# **TFA Residency Program at ECU**

### **Key Information and FAQs**

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#### General

# What is the Teach for America (TFA) Residency program at East Carolina University (ECU)?

The TFA Residency program at ECU is a partnership between Teach for America and East Carolina University designed to support TFA Corps Members in North Carolina as they work toward teacher licensure. The program is designed for TFA Corps Members who are serving as teachers in North Carolina public or charter schools.

#### Who is eligible for the TFA Residency program at ECU?

To be eligible, participants must:

- Be accepted into Teach for America and maintain official affiliation as a TFA Corps Member.
- Secure and maintain a TFA-approved lead teaching position at an NC public or DPI-approved charter school.
- Meet content qualifications for a Residency teaching license that aligns with your teaching
  position (verified by transcripts/test score reports). This can be met either by having twenty-four
  credit hours of coursework in the content area or passing the relevant NCSBE exam(s).
- Hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution with a GPA of 2.7 or higher.
- Maintain an ECU GPA at or above 2.7 throughout the program.

# What licensure areas are supported by the TFA Residency program at ECU?

The program supports the following licensure areas:

- Elementary K-6
- Middle Grades: Lang. Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies
- Science 9-12
- English 9-12
- History/Social Studies 9-12
- Math 9-12
- Spanish K-12
- Special Education General Curriculum K-12
- Special Education Adapted Curriculum K-12

### **Application Process**

What are the key steps to affiliate with ECU as part of the TFA Residency program?

- **Secure TFA Program Acceptance:** Apply through <u>Teach for America</u> within their application deadlines to begin their admissions process.
- **Confirm Residency Qualification and Eligibility:** Work with the TFA Regional Contact and LEA school/district to confirm content area qualification based on degree and/or testing.
- Affiliate with ECU: Once eligible for Residency Licensure, attend ECU to complete the TFA Residency Plan of Study and work through licensure clearance steps.

What content proficiency requirements must be met for the TFA Residency program at ECU?

Candidates must demonstrate content proficiency by either completing twenty-four credit hours of coursework in their subject area or by achieving a passing score on the relevant NCSBE exam(s).

I am interested in applying for the TFA Residency Program; where do I begin?

Check out the TFA Application Process website to see application windows and steps to apply.

### **Program Details**

#### What is the course delivery format?

The program is 100% asynchronous online.

#### What is the support system for participants?

Participants receive support from the ECU TFA Coordinator who is their academic advisor throughout completion of the Plan of Study. In addition, participants also receive the support of a network of TFA mentors, coaches, and alumni.

#### How long does the program take to complete?

The program is a two-year online model. The Plan of Study comprised of two noncredit bearing modules in Year 1 and two credit bearing courses in Year 2.

#### What is the cost of the program?

The total program cost is \$1705 for Corps Members who qualify for in-state tuition by Academic Year 2. There are also additional fees for Praxis/Pearson exams, edTPA submission, and the ECU application to consider.

#### What are the payment options?

In Academic Year 2, participants may use awarded AmeriCorps funding or choose to enroll in a payment plan through the ECU Cashier's Office.

# What are the academic proficiency requirements for the TFA Residency program at ECU?

Corps Members need an accredited bachelor's degree and a GPA of 2.7 or higher (on a 4.0 scale). Additionally, they must maintain a 2.7 GPA or higher while at ECU to qualify for program persistence and licensure clearance.

## **Additional Information**

#### How can I learn more about the program?

Contact Allena King, TFA Coordinator, at kingal23@ecu.edu or 252-328-1143.

For more information about Teach for America and their application process, visit <a href="https://www.teachforamerica.org/teach-for-america-corps">https://www.teachforamerica.org/teach-for-america-corps</a>

#### What are the required licensure exams for certification?

Corps Members are responsible for completing all required state licensure examinations (Praxis/Pearson) based on the content area they teach. It is preferred that testing is passed prior to enrolling in TCHR 4992 in Academic Year 2. The edTPA also must be completed as part of licensure clearance requirements by the end of the program.

#### What is the edTPA?

edTPA is an external performance assessment that CMs must successfully complete in their final semester course as outlined in the TFA Residency Plan of Study. Visit the <a href="edtPA website">edTPA website</a> for more information.

## **Acronym Reference**

Acronym	Respective Term/Relation
TFA	Teach for America
ECU	East Carolina University
NC	North Carolina
СМ	Corps Member (of TFA)
DPI	Department of Public Instruction (of NC)
RL	Residency License (related to Form RL)
GPA	Grade Point Average
SBE	State Board of Education (related to testing)
EPP	Educator Preparation Program (ECU)
edTPA	Referring to the required external performance assessment
"licensure"	Referring to the DPI-issued Teaching License
"affiliation"	Referring to the EPP enrollment requirement
"credit-bearing"	Referring to courses requiring ECU institutional admission