Become Prepared to Make a Difference

2016-2017 Program Description
Interim Certification Program & Master of Arts in Educational Studies: Urban Pedagogy for Teach For America-Detroit Corps Members
www.soe.umich.edu tfa.soe.umich.edu
### Program Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option 1</th>
<th>INTERIM CERTIFICATION PROGRAM – ONLY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum requirement</strong> for corps members who do not already hold State of Michigan provisional or professional teaching certificates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Current enrollment as a TFA-Detroit corps member
- 3.0+ Undergraduate GPA
- Pass appropriate MTTC tests
- Successfully complete TFA’s Summer Institute
- Complete enrollment requirements for Interim Certification Program.
- Attend bi-weekly content methods seminars
- Compile a performance portfolio
- Participate in regular field instruction visits and debriefings
- Pay fees for the Interim Certification Program at the end of each program year (July/August)
- Pay $160 fee to Michigan Department of Education for interim certificate

Program participants receive an interim teaching certificate, which is valid for 5 years. No graduate credit is granted for the certification-only option.

**Cost:** $11,000 (5,500 per year). Payable with AmeriCorps award. $160 certificate fee payable to MDE.

### Provisional Certification Option

Corps members who successfully complete the two-year Interim Certification Program may teach for a third year in their interim certificate content area(s) in order to earn a provisional teaching certificate. The provisional certificate is renewable and can be transferred to other states (unlike the interim certificate which is valid for 5 years, is not renewable, and is generally not transferable to other states). While most participants choose to complete provisional certification requirements immediately following their TFA experience, requirements can be completed during any academic year before the interim certificate expires.

**Requirements:**
- Satisfactory ratings in field instruction during the third year
- Provide specified evidence of a third, successful year of teaching in your interim certificate content area(s). For more information, see the Provisional Certification page at tfa.soed.umich.edu.

**Cost:** $500. $160 certificate fee payable to MDE.

### Option 2

**Option** to complete additional master’s coursework and to receive graduate credit for interim certification program requirements to earn a graduate degree from U-M

**Requirements:**
- Meet requirements for the Interim Certification Program
- Payment of certification program fees
- **Application Deadline:** September 30 (1st or 2nd year in corps). Admitted students begin program in January.
- Successfully complete requirements for certification program and those required by the Rackham Graduate School, including requirements to earn 30 credits in the following program and the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundations Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 649: Foundational Perspectives on Educational Reform (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 695: Research &amp; Educational Practice (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urban Pedagogy Pathway Core</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*EDUC 638: Field Instruction (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*EDUC 490: Certification Content Methods Seminar (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*EDUC 655: Professional Portfolio (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 606: Developmental &amp; Psychological Perspectives on Educ (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Electives: 3 classes (9) |
| Cognates: 1-2 classes (4) |

* Receive credit for work completed in the Interim Certification Program.

**Cost:** University of Michigan tuition will be assessed. See Estimated Tuition table.

### Option 3

**Option** to earn 5-8 graduate credits for completing certification program requirements

**Requirements:**
- Meet requirements for the Interim Certification Program, including payment of certification program fees
- Apply for and be admitted to the U-M Rackham Graduate School as an NCFD. GRE and letters of recommendation are not required.
- **Application Deadline:** January 1, 2018 (2nd year in corps)
- Elect the following courses in spring term of 2nd year in corps; University of Michigan tuition will be assessed:
  - EDUC 490: Credit for content methods seminars (3 credits)
  - EDUC 638: Credit for field instruction and satisfactory field ratings (3 credits)
  - EDUC 655: Credit for successful portfolio completion and participation in portfolio exhibition (2 credits)
The Teach For America Interim Certification Program began in 2010 and is a state-approved alternate route to teacher certification. Since its inception, the program has served approximately 500 corps members accepted by Teach For America (TFA) and who passed the appropriate Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) tests. Corps members are employed as full-time teachers in TFA’s Detroit region. As a part of our partnership with TFA, during their two years in the TFA-Detroit corps, the University of Michigan School of Education provides corps members with content methods seminars and field-based supervision to prepare and support their development as novice teachers. To earn provisional certification in the State of Michigan, corps members must remain in the certification program for a third year while continuing to demonstrate successful teaching in their area(s) of certification.

