

Teacher Survey Questions

Thank you for your support in completing this survey. Please mark each item to the best of your knowledge and then click **Next** at the bottom of the page when you have finished to continue with the survey.

First, we would like to ask you a few questions about your background and current teaching position.

Please identify the type of program that you completed:

- District Alternative Certification Program ** (includes current participants)
- Educator Preparation Institute at a Florida Community College
- Educator Preparation Institute at a Florida college or university
- Traditional four year teacher education program at a Florida college or university
- Master's teacher education program at a Florida University
- Master's or specialist program in one of the following:
 - Educational Leadership
 - School Psychology
 - Guidance and Counseling

(If they select the last statement, have them phased out of the survey.)

For District Alternative Certification Program Teachers:

Are you currently enrolled in a District Alternative Certification Program? Yes No

Please identify your school district:

(Drop-down box with all school districts.)

Go to Question 1...

Have you completed your District Alternative Certification Program? Yes No

Please identify your school district:

(Drop-down box with all school districts.)

Go to Question 1 ...

(Phase out if answer to both questions is No.)

OR

For Educator Preparation Institute Teachers:

Please identify the EPI institution from which you completed:

(Drop-down box with all Florida EPI institutions)

OR

For Traditional Teacher Education Program Teachers:

Please identify the college or university from which you graduated:

(Drop-down box with all Florida Colleges and universities.)

1. Please identify the answer that best describes your teaching experience:

- 0-1 Year
- 1-2 Years
- 2-3 years
- More than 3 years

2. Gender

Male

Female

3. Race/Ethnicity
 - White
 - Black
 - Hispanic
 - Asian
 - American Indian
 - Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander
 - Other
4. Age _____
5. What grade level do you teach? _____
6. What is your main teaching assignment (e.g., elementary, math, science, social studies, etc.)

Next, we would like to ask you some questions about your teacher preparation program (including district alternative certification program).

Rating Scale for each of the following items:

- 1- Very effective*
- 2-Effective*
- 3-Not very effective*
- 4-Ineffective*

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Assessment.

1. Use a variety of student data to assess student abilities (including alternative assessments).
2. Use student data to individualize instruction.
3. Maintain student records to monitor student progress.
4. Use FCAT and other assessment data to improve and enhance instruction.
5. Overall, in the area of Assessment.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Communication.

1. Model good communication skills to students through instruction and daily interaction.
2. Provide timely and appropriate feedback to students.
3. Communicate high learning expectations to each student.
4. Incorporate activities that promote effective group communication skills.
5. Communicates effectively with colleagues and administrators.
6. Overall, in the area of Communication.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Continuous Improvement.

1. Use student data to identify professional development needs.
2. Use her/his experiences to assist in the design of a professional development plan.
3. Participate in professional development to support school improvement efforts.
4. Implement professional development in classroom instruction.
5. Overall, in the area of Continuous Improvement.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Critical Thinking.

1. Model higher order thinking skills in the classroom.
2. Provide opportunities for students to expand their higher order thinking skills by posing problems, dilemmas and questions in lessons.
3. Encourage innovative and creative thinking in students through the use of identified strategies, materials, and technologies.
4. Overall, in the area of Critical Thinking.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Diversity.

1. Treat diverse students equitably by fostering acceptance of linguistic, cultural, and experiential diversity.
2. Use a variety of teaching techniques and strategies to effectively instruct students.
3. Communicate effectively with families and students from culturally diverse backgrounds.
4. Overall, in the area of Diversity.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Ethics.

1. Make reasonable effort to protect students from harmful conditions that interfere with their learning.
2. Do not interfere with colleagues' rights to exercise their political and civil rights.
3. Adhere to ethical standards in the classroom.
4. Overall, in the area of Ethics.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Human Development and Learning.

1. Recognize developmental levels of students and identifies differences within a group of students.
2. Incorporate appropriate instructional strategies to accommodate different learning styles including those students who are identified as ELL, ESE, and/or underachieving.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of learning theories, subject matter structure, curriculum development, student development, and first and second language acquisition processes.
4. Overall, in the area of Human Development.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Knowledge of Subject Area.

1. Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the subject that is being taught.
2. Use relevant materials and technologies to promote student learning.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of Sunshine State Standards in the subject area.
4. Demonstrate how knowledge can be applied to real-world settings.
5. Overall, in the area of Knowledge of Subject Area.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Learning Environments.

1. Provide students with opportunities to be accountable for their own behavior, including involvement in establishing rules and standards.
2. Arrange and manages the physical environment to induce a positive learning experience.
3. Maintain academic focus through a variety of instructional techniques and strategies.
4. Overall, in the area of Learning Environments.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Planning and Instruction.

1. Plan and conduct lessons with identified student learning and performance outcomes.
2. Plan instruction that is aligned with Sunshine State Standards.
3. Connect learning activities, resources, and evaluation criteria to stated goals and objectives.
4. Collaborate with colleagues to plan lessons that are interdisciplinary.
5. Overall, in the area of Planning and Instruction.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Professional Role.

1. Serve as an advocate for the student.
2. Involve community members to enhance student learning.
3. Understand the protocol for identifying and reporting signs of child abuse and substance abuse.
4. Communicate effectively with parents.
5. Overall, in the area of Professional Role.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Technology.

1. Use technology tools to assist with management of student learning.
2. Teach students to use available computers and other forms of technology to enhance their learning.
3. Integrate different technologies to support diverse learning processes.
4. Teach students to use a variety of electronic media to communicate ideas and information.
5. Overall, in the area of Technology.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of Reading.

1. Incorporate reading strategies in instructional planning in various subject areas.
2. Integrate reading activities in other curricular areas.
3. Use individual reading assessments to improve student academic performance.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of research-based, developmentally appropriate reading strategies.
5. Overall, in the area of Reading.

Please rate your professional preparation in the following areas of FCAT.

1. Prepare students for taking the FCAT by using aggregated data to create and assess instruction that focuses on improving student achievement.
2. Monitor student performance on core benchmarks throughout the year.
3. Provide students with strategies to improve test-taking skills.
4. Collaborate with colleagues and administrators to improve student achievement on the FCAT.

*****For teachers with 0-1 years of teaching experience (from question 1)**

Please answer the following questions about your first year as a classroom teacher.

1. What is your employment status for next year?

Contract Signed
Contract Expected
Teaching in another district
Teaching in another state
Unsure
Leaving teaching
Not rehired

2. If leaving teaching, please indicate your reasons for doing so. Please check all that apply:

Low salary
Lack of administrative support
Required duties were too demanding
Lack of proper preparation to perform teaching duties
Student behavior
Other _____

3. Did you participate in a new teacher induction program?

Yes
No

If yes - (3a)

3a. How would you rate your induction program?

- a. Very effective
- b. Effective
- c. Not very effective
- d. Ineffective

4. Are you currently assigned a peer mentor (coach, tutor)?

Yes
No

(If yes - 4a -4c)

4a. How often have you been in contact with your mentor?

Not yet
Once
Once monthly
A few times a month
Weekly
Nearly every day

4b. Is your mentor experienced in the same or similar subject area(s) which you are currently assigned to teach?

Yes
No

4c. How important has your mentor been in helping you develop as a teacher?

