Teacher Quality Institute:
Promoting Excellence in Teaching

The Teacher Quality Institute is dedicated to supporting the development and enhancement of pedagogy and content knowledge of teachers within Murray State University’s service region. This is achieved through recruiting potential teachers, providing professional development opportunities, and structuring high quality preservice experiences.

This choice changes everything.

Learn more about our complimentary services!

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
Teacher Quality Institute

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Our Services

- **Alternative Route to Certification**
  Alternative Certification programs are a primary function of Murray State University’s Teacher Quality Institute. This alternative route to certification was developed to provide a way for highly qualified candidates to enter the teaching profession while helping local school districts fill the need for teachers, particularly in those areas with a critical shortage.

- **EDU 104: Exploration of Teaching**
  This dual-credit course is offered to junior and senior high school students who have been admitted to Murray State University through Racer Academy. EDU 104 substitutes for EDU 103, which is a requirement for teacher education students. Participants will receive three hours of college credit.

- **Grant Proposals**
  The Teacher Quality Institute partners with the Kentucky Department of Education, the Council on Postsecondary Education, and other agencies to secure services focused on increasing student achievement.

- **Praxis Tutoring**
  Individual tutoring sessions, study tips, and other resources are available for Murray State University students who are struggling with the Praxis CASE, PLT, and content tests.

- **Professional Development School**
  This new initiative allows teacher candidates to begin the school year with mentor teachers in host schools. Participants will have the unique opportunity of serving as “junior faculty members” for an entire academic year, alongside highly capable master educators. This year-long internship epitomizes the idea of "learning by doing." Our aim is that graduates will be fully prepared as competent, confident, and committed educators, ready to meet the challenges faced by teachers today.

Tailored Professional Development

The Teacher Quality Institute offers training in the following areas, which can be customized based on the needs of your individual school or district.

- **Best Practices in Teaching**
  Providing a toolkit of research-based strategies designed to improve instruction

- **Classroom Instructional Rounds**
  Organizing and leading peer observations in high performing classrooms using the Framework for Teaching

- **Classroom Management**
  Coaching individual teachers, grade levels, or schools in reviewing and developing comprehensive Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

- **Co-Teaching Strategies**
  Learning how to best utilize volunteers, instructional assistants, and partner teachers in your classroom in order to increase personalized instruction for students while reducing the teacher-student ratio

- **Next Generation Accountability**
  Working with school leadership on data analysis, setting goals, and developing strategies to increase student performance

- **Teacher Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (TPGES)**
  Providing tools to increase performance levels among the four domains of The Danielson Group’s Framework for Teaching

Sponsored Events

- **College- and Career-Readiness Summit**
  The annual College- and Career-Readiness Summit is a two-day professional development opportunity for regional educators. Attendees are able to learn from other area teachers and experts in the field of education while earning six hours of Professional Development (PD) and Effective Instructional Leadership Act (EILA) hours each day - all at no cost!

- **Educators Rising Conference**
  This fall conference is held each year for regional high school students interested in pursuing teaching as a profession. Participants are able to spend a day on the Murray State campus, learning about University life and how to prepare for a career in the field of education.