**Program Outcomes**
The Teach For America Interim Certification Program is a non-credit-bearing, competency-based, job-embedded professional education program. Over the course of the two year program, corps members participate in practice-focused learning experiences arranged around curricular modules. Throughout their experience, corps members work toward mastery of a pre-identified set of instructional skills aimed at their ability to demonstrate eight specific program outcomes that align with national and State of Michigan standards for the preparation of teachers. These outcomes comprise a program rubric that clearly identifies the developmental expectations for alternate path novices in their first two to three years in the teaching profession.

| Program Outcome 1: Plan and Prepare for Effective Instruction |
| Program Outcome 2: Facilitate an Environment that Supports Student Engagement |
| Program Outcome 3: Build Positive Rapport and Relationships with Students to Support Learning |
| Program Outcome 4: Use Disciplinary Literacy to Teach Content |
| Program Outcome 5: Enact Instruction to Meet Student Needs |
| Program Outcome 6: Assess Student Learning |
| Program Outcome 7: Relate and Communicate Effectively with Parents, Families & Community |
| Program Outcome 8: Reflect on Practice and Contribute Professionally to the Learning Community |

**Certification Options**
TFA-Detroit corps members may be recommended for an interim teaching certificate at the elementary or the secondary level:

- **Elementary**
  - Grade K-5, all subjects (grade K-8, all subjects in a self-contained classroom)
    - The following endorsements may be added to an elementary certificate, if the state-mandated test in the subject area is passed:
      - 6-8 Language Arts
      - 6-8 Mathematics
      - 6-8 Integrated Science
      - 6-8 Social Studies
      - *K-12 Spanish
    * If a program participant chooses to continue teaching for a third year in order to earn a provisional teaching certificate, s/he will only be recommended for a K-12 Spanish endorsement if s/he has significant teaching experience at both the elementary and the secondary level.

- **Secondary (grade 6-12)**
  - English
  - Mathematics
  - Science Options: Biology, Chemistry, Earth/Space Science, Integrated Science, Physical Science, Physics
  - Social Studies Options: Economics, History, Political Science, Social Studies
  - World Language Options: French, German, Italian, Latin, Spanish
Learning Experiences
To support the corps members in their development as novice teachers, the program engages them in a number of practice-based learning experiences, including:

- Bi-weekly content methods seminars that meet from September through April on Tuesday or Thursday evenings at the University of Michigan – Dearborn campus. Seminars are facilitated by experienced teachers and administrators who have been trained to provide professional education to adult learners.
- Regular field instruction visits, with both evaluation and coaching based on the program rubric. UM-TFA field instructors are experienced teachers and administrators who have been trained in instructional coaching methods.
- Guided support in completing a professional portfolio, centered on the curricular modules and program outcomes.
- Each program year culminates in a portfolio exhibition. A presentation is mandatory for those who wish to earn credit for EDUC 655 as an NCFD or master’s student.

Assessment
Corps members’ successful demonstration of the program outcomes is evaluated through field instruction visits and through the construction of an electronic professional portfolio. Under the guidance of U-M instructors, corps members respond analytically and reflectively to prompts, then support their reflections with records of practice, as evidence of their instructional skills. The portfolio is designed to be readily transitioned to a professional portfolio that corps members can use for career development and advancement purposes.

Cost
The cost of the certification program is $5,500 per year, (for a total of $11,000 for the two-year program) payable at the end of each program year. Corps members who receive an AmeriCorps award may use the award to pay the certification program fees. Detailed payment instructions are included on the Payment, Leave & Withdrawal page of the program website: tfa.soe.umich.edu

Master of Arts in Educational Studies: Urban Pedagogy pathway

The Master of Arts in Educational Studies with a pathway in Urban Pedagogy is a unique 30-credit program for TFA-Detroit corps members enrolled in the Interim Certification Program and who are interested in studying issues and practices pertinent to teaching and learning in urban contexts. It is appropriate for those who want to deepen their understanding of teaching and learning during their time in the TFA-Detroit corps and for those who intend to remain in the field of education, whether as a teacher, school leader, or policymaker. Drawing from the Educational Studies MA: Teaching & Learning thread on which this program is built, the Urban Pedagogy pathway “focuses on instructional ‘doing,” including learning about classroom practices, the development of classroom materials, and ways in which teaching occurs in classrooms. Students will learn how to examine theory and research with a critical eye toward improving the learning experience for all students.

