

## WEA Teacher Residency Program Admission and Completion Requirements 2024-2025

### Program Admission Requirements

The following is a summary of the WEA teacher residency program admissions requirements. [Find out more](#) about the WEA Teacher Residency program and admission process. For support on the admissions application process, please contact [admissions@washingtonea.org](mailto:admissions@washingtonea.org).

Unless otherwise noted, all of the following must be completed by the admissions application deadline.

- Complete admissions **application**
- **Bachelor's degree** or higher earned by program start date
- Have completed an approved **basic skills assessment**. No minimum score is required.
- 18 years of age
- Personal **narrative**
- **Resume** or **description** of experience with students and children
- If invited, **interview** during the designated interview week, and completion of a [virtual teaching simulation in Mursion](#).
- Two **letters of recommendation**. At least one of the letters must be from a current or previous supervisor. If possible, at least one of the letters should document experience with students or children.
- **Candidate assurances**. Candidate affirms that they have reviewed the following:
  - Candidate has reviewed program admission and completion requirements (this document)
  - [Fingerprint background](#) check, [character and fitness](#), and pre-residency clearance
  - Content knowledge assessment: Must attempt the content knowledge assessment, [Special Education WEST-E 070](#), prior to student teaching
  - Availability for in-person and online portions of program
  - Candidate agreement

**Post-admissions requirements.** You will receive more information on these requirements if admitted to the program. For full acceptance, candidates will be required to:

- Candidates must complete a [character and fitness](#) questionnaire and a [fingerprint background check](#) prior to any field experience.
- Take the **content knowledge assessment**. Attempting the content knowledge assessment, [Special Education WEST-E 070](#), is required prior to student teaching. Passing the content knowledge assessment, or receiving a case-by-case exception, is required for program completion.
- Submit first **tuition payment**

## WEA Teacher Residency Program Completion Requirements 2024-2025

This is a summary of WEA Teacher Residency program completion requirements. The WEA teacher residency program will recommend candidates for certification to the OSPI certification office after successful completion of all program requirements. The candidate then completes the application for certification.

Overall requirements for program completion and certification are set at the state level, and may be changed by the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) and the state legislature.

WEA Teacher residency program completion requirements:

- **Bachelor's degree** or higher
- Have completed an approved **basic skills assessment**. No minimum score is required.
- **Content knowledge assessment**: Pass the [Special Education WEST-E 070](#), or attempt the WEST-E at least once, and receive a case-by-case exception. Contact WEA program staff for more information on case-by-case exceptions.
- **Clinical experience**: Candidates must complete at least 540 hours of student teaching, and meet standard in all areas on the WEA observation rubric. The hours may include all work in the role of a teacher.
  - Candidate must also complete field experience with student populations different than the candidate
- **Issues of abuse and emotional/behavioral distress in students**
  - This is part of the WEA course, "Learner Growth & Development - Issues of Abuse and Emotional Behavioral Distress."
- **Coursework** demonstrating competency in the inTASC standards, Cultural Competency, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (CCDEI) standards, social emotional learning (SEL), Pacific Northwest history and the Since Time Immemorial (STI) program, working with paraeducators, TPEP, and certification.
- Professional Growth Plan (**PGP**) for program completion
- Completion of at least one **endorsement** program, including coursework aligned to the special education endorsement competencies and related field experience
- **Tuition**: All outstanding tuition and fees must be paid to the WEA. Please contact WEA staff for information on WEA financial assistance.
- **Character/fitness**: Unless the candidate holds a valid Washington state certificate, fingerprinting must be completed again just prior to residency certification if previous fingerprints are more than two years old. WEA also completes a character/fitness affidavit.
- **Timeline**: The anticipated program completion timeline for most candidates is one summer, a school year, and a second summer. All candidates must complete the program within five years from the date of admission.
- **Certification**: After successful completion of the program, WEA will recommend the candidate to the OSPI Certification office. [The candidate themselves must apply for a residency teacher certificate.](#)