

# PROSPECTIVE TEACHERS!



**If you have your Bachelor's Degree and want to become a special education teacher, there may be funds available to assist you!**

Selected candidates will receive \$25,000 to cover costs associated with obtaining their special education credential via Cal Poly Humboldt's Education Specialist Credential Program.

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**Apply Today at**  
**[hcoe.org/teacher-residency](https://hcoe.org/teacher-residency)**

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The Humboldt Office of Education (HCOE) is pleased to announce funding awarded through the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) competitive Teacher Residency Expansion Grant. In partnership with Cal Poly Humboldt, HCOE has created a consortium of Northern California County Offices of Education and small school districts to offer Residency Program candidates from across the region to obtain their Education Specialist credential.

Each selected candidate will receive \$25,000 to assist with costs such as: program tuition and fees, textbooks, assessment/testing fees.

Paraprofessionals, classroom aides and others interested in becoming an Education Specialist teacher in the Northern California consortium counties (Del Norte, Humboldt, Lassen, Modoc, Shasta, and Plumas) are eligible to apply.

Residents may have the opportunity to be hired as a paraprofessional while simultaneously enrolled in the CPH Education Specialist Credential Program allowing selected participants to obtain their preliminary Education Specialist teaching credential.

The grant provides additional funds to support district selected mentor teachers who provide valuable support and guidance to eligible residency candidates.

The funding for the Teacher Residency Program is provided for a cohort of residents for the 2025/26 school year. The eligible candidates in the teacher residency program shall agree in writing to work as an education specialist in a California school for a period of at least four years, serving a caseload of pupils who receive special education services in a special education setting.

Ideally, the sponsored candidate will be hired in the district where they served as a teacher resident. A candidate who fails to complete the period of placement and the service agreement of four years in California schools, will be expected to reimburse HCOE the amount of funding that was invested in the candidate's residency training.

### **What this means for Teacher Residents:**

- This is an exciting way to earn your education specialist credential while working as a paraprofessional.
- You have the opportunity to work within a school or district where you already have established a relationship.
- The grant requires a commitment of teaching for four years after obtaining the credential as a resident or pay back the portion of the contribution at a prorated rate.
- You will receive support from an "experienced mentor teacher" who has at least three years of teaching experience and a clear credential authorizing instruction of special education, has a record of successful teaching, and who agrees to receive specific mentor training.
- Selected Residents will need to meet the subject matter requirement prior to the fall 2025 semester.

### **Next steps:**

1. Please meet with administration from prospective school site(s) to determine if there is a clear need for special education Teacher Residents within that district for the 2025/26 academic year.
2. Please complete Cal Poly Humboldt's Education Specialist Program application by visiting <https://www.humboldt.edu/education/credential-programs/special-education/eligibility-application>. Early application priority deadline has been extended to May 1, 2025. All others open until full.
3. Complete the HCOE Teacher Resident Eligibility Application at <https://hcoe.org/teacher-residency/application/>

For more information about Cal Poly Humboldt's Education Specialist Program and/or their application process, please visit <https://www.humboldt.edu/education/credential-programs/special-education/eligibility-application> or contact Bernie Levy at (707) 826-5795.

For more information about the Teacher Residency Grant requirements, contact Sheila Rocker Heppe, Ed.D. at the Humboldt County Office of Education at (707) 441-3912 or at [srockerheppe@hcoe.org](mailto:srockerheppe@hcoe.org).