



Troops to Teachers

Program Overview: Career Skills Program at ASPIRE



ASPIRE to Teach, Colorado's approved 20 week "Education Track" within the military Career Skills Program is offered to active duty/departing service members who have already completed a bachelor's degree and have interest in a career in education. This education preparation training will prepare

transitioning service members for employment in Colorado school districts.

The current initiative consists of four stages:

1. Program pre-conditions (meet CDE Standards)
2. Education pedagogy (Certification program) – CSP
3. Contracted teaching (ALPEP +), upon separation
4. Assessment (CDE/Administration)

All phases will meet Colorado Department of Education's preparation and licensing statutes.

Training and Location

The ASPIRE to Teach Career Skills Residency Program is Colorado based and training/residency can be conducted anywhere within the state of Colorado.

Eligibility Requirements

- Command approval for the attendance within the Career Skills Program
- Active Duty: begin the program within 180 days of transitioning from active service
- Anticipate fully honorable or under honorable conditions discharge
- No legal or flag actions pending (e.g. ART-15)
- Completed mandatory Transition Assistance Program requirements prior to class start date
- Meet program specific criteria
- Seek an endorsement in a current shortage area. Common shortage areas include Elementary Education, English Language Arts, Mathematics, Music, Science, Social Studies, and Special Education. Follow this link for a current list of shortage areas:
<https://www.cde.state.co.us/educatortalent/edshortage-surveyresults>

Become a Teacher in Colorado!

To learn more about how you can become an educator in Colorado, please contact any CDE Educator Recruitment and Retention Specialist for assistance. We're here to support you. And thank you for your military service to this great country!

Learn more:

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/educatortalent/troopstoteacherscolorado>



Career Skills Program: K-12 Teaching Track (in shortage areas)

Your transition into education will proceed in four stages. Stages I and II happen before you leave active duty.

Pre-Conditions	Career Skills Program (Residency)	Separation/Retirement	Contracted Teacher	Contracted Teacher
Stage I	Stage II		Stage III	Stage IV
	About 5 months (16-24 weeks)		Working under an alternative license	Working under an initial teacher license
Active duty			Receive full teacher pay and benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet CSP requirements (see above) Bachelor's degree (regionally accredited) Display content competency (PRAXIS Exam required—free through DANTES) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colorado Standards: 240 hours of coursework and classroom residency (4-day requirement) Special education track General education track CT teacher mentorship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video coaching Capstone assignment District mentorship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness survey Troops to Teacher/ ASPIRE/ CCU/ MSU coaching and mentoring, if required District induction program CT/Mentor Professional development hours awarded 	

CSP residencies are only available starting months of August to March due to school year/residency opportunities. Separations/retirements in September and October will not fit residency requirements.

Associated Costs

- Application Costs:
 - Background check (\$50)
 - E-licensing account and ALPE application (\$90)
 - IHE orientation (\$125 deposit, ASPIRE)
- Program Costs: ASPIRE/GI Bill/CANVAS/WIDA: \$3,125 in Stage II and \$3,125 in Stage III

Other Pathways into Education

If the Career Skills Program will not work for your situation, there are other pathways into education.

- If you already have a bachelor's degree, consider an alternative licensure educator preparation program or a master's degree that includes licensure.
- If you do not yet have a bachelor's degree, consider a traditional educator preparation program.
- More information on educator preparation programs (traditional and alternative) can be found at https://www.cde.state.co.us/educatortalent/educator_preparation_search_engine