



teaching excellence

**Join us as we change
the lives of 20,000
students by 2020**



uplifteducation

The Teaching Excellence program is the first step on Uplift Education's path to ensuring that our scholars have effective and impactful teachers in classrooms throughout our network.

What is the *Teaching Excellence* Program?

The *Teaching Excellence* (TE) program is a teacher development and Alternative Certification Program benefitting incoming Uplift teachers. A program of YES Prep public schools, TE made charter school history in 2009 when the State Board of Education authorized it as the first charter school system in Texas to certify its own teachers. Uplift is proud to partner with YES Prep and extremely pleased to offer Uplift participants who need a rigorous and impactful certification pathway the convenience of receiving their certification through TE in Dallas.

This is wonderful news for uncertified and certified teachers alike. Uncertified teachers will be supported by an Instructional Coach and participate in professional development throughout the school year as a part of *Teaching Excellence* that will count towards certification. Certified teachers may also have the benefit of receiving support from an Instructional Coach, as well as other professional learning opportunities, during the transition to a new position at Uplift. This personalized support is crucial in the first year of teaching, and unheard of in almost all other alternative certification programs.

"The professional Learning Saturdays have been extremely helpful and informative. Also my relationship and collaboration with my IC has been a lifesaver. She has been understanding, supportive, helpful, and encouraging."





Certification: A pathway to 100% College Acceptance for all Uplift Scholars

At Uplift Education, we expect 100% of our scholars to be college ready by graduation. In order to reach this goal, *Teaching Excellence* works with beginning teachers to ensure they are immediately successful with Uplift scholars. Combining this individualized coaching with relevant and applicable professional learning sessions, *Teaching Excellence* teachers will earn their Texas Teacher Certificates while teaching full time, earning a full-time teacher's salary, and helping prepare more of Uplift's scholars for college graduation.

Teachers encounter a whirlwind of experiences – some good, some bad – but all are relevant in becoming an effective teacher. No Uplift teacher stands alone on this journey. *Teaching Excellence* has an entire team of Instructional Coaches dedicated to ensuring that teachers are supported as they grow and develop professionally. In addition to supporting teachers in the classroom, TE provides test preparation for the required state tests and streamlines the certification process with the Texas Education Agency (TEA). Certification is essential to building a strong teaching foundation and ensures that you are set up for success in the classroom. TE will equip you with the necessary skills and tools to transform the lives of your students.



“The excellent feedback and support I have received from my Instructional Coach, in addition to the very useful Professional Learning Saturdays have made the largest impact on my development as a teacher.”

Invest In Your Success

Teachers

seeking Alternative

Certification through the program will

pay approximately \$4,555, which can be paid through our easy system of monthly payroll deductions. There is no cost to certified teachers that participate in the Teaching Excellence program.

As applicable, additional fees for certificate applications and qualifying exams are due directly to the Texas Education Agency.

In order to be formally admitted into the Teaching Excellence ACP Program for certification, candidates must have a conferred degree from an accredited college or university, pass their content exam (PACT or TExES), and be a full-time Teacher of Record in an Uplift school. In order to receive certification candidates will also benefit from:

- ▶ Attending a variety of trainings in the weeks leading up to the start of the school year.
- ▶ Attending relevant monthly Saturday Professional Learning sessions and completing other professional learning opportunities.
- ▶ Working regularly with an Instructional Coach throughout the year for support.

Join us in Dallas/Fort Worth to learn and grow as a teacher while transforming the lives of thousands of scholars. We would love for you to join in the education reform movement.

**Learn more about Teaching Excellence at Uplift
by contacting
teachingexcellence@uplifteducation.org**

"I received immediate feedback on my lessons, and got glows and grows left for me every time someone observed me."

