



Master Professional Educator Designation Pathway

Building educator capacity through blended learning

The Arkansas Master Designation Pathway is a comprehensive, job-embedded professional learning program designed to develop experienced educators into content experts in literacy and math instruction. Through a five-day, three-series training model, participants build advanced expertise in analyzing student work, implementing high-impact, content-specific strategies, and engaging in reflective coaching practices. Delivered through a hybrid approach, the pathway integrates virtual instruction, a half-day of on-site coaching, and performance-based tasks to equip educators with the tools and knowledge to support instructional improvement and accelerate student learning in ELA and math.

Training Curriculum Structure:

1

Student Work Analysis - Leveraging Evidence to Propel Student Learning

Focuses on analyzing student work to identify instructional trends, elevate teacher practice, and deepen expertise to identify opportunities to propel learning forward within ELA and Math lessons.

2

Strengthening Content-Specific Strategies for Learning Acceleration in Math and ELA

Explores how to analyze student data, analyze standards, and apply scaffolds that support access to grade-level content. Emphasis will be placed on selecting and modeling instructional strategies that increase student engagement, ownership, and critical thinking.

3

Reflective Coaching and Support - Driving Growth Through Adult Learning

Focuses on building coaching capacity through evidence-based reflection, trust-building, actionable feedback, and goal setting that improves instructional practice and student learning.



Synchronous virtual sessions for interactive instruction, reflection, and discussion



Asynchronous components for individualized, flexible learning schedules



On-site individualized coaching to support implementation and deepen leadership skills



Job-embedded field experiences



Analyzing student work to propel learning forward for students



Advancing student learning through the use of high-impact content-specific instructional strategies



Assessing impact through reflective cycles of instructional support

Why Should I Add the Designation?

The Master Professional Educator designation is a licensure requirement for teachers aspiring to be an experienced Mentor Teacher to three specific groups of novice teachers:

- Teachers on Aspiring Teacher Permits
- Arkansas Registered Apprentices
- Yearlong supervised residents completing state-approved Educator Preparation Programs (effective Spring 2027)

Requirements to add the Designation per DESE:

- 3 years of licensed teaching experience. Experience can include time spent with a provisional license.
- Evidence of an effective or highly effective TESS rating on applicants' most recent summative teacher evaluation.

In addition to being an experienced Mentor Teacher, the Master Professional Educator designation is one of the ways outlined in LEARNS for districts to provide targeted support for students who are not meeting academic benchmarks in math and literacy at the end of grade 3.