Classes in the MA: Urban Pedagogy program are cohorted and occur at the Ann Arbor campus or at the Dearborn campus in the evenings or on Saturdays to accommodate corps members’ regular work schedules in Detroit-area schools. They are also scheduled so as not to conflict with required interim certification program seminar sessions. Additionally, in this master’s degree plan, eight (8) credits are granted for the successful completion of the interim certification program requirements making it possible to complete both programs within the two years in the TFA-Detroit corps. Classes are held during the fall, winter, and spring terms only. Corps members can, however, opt to take cognate or elective courses during the summer term and/or extend the program over 3+ years for a less intensive course load.

Both resident and non-resident students receive an $8000 scholarship towards master’s degree tuition, which is a credit of the fees charged for the certification program. An additional scholarship of up to $17,000 for non-resident students is provided to increase the affordability of the program. (The amount of the non-resident scholarship is dependent on the number of corps members who enroll in the master’s program. Applicants can expect to receive specific scholarship award amounts soon after receiving their offer of admission.) Assuming a non-resident scholarship award of $17,000, the estimated master’s degree program out-of-pocket cost is $20,943 for residents and $32,399 for non-residents (note that non-resident students completing a comparable School of Education master’s program would pay more than $57,000). Students may also be eligible for additional financial aid and are encouraged to complete a FAFSA when applying to the program.
Master’s Degree SAMPLE Scope & Sequence  (*subject to change*)

YEAR ONE

**Fall Term**
- Program application, including GRE scores and letters of recommendation are due September 30th
- No master’s classes this term

**Winter Term**
- EDUC 649 Foundational Perspectives on Educational Reform (3)
- Cognate (1 credit) – any other graduate-level class of your choosing

**Spring Term**
- EDUC elective (3 credit)

YEAR TWO

**Fall Term**
- EDUC 490 Topics in Professional Education: Exceptionalities (3)
- EDUC 552 Instructional Leadership in Schools (3)

**Winter Term**
- EDUC 606 Developmental and Psychological Perspectives on Education (3)
- EDUC 695 Research and Educational Practice (3)

**Spring Term**
- Cognate (3 credit) – any other graduate-level class of your choosing

Credit for certification program work upon completion:
- EDUC 490 Content Methods Seminar (3) *Receive credit for bi-weekly content methods seminars*
- EDUC 638 Field Instruction (3) *Receive credit for field instruction and successful field ratings*
- EDUC 655 Professional Portfolio (2) *Receive credit for portfolio completion and participation in portfolio exhibition*

Non-Candidate for Degree (NCFD)
A Teach For America corps member enrolled in the Interim Certification Program may apply to the Rackham Graduate School as a non-candidate for degree (NCFD) in order to earn credit for work completed in the certification program. This application does not require candidates to take the GRE or submit letters of recommendation. Corps members may elect a combination of two or three of the following courses for a total of five to eight (5-8) graduate credits.

EDUC 490 Content Methods Seminar (3) *Receive credit for bi-weekly seminars*
EDUC 638 Field Instruction (3) *Receive credit for field instruction and successful field ratings*
EDUC 655 Professional Portfolio (2) *Receive credit for portfolio completion and participation in portfolio exhibition*

Corps members complete the NCFD application by **January 1 of the second year in the corps**. They will then elect 5-8 credits and pay tuition in spring term of the second year in the corps. Application details can be found on the [NCFD page](http://ta.soe.umich.edu) on the program website: [ta.soe.umich.edu](http://ta.soe.umich.edu)

Up to $5000 of the certification program fees are credited as a scholarship toward NCFD tuition. See “ESTIMATED Non-Candidate for Degree (NCFD) Tuition” sheet.
The program would typically cost out-of-state students in the Interim Certification Program approximately $57,000. The program would cost resident students not in the Interim Certification Program approximately $29,000.

Must pay certification program fee at the end of year 1 and year 2 ($11,000 total) to maintain eligibility for $8,000 scholarship.

Scholarship of up to $17K is available for non-resident TFA-Detroit corps members enrolled in the Interim Certification Program. Must pay certification program fee at the end of year 1 and year 2 to maintain eligibility for scholarship. The non-resident scholarship amount is dependent on the number of corps members who are accepted and enroll in the master’s program. Applicants can expect to receive their specific scholarship amount soon after they receive their offer of admission.

Costs will vary slightly if, in any given term, a corps member elects credits that vary from the designed sequence of classes.

