified teachers seeking to add an endorsement.

Mission: Provide aspiring educators an efficient alternative pathway to teacher certification to serve the diverse needs of students and districts, centering around the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and focusing on practical, hands-on experience in classrooms (see the [ESD-U Mission, Vision, Values & Outcomes](#)).

Grow-Your-Own Model: Candidates in the program complete coursework while simultaneously completing field experience requirements through an **employed or volunteer position** with a school, district, or other institution of learning. Cohorts run July through June each year.

Initial Teacher Certification ESD-U Pathways

- Special Education (stand-alone)
- Special Education & Elementary Education (dual)
- English Language Learner & Elementary Education (dual)
- Elementary Education (stand-alone)

Adding Endorsement (Retooling) ESD-U Pathways

- Special Education
- English Language Learner
- Elementary Education
- Reading

WHAT IS NEEDED FROM THE DISTRICT?

Prior to enrollment, individuals must obtain a field experience agreement from a school, district, or other institution of learning that indicates whether the organization is **willing and able to provide appropriate access to instructional opportunities** in the upcoming school year, to complete field experience requirements.

Instructional opportunities for field experience include **instruction, case management, and leading adults**.

For a candidate to log hours as field experience, the environment must include at least **one (1) student from the primary endorsement area**. Example: If candidate’s primary endorsement is ELL, the classroom must have at least one (1) student identified as ELL in order to log field experience.

| | PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS BREAKDOWN | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| | Route 2 <i>Classified Staff</i> | Route 3 <i>Career-Changer</i> | Route 4 <i>Teacher of Record</i> | Retooling <i>Adding Endorsement</i> |
| Field Experience Total Hours | 540 hours | 600 hours | 1000 hours | 450 hours |
| Student Teaching Hours* | 120-240 hours | 120-240 hours | Fulfilled through role | Fulfilled through role |
| Mentor Assigned | Yes | Yes | Yes | N/A |

**Student teaching hours are counted as part of the total field experience hours.*

INCENTIVES FOR DISTRICT

- **Mentors receive \$500 stipend** from program
- **Grow-Your-Own model creates a pipeline** for new teachers who already have knowledge and experience regarding your district, community, and students.