

DPS Beginning Teacher Support Program

August 2024

Becoming a Teacher

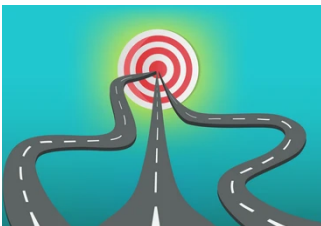
Congratulations! You've decided to become a teacher. It's a highly rewarding career, and there are steps you will need to take as a Beginning Teacher (BT) to become a licensed teacher. Your District BT Mentor can support you through this process.

Welcome to DPS Email

HR will send you an email with instructions on **licensure, payroll, etc.** This will be sent to your personal email with the subject as: *Onboarding review - Your Name*. **Save this email in a place you can reference easily.**

Various Paths to Licensure

There are various paths to becoming a teacher and the path you take will depend on many variables, such as the type of degree you have, the grade/subject you want to teach, GPA, and more.



Teacher Licensure

All beginning teachers need a valid **initial/provisional license**, which could be a **residency, permit to teach, or emergency** license. Each one has different qualifications & requirements. Your [DPS licensure](#) specialist can help determine which license works best for your situation. Contact your DPS licensure specialist: hrlicensure@dpsnc.net.

Traditional Path = You Have an Education Degree

For those with education degrees, you have already taken the necessary coursework to become a teacher. Next, you will have to:

1. Pass the [required exam\(s\)](#) for your grade/content. *Testing fees are your responsibility.*
2. Successfully complete three years of a Beginning Teacher Support Program ([BTSP](#)).
3. Keep initial license valid for three years with the help of [DPS licensure](#) specialists.

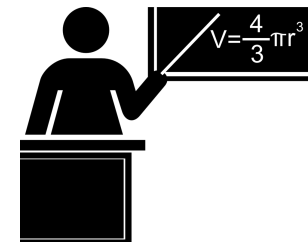


Alternative License Paths = You Have a Degree in Another Subject

For those with degrees in areas other than education, you are required to:

1. Be employed teaching the subject area in which you want to become licensed.
2. Complete 80 induction hours.
3. Complete an Educator Preparation Program ([EPP](#)). *Course fees are your responsibility.*
4. Pass the [required exam\(s\)](#) for your grade/content. *Testing fees are your responsibility.*
5. Successfully complete three years of a Beginning Teacher Support Program ([BTSP](#)).
6. Renew your license, with the help of [DPS licensure](#) specialists, license(s) valid for three years.

***Much of this will need to be started before the end of your first year.



More About...

EPPs

Completing a state-approved Educator Preparation Program is required for all teachers. Visit the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction site ([NCDPI](https://www.ncdpi.com)) for a [list of approved programs](#).

Application & program fees are your responsibility. Each program will have its own enrollment requirements, such as a minimum cumulative GPA from your previous school experience, passing score on your Praxis exam(s), required hours of coursework in your content area, etc. When applying, programs may ask for copies of your college transcripts and/or current NC teaching license.

Praxis Exams

All teachers must pass the required Praxis exam(s) to obtain their license. The exam(s) you must pass will depend upon the grade level and subject area you want to teach. All testing fees are your responsibility. For more information, visit [ets.org](https://www.ets.org).



DPS Beginning Teacher Support Program

North Carolina teachers are considered Beginning Teachers and must participate in a Beginning Teacher Support Program for their first three years. Successfully completing a BTSP requires attending monthly group BT meetings, completing BT paperwork, and meeting regularly with your District BT Mentor and/or your School-Based Mentor.

Required New Teacher Orientation

- Year Round - July 10 & 11, 2024
- Specialty - July 30 & 31, 2024
- [Traditional](#) - August 14 & 15, 2024
- Late Hires - NTO on the Go or Late Hire Orientation



BT Academies

[BT Academies](#) are Professional Learning opportunities specifically designed for Beginning Teachers. *If you have an Alternative License, certain BT Academies are required.

DPS District Beginning Teacher Mentors

- **Liz Agoranos** - Creekside, Riverside
- **Christy Bechtel** - DSA, DPLC/Holton, Ignite, Neal, Southwest
- **Dana Clark** - Bethesda, Burton, Carrington, Sandy Ridge, Spring Valley
- **Donna Dodson** - Brogden, City of Medicine, Durham School of Technology, Early College, Middle College, School for Creative Studies
- **Steven Gupton** - Hillside, Lowe's Grove
- **Jeannine Hempstead** - George Watts, Lakewood Montessori, Little River, Lucas, Morehead
- **Jasmyne Jones** - Fayetteville St., Githens, Murray-Massenburg, Parkwood
- **Christine Joyce** - Jordan, Shepard
- **Paula Kershner** - Club Boulevard, Eno Valley, Hillandale, Lakeview, Mangum
- **Jennifer Petty** - Forest View, Glenn, Lyons Farm, Merrick-Moore, YE Smith
- **Rhonda Sinquefield** - Easley, Eastway, Hope Valley, Oak Grove, WG Pearson
- **Laura Soldevilla** - Holt, Hospital School, Pearsontown, Rogers-Herr
- **Kim Wallace** - Northern, Southern
- **Meghan Wilder** - CC Spaulding, EK Powe, Lakewood Elementary, RN Harris, Whitted

For more information, visit the [BT Website](#).