Education Is Tradition Too

Sapsik’waŋa (Teacher) Education Project

College of Education in partnership with the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of the State of Oregon

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
Become a Teacher Leader

The goal of the Sapsik’wafá project is to prepare American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) as teachers whose knowledge, skills, and cultural sensitivity will bring about long-term, much needed improvements in the elementary, middle and high school educational experiences of AI/AN youth. The UO College of Education (COE) will prepare you as a professional to meet the lifelong learning and developmental needs of children and young adults.

The heart of the Sapsik’wafá project is the building of communities of practice, whose participants share problems of practice that arise in the workplace, learn from each other, build a professional identity, and find support and opportunities for career growth. Communities of practice foster your seamless evolution from pre-service teacher to induction as a new teacher through becoming a teacher leader.

The project provides a full year of support services when you begin teaching: provision of a mentor, formative evaluations of your teaching, support for attendance at a professional conference, cohort seminar meetings, an electronic distribution and discussion list, and access to the Sapsik’wafá virtual curriculum and research center.
Teacher Education Program Characteristics

- Integrated theory and practice
- Performance-based assessment
- Standards-driven
- Focus on emerging technologies
- Opportunity to earn a master’s degree concurrently with the Oregon Initial Teacher license
- Course work built on the cohort model, in which all students in the program begin at the same time, and remain as a group through graduation
- Mentor relationships with practitioners

Teacher Program Qualifications

Applicants must

- Hold a bachelor’s degree by the time they begin their program of study and
- Have either an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 or provide evidence of graduate potential

Contact individual teacher education programs for further qualifications.
Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the federal stipulations defining American Indian, i.e., an individual who is

- A member of an Indian tribe or band, as membership is defined by the Indian tribe or band, including any tribe or band terminated since 1940, and any tribe or band recognized by the State in which the tribe or band resides; or
- A descendent of an enrolled parent or grandparent who meets the requirements described above; or
- Considered by the Secretary of the Interior to be an Indian for any purpose; or
- An Eskimo, Aleut, or other Alaska Native; or
- A member of an organized Indian group that received a grant under the Indian Education Act of 1988 as it was in effect October 19, 1994

Two-Step Application Procedure

1. Apply to a COE teacher education program:

   Visit the College of Education website (education.uoregon.edu) to determine which program best matches your interests and qualifications. Contact the appropriate Elementary and Middle/High School or Special Education and Early Intervention Teaching academic secretary listed on the back of this brochure.

   Application deadlines vary by program.

2. Apply to the Sapsik’wafá project:

   Contact one of the Sapsik’wafá staff members to request a project application. See contact information on the back of this brochure. Our website is education.uoregon.edu/sapsikwala.

   Application deadline is February 16th.
The University of Oregon College of Education and the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of the State of Oregon have created the Sapsikʷəfən project—a comprehensive model for the recruitment, support, pre-service training, and in-service mentorship of American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) as teachers serving AI/AN communities. The project features the following unique components:

- UO College of Education has been ranked among the **top 10 public colleges of education** in the nation for ten years in a row.
- The Sapsikʷəfən project has supported **American Indian and Alaska Native** graduate students in teacher preparation programs since 2002.
- Program participants receive **tuition and fee remission, a monthly stipend, book allowance, and computer**.
- Students will be provided **academic support** within the project and through the Office of Multicultural Academic Services.
- A **cohort-within-a-cohort model** brings Sapsikʷəfən project participants together for a seminar on issues of high concern for teachers of AI/AN students.
- The **tribes are integrally involved** partners. Project activities are overseen by an advisory council of representatives from the tribal consortium and the university.
- Programs of study include **Elementary level programs**: Early Intervention, Early Childhood/Elementary Teaching, and Early Childhood/Elementary Special Education. **Middle school and high school programs**: Middle/High School Teaching and Middle/High School Special Education.
COE Teacher Education Programs

**Early Childhood/Elementary Teaching**
Richelle Chambers Krotts - 541-346-1360
uoteach@uoregon.edu

**Middle/High School Teaching**

**Special Education and Early Intervention Programs**
Emily Cornell - 541-346-1638
ecornell@uoregon.edu

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The Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of the State of Oregon

- **Burns Paiute** Tribe
- Confederated Tribes of the **Coos**, **Lower Umpqua**, and **Siuslaw** Indians
- **Coquille** Indian Tribe
- **Cow Creek** Band of Umpqua Indians
- Confederated Tribes of the **Grand Ronde**
- The **Klamath** Tribes
- Confederated Tribes of the **Siletz** Indians of Oregon
- Confederated Tribes of the **Umatilla** Indian Reservation
- Confederated Tribes of the **Warm Springs** Reservation

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