

Lead Teacher Registered Apprenticeship Program

A Lead Teacher Registered Apprenticeship is an industry-driven, high quality career pathway where employers can develop and prepare their future workforce, and individuals can obtain paid work experience, receive increases, professional development, and a recognized credential. Registered apprenticeships are industry-vetted and approved and validated by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) or a state apprenticeship agency. NDDPI applied to the USDOL for a Lead Teacher Apprenticeship in January 2025.

LEAD TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP AT A GLANCE



Apprentices (non-lead teachers in team teach model) complete microcredential coursework aligned to lead teacher competencies.



For a minimum of one-year, apprentices work alongside the lead teacher, who is also the mentor teacher, developing competencies of the lead teacher role.



Apprentices earn a full-time wage as a team teacher while working towards a lead teacher certificate.

KEY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Leads the team in maintaining high expectations for student learning.
- Creates an environment for teacher team members to share ideas and innovations that focus on improved student learning.
- Builds a positive team culture that values the experiences and perspectives of each team member.
- Coordinates and maintains communication with paraprofessionals, aspiring teachers and partners to support students effectively and consistently.
- Establishes and manages effective two-way communication between the team, families and the broader school community.
- Schedules and facilitates regular team meetings with consistent agendas to support team communication and instructional co-planning.
- Organizes and delegates responsibilities based on team members' expertise and interests.

COURSEWORK (To Launch at ASU Fall 2025)

- Understanding what it means to be a lead teacher.
- Building and sustaining team culture.
- Communication within and beyond educator teams.
- Creating and maintaining systems and structures for effective teams.
- Identifying and leveraging the team's distributed expertise.
- Leading team-based planning for instruction.
- Leading team-based instruction.
- Leading team-based data analysis and action.
- Coaching and mentoring colleagues in a team-based staffing model.
- Leading self-improving teams.