

## **CULTIVATING TOMORROW'S TEACHERS**

### **FACT**

The nation faces an acute shortage of minority and male teachers, as well as academically talented students who are interested in teaching as a career. The Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, & Advancement's Teacher Cadet Program can help your school, district, and state establish a program that is certain to impact the recruitment of high school students into the teaching profession.

## **OVERVIEW**

Winner of the 2015 Dick and Tunky Riley WhatWorksSC Award for Excellence in Education, the **Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, & Advancement's (CERRA)** nationally-recognized Teacher Cadet Program is an innovative, curriculum-based college level course designed to attract talented young people to the education profession through a challenging introduction to teaching. The Teacher Cadet Program seeks to provide high school students insights into the nature of teaching, the problems of schooling, and the critical issues affecting the quality of education in America's schools. The dual credit accrual course is taught for a minimum of one class period per day for a year or the equivalent of that amount of time in contact hours.

### **HISTORY**

Piloted in four high schools in South Carolina in 1985-86, the Teacher Cadet Program is now offered in more than 170 South Carolina high schools serving over 2,500 juniors and seniors annually. Today, the Program operates in more than 38 states.

## WHY YOUR SCHOOL NEEDS TEACHER CADETS

Young people need to see "folks like them" in professional positions...whether they are doctors, lawyers, accountants or TEACHERS.

- The Teacher Cadet Program provides the needed spark to encourage academically-talented students to pursue a career in the education profession. After completing the course, many Teacher Cadets choose teaching as the career they plan to pursue after college. Nearly one out of four students who plan to teach indicate they were undecided or planned to pursue a different career before taking the course.
- The curriculum utilizes a hands-on approach to educate students on the requirements to become a successful teacher and enables students to put their knowledge to work through a classroom internship.
- Programmatic components make students more aware and appreciative of the education profession which fosters advocacy for education policy.

#### WE'RE ONLINE

TeacherCadets.com provides an online access point for up-to-date research, video resources, links to Teacher Cadet sites across the country, and much more! Teachers who lead the Program at their school are granted access to an e-edition of the curriculum.

## Experiencing Education, Eleventh Edition

Experiencing Education is designed to introduce the beginning student to the field of education. Its perspective on education comes from the Latin root educere, to draw out, to lead forth; thus, it is not a book to be read and memorized; it is meant to be experienced as a compilation of "vignettes" designed to expose future educators to the power of knowledge, the discoveries of the past, and the tenacity to acquire further knowledge by his/her own effort.

As we prepare future educators in the 21st century and beyond for the rewards and challenges of educating society, it is important for us to remember that learners are not mere receptacles to be filled with information. We are charged with providing the impetus for inspiration, thus "directing their power toward good ends."

As the shortage of qualified teachers for our schools looms, we remain cognizant of our need to recruit and prepare potential teachers from our talented Teacher Cadets. As they delve into the pages of the curriculum, it is our hope that they truly "experience education" that either leads to the development of highly effective, accomplished teachers for our nation's classrooms or lifelong advocates for the education of all children.

## Experiencing Education is presented in three units:

#### **Unit 1: Experiencing Learning**

Helps students become better acquainted with themselves as individuals, learners, and community members; appreciate the diversity of others; and examine the various stages of learners

#### Unit 2: Experiencing the Classroom

Helps students become acquainted with the personal and professional roles of educators

#### **Unit 3: Experiencing the Teaching Profession**

Helps students develop a greater understanding of the history of education in our state and nation; gain insights into the structure and functions of our schools and school systems; learn the steps to teacher and educator certification; reflect on the teaching profession and think systematically about it; and recognize the significance of teacher leadership and advocacy for the profession

### **Eligibility Requirements**

- Be a senior or junior.
- Have a GPA/GPR of at least 3.0 on a 4-point scale (B average).
- Be enrolled in a college preparatory curriculum.
- Be recommended in writing by three or more instructors.
- Submit an essay on why one wants to be in the class.
- · Participate in an interview, if required.
- Agree to provide data for program evaluation via a brief pre- and post-survey.

# **COLLEGE PARTNERS**

Teacher Cadet College Partners are post-secondary institutions with teacher education programs that commit to nurturing the next generation of exemplary teachers. This network of collegiate faculty, along with their institutions, provides support to Teacher Cadet sites across the state. Each Teacher Cadet site partners with one of these institutions that provide the opportunity for Cadets to earn transferable college credit in their dual credit accrual, AP weighted course.

Visit teachercadets.com for more info.

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