

APPLICATION GUIDE

THREE STEP CANDIDACY PROCESS



1. APPLY ONLINE

www.projectinspiretn.org and click Apply Today for Part 1 of the application. Parts 2 (essays) and 3 (resume, transcripts, and references) will be sent after a successful Zoom interview.



2. INTERVIEWS

Our team will review your application and schedule a phone interview. After a successful phone interview, an online interview will be next.



3. SELECTION DAYS

All candidates who advance past the interviews will be invited to attend Selection Weekend in Chattanooga.



APPLY NOW AT WWW.PROJECTINSPIRETN.ORG



IMPORTANT DATES

APPLICATION DEADLINE

March 28, 2025

SELECTION WEEKENDS

October 24-25, 2024
January 30-31, 2025
April 3-4, 2025
(All dates tentative)

NEW RESIDENT ORIENTATION

May 12-14, 2025



DETERMINE YOUR PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

We are thrilled that you want to become a teacher in Hamilton County! To meet the basic requirements of the Project Inspire teacher residency program, you must:

- Hold a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited university by June 2025
- Be a US citizen, permanent resident, or otherwise eligible to work in the US
- Be prepared to make a four-year commitment as a full-time teacher for Hamilton County schools
- Meet content-knowledge criteria for one of our different license options.
- We will also consider individuals with any major or minor who can demonstrate competency by passing content knowledge Praxis.

[6-12 Math & Science](#)

A major or passion in mathematics, biology, chemistry, biochemistry or related discipline.

[6-12 English Language Arts](#)

A major or passion in English, History, Political Science, or related discipline.

[K-12 Special/Exceptional Education](#)

A major in any area of study will be considered.

[Elementary Grades](#)

A major in any area of study will be considered.



GATHER SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR APPLICATION

- Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
- Two professional references. We highly recommend that these references have in-depth knowledge of you as a person.
- Resume detailing your education, professional experience, and volunteer experience. It's especially important to include all experiences working with children .

*To submit an application, you do not need to have every document gathered for application. Simply submit the online application to get started.

3

TAKE PRAXIS OR NES AND SUBMIT SCORES

Project Inspire is a teacher preparation program and works with an institution of higher education (IHE) to license program residents. After a successful online interview and invitation to Selection Day, you will need to take and pass appropriate PRAXIS or NES (option for math candidates) tests for entrance to the program prior to enrollment.

PRAXIS and/or NES scores must be sent to:

- Tennessee Department of Education (8190)
- University of Tennessee-Knoxville (1843)
- Project Inspire Teacher Residency (6920)

Math

6-12 Mathematics: 5165
6-8 Mathematics: 5164

Science

6-12 Biology: 5235
6-12 Chemistry: 5246
6-8 Science: 5440

English

6-12 English: 5038
6-8 English: 5047

K-12 Special Education

Special Education 5547

Elementary Grades

Special Education 5355
Elementary Education 5001

4

PREPARE TO APPLY TO GRADUATE SCHOOL

If you are invited to Selection Weekend, our staff will work with you to begin the graduate school application process. We currently partner with the University of Tennessee - Knoxville. You will want to gather the following items for submission:

- Official copies of all undergraduate transcripts

5

ONBOARDING AND ORIENTATION

If you receive an offer to join our program, our team will start working with you on the onboarding process. More details will come at that time, but here's a brief preview for what to expect:

- Complete the University of Tennessee - Knoxville graduate application
- Complete a background check
- Pass the Praxis test
- Attend Signing Day, Meet and Greet (with principals and Clinical Instructors), and Orientation
- Make living accommodations in Chattanooga
- Plan to be living in Chattanooga by July

QUICK REVIEW

One more time, here's an overview of the process with additional details.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM THE APPLICATION PROCESS?

You can expect personal, friendly interaction with our staff as we help you get to know Project Inspire and our work in Chattanooga. If you are confused about the application process or have questions about the program, just ask. We're here to help.

WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT THE INTERVIEW?

The interview will be with a few members of our team and is about 45 minutes long. We will usually schedule it over Zoom. Before the interview, you will be asked to read an article on equity in public education. During the interview, you will be asked to react to the article. It's important for us to get to know you in person, and hear more about your story and desire to make an impact through teaching! Bring your A-game to this interview and dress as you would for a job interview.

TELL ME MORE ABOUT SELECTION WEEKEND...

We can't wait to have you visit our hometown of Chattanooga, TN. Selection Weekend is a chance for us to show you our beautiful city and help you get a picture for the community that you will be part of through residency. If you need accommodations, we can work with you on that.

On Selection Day, you will participate in a series of interviews, a group problem-solving activity, and present a mini-lesson to a group of students. Selection Weekend is the final piece of the application process and we will offer residency positions within two weeks.

