

MAKE THE MOVE – EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION TEACHER PROGRAM

The District offers a number of Grow Your Own programs to encourage, incent, and support individuals in becoming certified teachers at TUSD. The Make the Move Exceptional Education Teacher Program requirements are as follows:

Initial criteria required:

- Must be a TUSD employee
- Hold a bachelor's degree

Once initial criteria met, next step required:

- Complete the attached application, which requires:
 - a letter of recommendation from principal
 - 3 personal references
 - An observation by an Assistant Director of Exceptional Education

Once accepted into the program, candidate needs to:

- Secure an Exceptional Education teacher position in the 2022-2023 School Year.
- Register/enroll in an Alternative Pathways program at a state approved college or university.
- Apply for Arizona Teaching Intern Certificate: Special Education.
- If required, Pass the Arizona Educator Proficiency examinations (AEPA) or National Evaluation Series (NES) Subject Knowledge Exam

Alternative Pathway Programs and Contact information:

- Arizona State University – Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College
 - <https://education.asu.edu>
- Grand Canyon University
 - Zuhaila Orozco at zuhaila.orozco@gcu.edu
 - 602-247-3610 Office
- Northern Arizona University
 - [Teacher Intern Preparation Program | College of Education \(nau.edu\)](#)
- Pima Community College
 - Tirza Sanders at tsanders4@pima.edu
 - 520-206-5385
- Rio Salado at [Bachelors Degree Pathway | Rio Salado College](#)
- University of Arizona
 - [Pathways to Teaching | College of Education - University of Arizona](#)

Benefits of participating in the program:

- One-time signing bonus of \$5,000.
 - The bonus is paid out in two parts. The first half, \$2,500, is paid out upon the completion of the Fall Semester in December, and the second half, \$2,500, is paid out upon the completion of the Spring Semester in May.
- Tuition Reimbursement not to exceed \$5,000 over the course of two years for approved classes as defined in agreement.
 - To be eligible for tuition reimbursement, classes must be those courses outlined in the special education program of a state approved Alternate Pathways certification program.
 - Employee submits official transcript showing completion of approved class with a grade of “C” or better.
 - Employee must submit proof of the original payment to the Human Resource Department.
 - Deadlines: Transcripts and original receipts of course fees are due at the end of each semester: fall deadline is January 30th; spring deadline is June 30th; and summer deadline is September 30th.
- Additional stipends paid during the 4-year commitment:
 - Year One - \$1,000 with proof of attending at least two exceptional education professional development sessions.
 - Year two - \$1,000 with proof of attending at least two exceptional education professional development sessions.
 - Year three - \$2,000 participate in a three-year completion interview and attending at least two exceptional education professional development sessions.
 - Year four - \$1,000 with proof of attending at least two exceptional education professional development sessions.