Very important
Important
Somewhat important
Not very important

5. How often do you meet formally with other new teachers?

Never
Rarely
Sometimes
Frequently

6. How many times have you been formally observed in the classroom?

Never
1-2 times
3-5 times
More than five times

7. How often does your principal/assistant principal provide you useful feedback about your teaching?
- Never
 - Rarely
 - Sometimes
 - Frequently
8. Has your principal/assistant principal helped you understand the overall mission and vision of your school?
- Yes
 - No
 - Somewhat
9. Has your principal/assistant principal helped you become a valued member of the school community?
- Yes
 - No
 - Somewhat
10. How much are teachers involved in making important educational decisions in your school?
- Teachers are rarely involved in making important decisions.
 - Teachers are involved in a few important decisions.
 - Teachers are involved in some important decisions.
 - Teachers are involved in most important decisions.
 - I am not sure.
11. How often do the teachers in your school give each other feedback about teaching?
- Never
 - Rarely
 - Sometimes
 - Frequently
12. How often do the teachers in your school work together to respond to student needs?
- Never
 - Rarely
 - Sometimes
 - Frequently
13. How much do teachers at your school share common beliefs and values about what the mission of the school should be?
- They share very few values.
 - They share some values.
 - They share most values.
 - I don't know.

14. How often is time scheduled at your school to work collaboratively (e.g., team meetings, study groups, etc.)?

Never
Rarely
Sometimes
Frequently

15. Do the policies at your school contribute to or interfere with your ability to teach effectively?

Interfere a lot
Interfere a little
Contribute a little
Contribute a lot
I don't know

Rating scale for items 16-20

- 1 – Not at all***
2 -- Not very well
3 -- Fairly well
4 -- Very well

16. How well are you able to control disruptive behavior in the classroom?

17. How well are you able to get children to follow classroom rules?

18. How well are you able to motivate students who show low interest in school work?

19. How well are you able to provide appropriate challenges for very capable students?

20. How well are you able to engage your students in classroom learning?

21. Overall, how effective do you feel as a teacher?

1 – Very effective
2 – Effective
3—Not very effective
4 – Ineffective

**** Section for Teachers Who Have Taught 2 or more years (from question 1, page 2)**

1. What is your employment status for next year?

Contract Signed
Contract Expected
Teaching in another district
Teaching in another state
Unsure
Leaving teaching
Not rehired

2. If leaving teaching, please indicate your reasons for doing so. Please check all that apply:

- Low salary
- Lack of administrative support
- Required duties were too demanding
- Lack of proper preparation to perform teaching duties
- Student behavior
- Other _____

3. Are you teaching in the same school you were teaching your first year?

- Yes
- No

(If No, answer 3a)

3a. Why did you change schools?

- Lack of administrative support
- Student behavior
- Negative atmosphere among the teachers
- School policies regarding discipline and/or curriculum
- Other

4. Are you teaching the same subject and/or grade assignment that you were teaching your first year?

- Yes
- No

(If No, answer 4a)

4a. Please indicate the subject area and/or grade level you were teaching your first year.

5. Please indicate why your teaching assignment changed?

- Personal reason
- Administrative request
- Other

6. When you were a first year teacher, did you participate in a new teacher induction program?

- Yes
- No

(If yes - (6a))

6a. How would you rate your induction program?

- a. Very effective
- b. Effective
- c. Not very effective
- d. Ineffective

7. Were you assigned a peer mentor (coach, tutor) during your first year of teaching?

Yes
No

(If yes – 7a -7c)

7a. How often were you in contact with your mentor?

Once
Once monthly
A few times a month
Weekly
Nearly every day

7b. Was your mentor experienced in the same or similar subject area(s) which you were assigned to teach?

Yes
No

7c. How important was your mentor in helping you develop as a teacher?

Very important
Important
Somewhat important
Not very important

8. How often did you meet formally with other new teachers in your first year of teaching?

Never
Rarely
Sometimes
Frequently

9. How many times during your first year of teaching were you formally observed in the classroom?

Never
1-2 times
3-5 times
More than five times

10. How often during your first year of teaching did your principal/assistant principal provide you useful feedback about your teaching?

Never
Rarely
Sometimes
Frequently

11. Did your principal/assistant principal help you understand the overall mission and vision of your school?

Yes
No
Somewhat

12. Did your principal/assistant principal help you become a valued member of the school community?

Yes
No
Somewhat

13. How much are teachers involved in making important educational decisions in your school?

Teachers are rarely involved in making important decisions.
Teachers are involved in a few important decisions.
Teachers are involved in some important decisions.
Teachers are involved in most important decisions.
I am not sure.