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### Master's Program Course Sequence with Estimated Tuition Per Term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Winter Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>NO MASTER’S PROGRAM CLASSES</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>EDUC 649: Foundational Perspectives on Educational Reform</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>EDUC elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cognate</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Resident Tuition</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>Non-Resident Tuition</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Resident Tuition</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td></td>
<td>$4,882</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>EDUC 490: Topics in Professional Education - Exceptionalities</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>EDUC 695: Research and Educational Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>EDUC 638: Field Instruction (credit for field instruction &amp; satisfactory field ratings, no additional work)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDUC 552: Instructional Leadership in Schools</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>EDUC 490: Content Methods Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(credit for content methods seminars)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RESIDENT TUTION</td>
<td>$7,140</td>
<td>Non-Resident Tuition</td>
<td>$14,304</td>
<td></td>
<td>$11,798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Resident Tuition</td>
<td>$14,304</td>
<td></td>
<td>$14,304</td>
<td></td>
<td>$11,798</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scholarship**

School of Education scholarship for TFA-Detroit CMs in certification program (credit of certification program fees) ($8,000)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Subtotal</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship</td>
<td>$20,743</td>
<td>$32,399</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Estimated Out-of-Pocket Tuition for MA Program TOTAL**

Estimate does not include interim certification program fees, however, AmeriCorps award recipients may use award to pay fees.

1 The program would typically cost out-of-state students in the Interim Certification Program approximately $57,000. The program would cost resident students not in the Interim Certification Program approximately $29,000.
2 Must pay certification program fee at the end of year 1 and year 2 ($11,000 total) to maintain eligibility for $8,000 scholarship.
3 Scholarship of up to $17K is available for non-resident TFA-Detroit corps members enrolled in the Interim Certification Program. Must pay certification program fee at the end of year 1 and year 2 to maintain eligibility for scholarship. The non-resident scholarship amount is dependent on the number of corps members who are accepted and enroll in the master’s program. Applicants can expect to receive their specific scholarship amount soon after they receive their offer of admission.
4 Costs will vary slightly if, in any given term, a corps member elects credits that vary from the designed sequence of classes.

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Rev. 3.11.16
# ESTIMATED Master's Program Tuition by Term

Estimated tuition based on 2015-2016 rates: [http://ro.umich.edu/tuition/tuition-fees.php](http://ro.umich.edu/tuition/tuition-fees.php)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Fall 2016</th>
<th>Winter 2017</th>
<th>Spring 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 credits</td>
<td>3 Credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Estimated Tuition</td>
<td>Estimated Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Estimated Tuition</td>
<td>Estimated Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Estimated Tuition</td>
<td>Estimated Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>No classes.</td>
<td>$4,882</td>
<td>$800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Resident</td>
<td>Applications due September 30.</td>
<td>$9,658</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Fall 2017</th>
<th>Winter 2018</th>
<th>Spring 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6 credits</td>
<td>11 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Estimated Tuition</td>
<td>Estimated Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Estimated Tuition</td>
<td>Estimated Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Estimated Tuition</td>
<td>Estimated Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>6 credits</td>
<td>$7,140</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Resident</td>
<td>6 credits</td>
<td>$14,304</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$7,140</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$7,140</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,828</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$11,798</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Estimates do not include student fees. In addition to tuition, a student who registers for classes is assessed the following per term: Registration Fee, Michigan Student Assembly Fee, Student Legal Services Fee, and a School/College Government Fee.

Estimated tuition is based on 2015-2016 rates. Rates for School of Education students enrolled in the Rackham Graduate School can be found at this website: [http://ro.umich.edu/tuition/tuition-fees.php](http://ro.umich.edu/tuition/tuition-fees.php). Go to the School of Education section and select “Rackham.” Note that there is a Full-Term Tuition Rate (Fall, Winter, or Spring-Summer) and a Half-Term Tuition Rate (Spring).

