

STEP Q&A

• Who can apply?

Any person with a bachelor's degree from an accredited university who wishes to teach elementary school (grades K- 8) and middle school (6,7,8) may apply.

• When is the deadline to apply?

The application process has begun and will close once the cohort is full.

• When do classes begin?

The Traditional, Teacher in Residence, and Statewide cohorts begin in Mid-May. The Traditional and Teacher in Residence cohort begins in early November.

• What time commitment is required?

The Traditional Teacher in Training pathway requires students to intern in a K-8 class-room two consecutive days per week and attend SCC classes two nights a week. Class preparation and homework are in addition to these hours. For the last twelve weeks of the program, students spend five days per week student teaching full time at the school. There are no SCC courses during student teaching.

The Teacher in Residence pathway requires students to attend SCC classes two nights a week. Class preparation and homework are in addition to these hours. Since the student is the teacher of record, they will complete the internships in their own classroom. Student teaching, also completed in their own classroom, occurs during the last twelve weeks of the program. There are no SCC courses during student teaching.

• Who are the teachers?

Master teachers have been selected at each of the partner schools to provide the highest quality field experiences. The instructors for the methods courses include master teachers, professional development trainers, school principals and college professors.

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The Maricopa County Community College District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities. For Title IX/504 concerns, call the following number to reach the appointed coordinator: (480) 731-8499. For additional information, as well as a listing of all coordinators within the Maricopa College system, visit www.maricopa.edu/non-discrimination.

• What are the requirements for teacher certification in Arizona?

The Arizona Department of Education requires the following for Elementary Teacher Certification (K-8):

- 1. Possession of a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.
- 2. Valid IVP Fingerprint Clearance Card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
- 3. Completion of required twelve weeks of student teaching.
- 4. Passing score on the Elementary Professional Knowledge Arizona teacher certification exam.
- 5. Passing scores on the Elementary Education Subject Knowledge portion of the Arizona teacher exam.

• What are the Arizona teacher exams?

To obtain a teaching certificate in Arizona, teachers must take and pass the Arizona teacher exams from the National Evaluation Systems (NES) in Professional Knowledge and Subject Knowledge for elementary education. Specific information about the educator testing is available on the Arizona State Department of Education website.

What are the courses?

- EDU 222 Introduction to the Exceptional Learner
- EDU 225 Professionalism & Ethics in Education
- EDU 239 Structured English Immersion Grades K-8
- EDU 267 Reading Instructional Practices, Interventions, & Assessments
- EDU 268 Science of Reading Including Systematic Phonics Instruction
- EDU 269 Educational Technology
- EDU 270 Learning And The Brain
- EDU 272 Educational Psychology
- EDU 276 Classroom Management & Behavior Analysis
- EDU 290 Science Methods & Curriculum Development
- EDU 293 Mathematics Methods & Curriculum Development
- EDU 295 Social Studies Methods & Curriculum Development
- EDU 254 Educational Internship I
- EDU 254 Educational Internship II
- EDU 254 Educational Internship III
- EDU 288 AA Student Teaching

Note: The Arizona Department of Education requires all teacher certification applicants complete U.S. and Arizona Constitution (POS 220 – 3 Credits). This course will be completed at SCC in an online format while completing the program. Students will also complete two Master Teacher Seminars throughout the year.

What is the cost of the program?

The tuition at Scottsdale Community College is \$97.00 per credit hour. Estimated course cost to complete the program is under \$6000. Students may be eligible for Arizona Teachers Academy Scholarships, Financial Aid, or Pell grants.

Is the STEP program at SCC accredited?

The STEP post-baccalaureate teacher certification program is accredited by the Arizona State Board of Education.