

The University of Texas at San Antonio's (UTSA) College of Education and Human Development's (COEHD) Academy for Teacher Excellence (ATE) would like to extend a cordial invitation to you to participate as a Field Induction Specialist (mentor) and member of a cadre of master teachers. ATE has received a grant from the Greater Texas Foundation (GTF).

The focus of ATE-Teacher Academy Induction Learning Community proposes to provide interested master teachers with specialized, research based training to become Field Induction Specialists. Participation would include the benefits listed below:

- financial support for participation in a graduate level course in the area of mentoring in the summer of 2008
- on-going professional development at UTSA in the area of novice teacher mentoring
- improvement of professional competency by applying cognitive coaching skills
- access to a resource of new ideas about curriculum and teaching
- development of reflective practice
- empowerment via your mentor role by having a greater sense of significance in the world---giving back to the teaching profession
- sense of increased confidence, maturity and objectivity
- capacity for leadership development
- recognition of valuable knowledge and expertise
- recognition at campus and district levels in a leadership role
- participation in university research projects on teacher preparation
- opportunity to become a mentor within a community of practice and
- a one-year contract to be hired as Field Induction Specialist through ATE

Both your expertise and experience will significantly benefit novice teachers as you guide them through those first delicate years of teaching. Your familiarity with the most current research theory tied to pedagogy and methodology and your first-hand experience will bring a wealth of resources to guide our novice teachers. Your knowledge of grade-specific curriculum and classroom practices will enable our novice teachers not only to be successful in their first year of teaching, but for many years to come!

As a participant of this cadre, this graduate course can count towards a master's degree. If you are accepted to our doctoral program, this course can be petitioned to count towards your degree. We are presently seeking other funding to provide tuition assistance for cadre participants. .

It is with great encouragement and anticipation that we send this invitation to you in an effort to tap into your expertise and invite you to join our ATE team. You may submit Self-nomination Form (attached) and Resume via email to [ate@utsa.edu](mailto:ate@utsa.edu) or by fax to (210) 458-6171, by no later than April 14, 2008. Also, apply to the UTSA Graduate School by no later than April 21, 2008. You may apply online at the following link: <http://www.utsa.edu/graduate/Admission/index.html>. Thank you in advance for your interest in our program.