The cost of the MA: Urban Pedagogy program is in addition to the cost of the two-year Interim Certification Program and the optional Provisional Certification Program (3rd Year). All MA: Urban Pedagogy students receive an $8000 scholarship, which is a credit of certification program fees. An additional generous scholarship of up to $17,000 for non-resident students is provided to increase the affordability of the program. The amount of the non-resident scholarship is dependent on the number of corps members who apply for and enroll in the master’s program. Applicants can expect to receive their specific scholarship amount soon after they receive their offer of admission.
## ESTIMATED Non-Candidate for Degree (NCFD) Tuition

Estimated tuition based on 2015-2016 rates for School of Education/Rackham in the spring half-term: [http://ro.umich.edu/tuition/tuition-fees.php](http://ro.umich.edu/tuition/tuition-fees.php)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Do not elect courses, but participate in certification program and complete related work.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Do not elect courses, but participate in certification program and complete related work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Resident Tuition</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Resident Tuition</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Apply by January 1 to Rackham Graduate School as NCFD</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Do not elect courses, but participate in certification program and complete related work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Resident Tuition</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Resident Tuition</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDUC 638: Field Instruction (credit for field instruction &amp; satisfactory field ratings, no additional work)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDUC 490: Content Methods Seminar (credit for content methods seminars)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Resident Tuition</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Resident Tuition</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Non-Resident</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$5,828</td>
<td>$11,798</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scholarship**

Scholarship for TFA-Detroit corps members in certification program. (The scholarship is a credit of certification program fees. Must pay certification program fee at the end of year 1 and year 2 to maintain eligibility for scholarship.)

- Resident: $1000/credit, up to $5000
- Non-Resident: $1000/credit, up to $5000

**Estimated Out-of-Pocket NCFD Tuition TOTAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Non-Resident</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$828</td>
<td>$6,798</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Rev. 3.11.16*
Program Funding Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Interim Certification Program</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Master’s Degree with Interim Certification</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Must be enrolled at least half-time to qualify for federal funding)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Non-Candidate for Degree</strong> (Earn Graduate Credit for Interim Certification Program Work)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Federal Funding Sources

- **AmeriCorps Award**
  - www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps
- **Federal Stafford Loans**
  - www.fafsa.ed.gov
  - It is recommended that you complete the FAFSA between September 1 and December 31 of the year you apply to the master’s program.

University of Michigan Sources

- **School of Education Resident and Non-Resident Scholarship**
  - Must pay certification program fee at the end of year 1 and year 2 ($11,000 total) to maintain eligibility for scholarship.
- **Office of Financial Aid Alumnae Club Scholarships**
- **Rackham Funding**
  - http://www.rackham.umich.edu/funding/from_rackham/
- **Center for the Education of Women (CEW) Funding**
  - http://www.cew.umich.edu/services/scholar
- **School of Education Scholarship**
  - Corps members who choose the NCFD option will receive a scholarship of $1000 per graduate credit elected ($5000 maximum) to use towards NCFD tuition.
  - Must pay certification program fee at the end of year 1 and year 2 ($11,000 total) to maintain eligibility for scholarship.
Frequently Asked Questions

FAQs about Interim Certification Program

1. Can I be absent from Interim Certification Program seminars if I have master's degree classes that meet at the same time?
Participation in an interim certification program is legislatively required for all interim certificate holders. In order to maintain your good standing in the interim certification program, you cannot be absent from the content methods seminar for any reason other than documented emergencies or professional obligations required by your employer, such as attendance at parent-teacher conferences.

2. Will I be a University of Michigan student if I only enroll in the Interim Certification Program?
No, participants in the Interim Certification Program, a professional education program administered by the School of Education, are not considered students of the University of Michigan. However, if you become a non-candidate for degree or master's degree student, then you will be a student of the University of Michigan.

3. If I already have a teaching certificate will the courses in the Interim Certification Program be appropriate for me?
If you have a State of Michigan provisional or professional teaching certificate, you are not required to participate in an interim certification program. However, previously certified corps members have the option of enrolling in the Interim Certification Program for professional development, as part of the Master of Arts in Educational Studies: Urban Pedagogy Pathway, or in order to earn 5-8 graduate credits as a non-candidate for degree.

It is likely that the courses you took to become certified were designed for pre-service teachers. The courses and learning experiences provided by the Interim Certification Program are designed for new in-service teachers. While this program includes some of the topics traditionally covered in a teacher preparation program, the learning experiences offered in this program are particular to the needs of novice teachers working and learning on-the-job in an urban setting. Also, care has been taken to merge the certification program’s curriculum with TFA’s approach. The Interim Certification Program is a unique professional development experience designed specifically for TFA-Detroit corps members, rather than a general teacher preparation/certification program.

