Become a Teacher

Tang Smith
Program Specialist

Washington State
Troops to Teachers
Program Purpose

- Assist transitioning Service members with meeting the requirements necessary to become a teacher and to assist with finding employment as a teacher.
- Recruit quality teachers for America’s schools, with priority to schools serving low-income families.
- Help relieve teacher shortages, primarily in Math, Science, Special Ed, and Vocational-Technical, but recruit all.
Teaching Specialties in Highest Demand

1. Special Education
2. Math
3. Science
4. Vocational-Technical
5. Foreign Language
The Credential Process

**State determines requirements**

- Minimum of bachelor’s degree, with a major (or equivalent) in endorsable content, from a regionally accredited institution (NCLB)
- Career/Technical/Vocational qualification
  - Minimum experience and training in skilled trade
  - No degree required in some states
- Three pillars: Content > Pedagogy > Testing
- Completion of a credential program
Pathway to Teacher Certification

- Traditional campus based programs
- Non-traditional programs
  - Online
  - Blended
- State/Local programs
  - Alternative routes to license/certificate
  - Teacher-in-residence
Counseling and Referral

- Counseling and Referral Only
  - Member has submitted registration but does not meet financial requirements
  - Currently serving or an honorably discharged veteran
  - Eligible for Counseling and Referral even if application for TTT was submitted after 3 years
Counseling and Referral

- Certification Requirements Information
- Teacher Training Programs Information
  - Traditional/Alternative/Online/Blended
- Links to Employment Opportunities
- Informal Assessment of Academic Qualifications
- Career Transition Assistance
What Do I Do Now?

1. Register with Troops to Teachers (TTT)
2. Evaluate career goals – DECIDE what and where to teach
3. Evaluate academic status
4. Explore the profession (substitute, volunteer, coach)
5. Research state licensing/certification requirements
6. Identify academic work needed to meet requirements
7. Research teacher preparation programs
8. Select teacher preparation program and apply for it
9. Complete teacher preparation program
10. Obtain license/certificate
11. Apply for teaching position and get hired!
12. *Stay in touch with Troops to Teachers*
   – *throughout and after first employment.*