

Frequently Asked Questions

Apprentice Teacher Program: Relay GSE **Master's Degree & Licensure Pathway**

Apprentice Teachers in this pathway enroll in the [Relay Graduate School of Education \(GSE\)](#) in the [Relay Teaching Residency](#). This provides a robust, two-year development program for individuals looking to get into the teaching profession. During the first year, Apprentice Teachers work towards earning state certification in secondary Math or Science education. The second year the Apprentice Teacher transitions into a full-time classroom role and completes coursework to fulfill a Master of Arts in Teaching.

This pathway may be of interest to:

- Anyone interested in earning credentials from the nationally renowned Relay Graduate School of Education, an institution that has perfected the art of helping teachers get better faster
- Those who are willing to invest financially in a strong foundation to a new career and value a widespread support system, both on your campus and off.
- Those interested in a research-based approach to instructional methods in their content area (math or science), and robust support in mastering content.

What are the required qualifications?

- Bachelor's degree from regionally accredited institution, with minimum 3.0 GPA
- Ability to demonstrate math or science content knowledge
- Continued enrollment in Relay GSE during the Apprentice Teacher year is required.

What credentials do I earn?

At the end of the two year program, you will earn a Master's of Arts in Teaching and a Colorado state teaching license.

How much does the Relay GSE pathway cost and is financial aid available?

- A significant amount of financial aid is offered. Below is the Denver Relay Teaching Residency program site which breaks down the cost. The maximum out-of-pocket advertised cost is \$8,500.
<https://relay.edu/campus/relay-teaching-residency/relay-teaching-residency-denver>
- Also, you may be eligible for up to \$17,500 in student loan forgiveness. Check out your eligibility for the Federal Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program here:
<https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/teacher>

What does a typical week look like for Apprentice Teachers?

- You'll spend ~45 hours at your campus
- 2.5 hours of evening class at Relay
- 3 hours of [Deliberate Practice](#) at Relay
(You'll be released from your campus to attend one afternoon a week)
- Online coursework may take between 2-5 hours per week, additionally.

The year has been designed to support a “gradual on-ramp” for you, with increasing responsibility over time. Apprentice Teachers progress through Relay’s 5 Gateways (see more information in table below). By the end of the year, the goal is to have Apprentice Teachers “takeover” full teaching responsibilities for 2 weeks or more and be ready for hire in a lead teaching role. In a typical week, campuses also rely on Apprentice Teachers for additional duties, like serving as an in-house substitute, proctoring for exams, or leading an advisory class.

What should I expect in Year 1 and Year 2 of the program?

- **Year 1** - Residents are paired with a Mentor Teacher and receive one-on-one coaching as they gradually take on more responsibility in the classroom over the year. Apprentice Teachers build confidence with frequent feedback and see best practices modeled each day. Through coursework at Relay, they learn “teacher moves” and strengthen content knowledge so at the end of Year 1, Residents are eligible to receive their teaching license.
- **Year 2** - After the Apprentice Teacher year, if Residents have successfully completed all the benchmarks, they apply and are hired as a full-time Math or Science teacher at DSST! During this year, they continue to take classes in the evenings at Relay GSE and at the end of Year 2, Residents earn their master’s degree.

When does the Relay program start?

- Relay’s first session starts July 13, 2020. See Key Points document for more summer session information.

What are some important points to know about Relay program requirements?

- Here are some Key Points from Relay:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1y7L4X2V0NteXKddw-SxHYrb5EKy8SzIn/view?usp=sharing>

What are the Relay admissions requirements? How do I apply to Relay and when?

- You can find the Relay admissions requirements here:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Gh5ki-ZxSVkhRMuTjwarXhWK0zKt8gWt/view?usp=sharing>
- We notify Relay after you’ve accepted a job with us and then Relay reaches out with application instructions. You’ll complete an application online, submit transcripts and test

scores, and register for the Praxis exam, as required. Your job offer is contingent upon acceptance to Relay and continued enrollment.

Do I need to take the Praxis exam and if so, when?

- You'll be asked to demonstrate content knowledge as soon as possible. Here are the Relay GSE Content Knowledge Requirements and deadlines:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TYRkigMn5JhcCIDkHkWefsXXe47GqvGx/view?usp=sharing>

What is the Apprentice Teacher salary?

- Apprentice Teachers earn \$34,000 and full benefits.

What does the hiring process look like to obtain a lead teaching position after my Apprentice Teacher year?

- It is our hope that you secure a lead teaching role for the following year at DSST, by spring break of your Apprentice Teacher year.
- For our 20-21 Apprentice Teacher cohort, we will begin hiring conversations in the spring of 2021. We collect input from Mentor Teachers and School Directors, and Apprentice Teachers generally experience an expedited interview process.

What are the Relay GSE Gateways and how do they align to the DSST school year?

<p>DSST Trimester 1 (Aug - Nov 2020)</p>	<p>DSST Trimester 2 (Dec 2020 - Feb 2021)</p>	<p>DSST Trimester 3 (Mar- Jun 2021)</p>
<p>Gateway #1 Mindsets and Professionalism: Residents will demonstrate key mindsets of high expectations, personal responsibility, intentionality, continuing improving effectiveness, humility, and respect, as well as the professionalism standards of attendance, punctuality, responsibility, preparation, response to feedback, and engagement.</p> <p>Gateway #2 Classroom Management & Engagement: Residents will be able to manage behavior by applying techniques to ensure positive engagement in the classroom while also responding appropriately to misbehavior and management challenges to keep students on track. Residents are assessed on their management and execution in the context of a simulation and informal observations from both Relay faculty and Resident Advisors.</p>	<p>Gateway #3 Introducing New Material: Residents must demonstrate proficiency in introducing new material to ensure they are able to clearly plan and deliver content. Residents will be expected to plan and clearly deliver content while addressing key points and misconceptions.</p>	<p>Gateway #4 Teaching a Full Lesson: Residents will be observed teaching a lesson in their schools to determine their readiness for the increased gradual responsibility and ability to run a classroom the following year. They will demonstrate proficiency in teaching a full block without assistance and ensure that students are moving toward mastery. While Gateway 4 will be scored on a number of rows, Residents must prove proficiency in checking for understanding and executing student practice in order to pass Gateway 4.</p> <p>Gateway #5 Full Time Teaching Placement: In conjunction with the partner schools, it will be determined if Residents are ready to be hired as full-time teachers for Year 2. Schools are invited to make their decisions earlier but should have a final decision by this time.</p>