4. How and when do I pay the certification program fees?
The cost of the Interim Certification Program is $5500 per year, for a total of $11,000 for the two-year program. The certification program fee of $5,500 is billed at the end of each program year in May and is due in July or August. Corps members who are not AmeriCorps award recipients are encouraged to save throughout the year to be able to pay their certification fees once invoiced. Detailed payment instructions are included on the Payment, Leave & Withdrawal page of the program website: tfa.soe.umich.edu

The cost of the provisional teaching certificate is in addition to the cost of the interim teaching certificate. See Q&A 5 for more details.

5. What is required to earn a provisional teaching certificate?
If you successfully complete the two-year Interim Certification Program, you have the opportunity to teach for a third year in your placement in order to earn a provisional teaching certificate.

For more details about provisional certification requirements, visit the Provisional Certification page on the Interim Certification Program website: tfa.soe.umich.edu.
1. **How do I apply to the MA: Urban Pedagogy program?**
   Visit the [Applying to the Program](www.soe.umich.edu/academics/masters_programs/tl_tfa/) page on the MA: Urban Pedagogy website and use the application checklist as your guide. Applications are due September 30 of your first or second year in the Interim Certification Program. MA classes begin the following January.

2. **Do I have to be in the TFA Interim Certification Program to enroll in the Master of Arts in Educational Studies: Urban Pedagogy Pathway?**
   Yes, if you want the scholarship and a seamless arrangement of courses. Without the scholarship that will be granted to those in the certification program, the MA program will have an estimated cost (based on 2015-2016 tuition rates) of $28,743 for resident students and $57,399 for non-resident students.

   Students in the Urban Pedagogy pathway who are not enrolled in the Interim Certification Program must replace the following courses (completed through participation in the certification program) with others offered by the School of Education:

   - **EDUC 490** Content Methods Seminar (3 credits) *credit for bi-weekly seminars*
   - **EDUC 638** Field Instruction (3 credits) *credit for field instruction and successful field ratings*
   - **EDUC 655** Professional Portfolio (2 credits) *credit for portfolio completion and participation in portfolio exhibition*

3. **Can I opt for another MA pathway, such as Policy and Leadership (with administrator’s certification)?**
   Yes. However, you may find it highly challenging to complete another pathway’s requirements while working full-time. In addition, it will likely take you longer to complete another pathway and will thus increase your tuition costs over those estimated for the Urban Pedagogy pathway.

   Classes required for pathways other than Urban Pedagogy are only offered on the U-M Ann Arbor campus. Often the start time for these classes is 4:30 p.m. or earlier, which may pose challenges with your work schedule as a Detroit teacher. These courses might also conflict with certification seminars. By law, your certification seminars take priority over other coursework, as they are required to maintain your interim teaching certificate.

   If you are interested in a U-M School of Education MA program other than Urban Pedagogy, you might consider staying in the Urban Pedagogy pathway and replacing the elective courses with courses from another pathway, assuming they are available and fit your schedule. In fact, **EDUC 552**: Instructional Leadership in Schools, for instance, is a course that is shared between Urban Pedagogy and Policy and Leadership.

   To learn more about pursuing another MA pathway, you are strongly advised to contact the Educational Studies MA Recruitment and Admissions Coordinator (edstudiesma.info@umich.edu).

4. **Can the MA: Urban Pedagogy program be done over three years?**
   Yes. In this case, you will apply by September 30 of your first year in the certification program and begin taking classes with your cohort in January. You will then take as many courses as you choose with your cohort in any given semester. Those courses that you don’t take with your cohort, you will take with subsequent cohorts in your second or third year. Be aware that spreading the program over three years will affect the program’s estimated costs, given that the university bills tuition based on number of credits elected in a term. Also note that you must be enrolled at least half-time in a given semester to be eligible for federal loans for that semester.
5. **I think I’d like to forgo the Interim Certification Program and enroll only in the MA: Urban Pedagogy program, since I’m already a certified teacher. How should I proceed?**

You are only eligible for this option if you already hold teacher certification valid in the State of Michigan. If this is your situation, you will apply to the master’s program through the Rackham Graduate School. You will take courses with your TFA cohort. However, you will have to work with your MA advisor to find suitable replacement electives for:

- **EDUC 490** Content Methods Seminar (3 credits) *credit for bi-weekly seminars*
- **EDUC 638** Field Instruction (3 credits) *credit for field instruction and successful field ratings*
- **EDUC 655** Professional Portfolio (2 credits) *credit for portfolio completion and participation in portfolio exhibition*

Most graduate classes at the School of Education are offered during the day or in the late afternoon (~4-7 p.m.). You may find it challenging to find other courses to replace those for which you would otherwise earn credit in the Interim Certification Program.