14. How often do the teachers in your school give each other feedback about teaching?

Never
Rarely
Sometimes
Frequently

15. How often do the teachers in your school work together to respond to student needs?

Never
Rarely
Sometimes
Frequently

16. How much do teachers at your school share common beliefs and values about what the mission of the school should be?

They share very few values.
They share some values.
They share most values.
I don't know.

17. How often is time scheduled at your school to work collaboratively (e.g., team meetings, study groups, etc.)?

Never
Rarely
Sometimes
Frequently

18. Do the policies at your school contribute to or interfere with your ability to teach effectively?

Interfere a lot
Interfere a little
Contribute a little
Contribute a lot
I don't know

Rating scale for items 19-23

- 5 – *Not at all*
- 6 -- *Not very well*
- 7 -- *Fairly well*
- 8 -- *Very well*

- 19. How well are you able to control disruptive behavior in the classroom?
- 20. How well are you able to get children to follow classroom rules?
- 21. How well are you able to motivate student who show low interest in school work?
- 22. How well are you able to provide appropriate challenges for very capable students?
- 23. How well are you able to engage your students in classroom learning?
- 24. Overall, how effective do you feel as a teacher?

- 1 – Very effective
- 2 – Effective
- 3—Not very effective
- 4 -- Ineffective

District Alternative Certification Program Teachers

Please answer the following questions about your District’s Alternative Certification Program.

- 1. Did you know about the Alternative Certification option before you started teaching?
Yes
No

- 2. Where did you first hear about the Alternative Certification Option?

- During a teacher recruitment event
- From a school or district administrator
- From the Florida DOE Website
- From any other website
- Other

If other, please specify:

- 3. Did knowing about the District’s Alternative Certification Program have an influence on your decision to teach?
Yes
No

- 4. How long have you been participating in your District’s Alternative Certification Program?

- Less than 6 months
- 6 months to 1 year
- 1 year to 2 years
- 2 years to 3 years
- more than 3 years

5. Highest degree received:
Bachelors
Masters
Educational Specialist
Doctorate (Ph.D. or Ed.D.)
6. What was your main activity the year before you began teaching at the elementary or secondary level?
7. List professional jobs held since you obtained your bachelors degree. Start with your most recent job.
8. Have you had a pre-assessment of your skills on the 12 Florida Educator Accomplished Practices?

Yes
No
9. Has an individual plan (or Professional Development Plan) for your alternative certification program been developed?

Yes
No
10. Did you receive training in classroom management skills (survival skills)?

Yes
No
11. If you received training, when did you receive it?

_____ month/year
12. How useful was the training in classroom management skills (survival skills training)?

Very useful
Somewhat useful
Not very useful

Teacher Survey for Community College EPI Program Completers

1. Is English your primary language?

- A. Yes
- B. No

If No, please specify:

2. What is the highest degree you have earned?

- A. Bachelors
- B. Masters
- C. Educational Specialist
- D. Doctorate (Ph.D. or Ed.D.)

3. Where did you earn your highest degree?

- A. Florida public community college or college (Chipola College, Daytona Beach Community College, Edison College, Miami Dade College, Okaloosa Walton College, St. Petersburg College, Florida Community College at Jacksonville)
- B. Florida public state university
- C. Florida private college or university
- D. Out-of-state college or university
- E. Online college or university
- F. Other

If Other, please specify

4. What was your most recent career, or status, prior to becoming a teacher?

- A. Business or Industry
- B. Nonprofit Organization
- C. Military
- D. Other Government (local, state, or federal)
- E. College Student
- F. Other

If Other, please specify:

5. How did you first hear about the Educator Preparation Institute program?

- A. Newspaper
- B. Radio
- C. Local Information Session
- D. School District
- E. Florida DOE website
- F. Other

If Other, please specify:

