



# College of Education

## Pathways to Teaching Program

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

**Q: What do I need to participate in the Pathways program?**

**A:** You need to have a connection with our partner district and interested in Elementary and Middle School Teaching (Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup> grade). Completed or near completion of an Associate's degree in Elementary Education from Pima Community College or Equivalent OR AGEC-A with 60 transferable units. A current IVP Finger print card to be able to participate in field work at an assigned school site.

**Q: When does the program start?**

**A:** We start our new cohort every spring semester.

**Q: How many letters of recommendation are needed or what is the 60 hours form?**

**A:** The 60 hours form is a form to document your volunteer class time in a public K-8<sup>th</sup> grade classroom and the mentor teacher you worked with would fill this out. If you do not have this form due to COVID or because you work full time in a classroom or learning setting then you are encouraged to ask for Letters of Recommendation (2-3) from people who can speak on your behalf of your work you have done with students, peers, and can speak to your work as a team collaborator.

**Q: How many essay prompts do I need to answer?**

**A:** Everyone will respond to the first 2 essay prompts you will respond in 500-750 words to each essay prompt. If missing any material for the application materials and/or if your GPA is below a 2.5 then you will respond to 3<sup>rd</sup> essay prompt to respond to if you are. If you are not sure, please reach out to your Program Coordinator.

**First Essay prompt:** What do you believe are the most effective ways to engage students? How do you know? Provide an example of what you might do as a teacher that would have a positive impact on student learning.

**Second Essay Prompt:** Teaching and learning change lives in many ways. In the College of Education, teacher preparation programs focus on how education changes lives in socially just and equitable ways. In a 500-750 word essay, explain how education has impacted your life and/or community positively and negatively. Then, discuss how your educational experiences will help you to be a socially just teacher.

**Third Essay Prompt:** If your grade point average is below the required 2.50 (3.0 preferred; all GPAs considered) and/or you are missing any application requirements, please prepare an essay addressing the circumstances that have affected your GPA/ability to complete all application requirements by the deadline.

**Q: What if I don't have a UA number yet?**

**A:** You may place a 0 there.

**Q: Do I need to have my AGEC completed?**

**A:** You need to have your AGEC appear on your final Official Transcripts from your college you are transferring from sent to University of Arizona by January 1. The Official Transcripts should reflect your completed pre-requisite course work and final grades.



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**Q: Do I need to meet with an Academic Advisor?**

**A:** Yes you need to meet with an Academic Advisor to create your Academic Advising plan which you will use in the Pathways program to plan out courses. If you have not connected to your advisor, please reach out to your Pathways to Teaching Program Coordinator.

**Q: Do I mark myself as a transfer student?**

**A:** Mark the Transfer bubble to indicate you are transferring in to the University of Arizona from another higher education learning institution. If you are a current University of Arizona student then you will mark "No" to indicate you are already in the University of Arizona information system.

**Q: What if I don't have my IVP fingerprint card?**

**A:** You will take a picture of your receipt if your card is in process and paste the picture in a MS Word Document to download it to your application. If you have an appointment then you can type in a MS Word Document, "I have an appointment to get my fingerprints on (date)." If you have not yet made an appointment, please type in the MS Word Document you are starting the process to making an appointment."

**Q: What GPA do I report if I have attended more than one higher education learning institution?**

**A:** It will be the average of the GPAs. (Ex:  $3.4 + 2.7 = 6.1 \div 2 = 3.05$  GPA)

Please reach out to your Program Coordinator for any questions and assistance as you work to complete your Pathways application.

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