



Additional Five Hours of Professional Learning

REQUIREMENT: CREC teachers in their first year with the agency are required to attend Teachers Academy and to complete five additional hours of professional learning outside of the work day. In addition, teachers in their second and third year at CREC who were hired with less than five years of experience are required to attend Teachers Academy and to complete five additional hours annually of professional learning outside of the work day.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What paperwork must I submit to show proof of completion?

Resources and forms are available at <http://www.crec.org/pd/tracking.php>. Click the button for CREC Teachers Professional Learning Tracking Form. All forms must be submitted by June 1, 2017.

When should the additional professional development take place?

The additional five hours of professional learning should occur outside of your contracted work day (evenings, weekends, or summer months).

What types of professional learning are permitted?

- Traditional PD events such as workshops, conferences, seminars, and facilitated book study groups
- Webinars and online courses
- Graduate school courses

Please note that you must provide documentation to verify your participation (e.g. certificate, transcript, attendance confirmation, schedule, handouts)

Should the professional learning focus on a specific topic?

Professional learning events should be selected to best meet both your needs and those of your students. Work with your TEAM Mentor or evaluator to help identify areas for continued growth. There should be a clear connection between your current practice and the event selected.

Do I need administrator approval prior to pursuing a specific professional learning opportunity?

The online form does not require your administrator's signature. It is expected that professional learning opportunities will be identified in collaboration with your administrator and aligned to your focus area for professional growth. In June, principals will receive a report detailing the professional development completed by the teachers in their building.

What is required if I was hired after Teachers Academy or was unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances?

If you are unable to attend Teachers Academy in a required year, you will make up your attendance in the following year(s). For example, if a teacher with less than five years of experience is hired after Teachers Academy, they will attend the event for the subsequent three years.

RESOURCES

For additional resources, visit <http://www.crec.org/pd/tracking.php>

- **Dine & Discuss Series:** Throughout the year, Dine & Discuss workshops are offered on a variety of topics and subject areas. Information on upcoming sessions can be found here: <http://www.crec.org/pd/events.php>
- **CREC Agency Events:** CREC's sale of service divisions offer numerous professional learning opportunities throughout the year. To explore the online event catalog, visit: <http://www.crec.org/events/index.php>
- **CT Core Standards Professional Development:** The CT Core Standards website provides a variety of resources for teachers, including information about professional development opportunities, on-demand professional learning, and a library of professional learning materials. <http://ctcorestandards.org/>
- **EdX:** EdX offers free, online courses from top universities. There are twenty-six education specific courses as well as a variety of content specific courses. <https://www.edx.org/>
- **edWeb.net:** A professional social and education learning network offering free education webinars. <http://home.edweb.net/>
- **TeachersFirst:** TeachersFirst offers free courses in two formats – live sessions and pre-recorded sessions – on a variety of educational topics. If you participate in a live session, you are eligible to receive a certificate of completion for that work. <http://www.teachersfirst.com/ok2ask/>
- **Intel® Teach Elements:** Online continuing education courses for teachers that focus on technology in 21st century classroom topics. From learning about social media to 21st century assessments, these free classes allow you to move at your own pace. <http://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/education/k12/teach-elements.html>