6. What types of financial aid did you receive for the EPI program?

- A. Did not seek financial aid
- B. Troops to Teachers/Spouses to Teachers
- C. Critical Teacher Shortage Loan Forgiveness Program
- D. Federal Pell Grant
- E. Student Loan
- F. Scholarship from institution you attended
- G. State Employee Tuition Waiver
- H. Other

If Other, please specify:

7. How long did it take to complete your EPI coursework and field experiences?

- A. Less than 2 months
- B. 2 to 4 months
- C. 5 to 9 months
- D. 10 to 12 months
- E. More than 12 months

8. How long did it take to pass the Professional Education subtest of the Florida Teacher Certification Exam?

- A. Passed the Professional Education subtest before completing the EPI program
- B. Passed the Professional Education subtest within 3 months of program completion
- C. Passed the Professional Education subtest within 6 months of program completion
- D. Passed the Professional Education subtest within 9 months of program completion
- E. Passed the Professional Education subtest within 12 months of program completion
- F. Passed the Professional Education subtest within 24 months of program completion
- G. Other

If Other, please specify:

9. How long did it take to pass all three subtests of the Florida Teacher Certification Exam (General Knowledge, Professional Education, and Subject Area Exam)?

- A. Passed all three subtests before completing the EPI program
- B. Passed all three subtests within 3 months of program completion
- C. Passed all three subtests within 6 months of program completion
- D. Passed all three subtests within 9 months of program completion
- E. Passed all three subtests within 12 months of program completion
- F. Passed all three subtests within 24 months of program completion
- G. Other

If Other, please specify:

10. What was the primary delivery method for your EPI classes?

- A. Face-to-face instruction
- B. Online instruction
- C. Blended or Hybrid instruction (combination of face-to-face and online instruction)
- D. Other

If Other, please specify:

11. The EPI Career Portfolio (electronic portfolio) was an effective resource to document mastery of the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices for EPI faculty/staff and for prospective employers.

- A. Strongly disagree
- B. Disagree
- C. Neither agree nor disagree
- D. Agree
- E. Strongly agree

12. Having the EPI as an alternative pathway to teacher certification greatly influenced my decision to become a teacher.

- F. Strongly disagree
- G. Disagree
- H. Neither agree nor disagree
- I. Agree
- J. Strongly agree

13. EPI personnel were able to accurately answer my questions about the process of teacher certification, or referred me to someone who could answer my questions.

- A. Strongly disagree
- B. Disagree
- C. Neither agree nor disagree
- D. Agree
- E. Strongly agree

14. I had satisfactory access to EPI faculty and advisors during the program.

- A. Strongly disagree
- B. Disagree
- C. Neither agree nor disagree
- D. Agree
- E. Strongly agree

15. I received satisfactory assistance and support from the EPI faculty during the program.

- A. Strongly disagree
- B. Disagree
- C. Neither agree nor disagree
- D. Agree
- E. Strongly agree

16. The EPI coursework and field experiences prepared me to pass the Professional Education portion of the Florida Teacher Certification Exam.

- A. Strongly disagree
- B. Disagree
- C. Neither agree nor disagree
- D. Agree
- E. Strongly agree

17. The EPI coursework and field experiences prepared me to begin teaching in a K-12 environment.

- A. Strongly disagree
- B. Disagree
- C. Neither agree nor disagree
- D. Agree
- E. Strongly agree

18. The EPI field experiences provided me with adequate opportunities to practice teaching in a K-12 environment.

- A. Strongly disagree
- B. Disagree
- C. Neither agree nor disagree
- D. Agree
- E. Strongly agree

19. As a result of the EPI program, I felt prepared to enter the K-12 classroom as a beginning teacher.

- A. Strongly disagree
- B. Disagree
- C. Neither agree nor disagree
- D. Agree
- E. Strongly agree

20. Overall, I was satisfied with my experience in the EPI teacher preparation program.

- A. Strongly disagree
- B. Disagree
- C. Neither agree nor disagree
- D. Agree
- E. Strongly agree

21. List your recommendation(s) to improve the EPI teacher preparation program.

Text Box for response