

The Region 7 TPCP Mentor's Role

The mentor teacher is vital to the field-based teacher preparation and certification process because the mentor has primary responsibility for on-site training, the most important aspect of teacher preparation. The mentor will provide technical assistance, encouragement, and support to the intern throughout the year. The mentor will assist and teach the intern, while at the same time encouraging the development of professional independence. The mentor will work collaboratively with the intern to determine the level and type of support and/or training that is needed.

Region 7 TPCP Mentor Selection Criteria

The **mentor** was selected because he/she is...

- An experienced, certified teacher (with a minimum of three years' teaching experience, whenever possible) who demonstrates excellence in teaching and in working with adults.
- Employed as a classroom teacher and dedicated to serving as a mentor.
- Teaching the same subject, instructional area, and/or grade level on the same campus as the intern, whenever possible.
- Willing to complete six clock hours of Region 7 TPC Mentor Training.
- A teacher who conveys enthusiasm for learning and is respected by other teachers.
- A reflective practitioner who is sensitive to the viewpoints of others.
- A teacher who enjoys sharing and helping others to succeed.
- Recommended by the campus principal or other district administrator.

Region 7 TPCP Mentor Responsibilities

- Communicate with Region 7 TPCP staff regarding how Region 7 personnel can most effectively support the intern and mentor.
- Meet regularly with the intern, formally and informally.
- Guide the intern through the daily operation of school.
- Complete six hours of TPCP Mentor Training.
- Complete an Orientation Checklist summarizing the activities and interactions with the intern before and during the first days/weeks of school.
- Demonstrate classroom instruction/activities for the intern.
- Assist the intern in choosing a variety of teachers' classes to visit/observe.
- Be a role model in all aspects of professionalism.
- Support and counsel the intern.
- Complete six (6) 45 minute (minimum) classroom observations of the intern and provide both written and verbal feedback that facilitates professional growth.
- Identify areas of concern in intern performance as early in the school year as possible and provide appropriate counseling, guidance, and recommendations for improvement.
- Communicate with Region 7 to initiate efforts to assist the intern to develop more effective teaching skills and professional conduct when indicated, based on observations of the intern's teaching and professionalism.
- Submit required documentation of intern performance to Region 7 TPCP within designated timeline (described on Mentor Agreement and Observation Form).
- Participate in Region 7 TPCP Program evaluation