If you pursue this option, you will be responsible for the full cost of the 30-credit master’s program and will not receive the scholarship granted to TFA corps members who are enrolled in the Interim Certification Program. Participants are interested in receiving financial aid are encouraged to complete a FAFSA (see Q&A 14).

6. **I’m not sure that I’m ready to take on the start of a new MA program along with starting my new job teaching. May I start the MA: Urban Pedagogy program during my second year in the corps?**

Yes. You would apply to the MA: Urban Pedagogy program by September 30 of your second year in the corps. Regardless of whether or when you begin the MA program, you will be required to participate fully in certification program courses, participate in field instruction, and begin compiling your portfolio in your first year as a TFA corps member.

7. **May I start the MA: Urban Pedagogy program after I complete the Interim Certification Program?**

No, but you are invited to any of the many other graduate programs available at the University of Michigan School of Education. Please not however that you will not receive graduate credit for the Interim Certification. Those programs meet in Ann Arbor during the day and may or may not have scholarship funds available.

8. **I have plans or a school calendar that might interfere with my ability to take courses as mapped out in the MA: Urban Pedagogy program plan; how will this affect me?**

Any alteration of the scope and sequence of classes could affect your estimated tuition costs. The classes are grouped to minimize the total tuition expense, taking into account the way the university calculates tuition per semester. However, you can pursue the elective courses that are a part of the program plan, or choose from others in the University of Michigan course schedule if they better suit your personal schedule than those that are planned for your cohort.

9. **Can I take graduate courses at another institution and transfer them towards this program?**

Yes, but please follow the university’s rules regarding graduate credit transfer. More information is available at: [http://www.rackham.umich.edu/downloads/oard-transfer-of-credit-information.pdf](http://www.rackham.umich.edu/downloads/oard-transfer-of-credit-information.pdf)

10. **The MA: Urban Pedagogy program application is not available online. What should I do?**

Prepare all of the documents required for the online application. Rackham typically makes the online application available in early September. Once it is available, simply upload all of your prepared documents.
11. **Do I need to send official transcripts to Rackham? I already sent a copy to the School of Education to be able to teach.**

Yes, the Rackham Graduate School is a separate entity from the School of Education and it is required that you send any official transcripts directly there as part of your master’s program application.

12. **When do I need to take the GRE to ensure that it is included in my application materials?**

You should take the GRE computer-based test no later than September 15 to ensure that your scores arrive at Rackham before the September 30 application deadline. We recommend that you plan to take the GRE before TFA Induction in June, if possible. Test dates can fill up quickly, so you are encouraged to register well ahead of time.

13. **How important are GRE scores to my application?**

The School of Education uses a holistic review process for admissions decisions, meaning that scores are considered in the context of many other application materials. If you believe one of your scores does not accurately represent your abilities in a particular area, feel free to note it in your Statement of Purpose and explain why you are confident of your ability to succeed in this arena.

14. **May I reuse the letters of recommendation I submitted with my application to Teach For America?**

As a general rule, applicants should have new recommendation letters sent. Letters of recommendation used for the application to TFA do not typically attend specifically to your capacity to complete graduate-level coursework and may not address your devotion and commitment to the profession, pursuit of academic interests related to the profession, and your ability to contribute to a graduate academic learning community.

The university only accepts letters of recommendation through the online application system. It is important that you register the names and contact information of your two recommenders in the online application system and inform them that our program requires that they upload a letter on your behalf.

15. **I will probably need more financial aid to successfully complete the program. What additional resources are available to me?**

Please complete a FAFSA: [http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/), then contact Eileen Brussolo, the School of Education’s Assistant Director of the Office of Student Affairs, at efc@umich.edu. Eileen works individually with students to assist them in understanding their tuition and available financial aid resources.

16. **Are there enough spots in the master’s program for all TFA corps members who apply?**

In each year of the program we have been able to admit all eligible applicants and anticipate being able to do so again this year.

17. **Am I allowed to move through the program more quickly than the way that it is planned.**

While this is possible, it will likely change the estimated tuition in any one term and overall for the program. Your scholarship award amount will not change. To determine the projected cost, calculate the estimated tuition rate per term based on the number of credits you plan to elect. Tuition rates are available at the following link: [http://www.ro.umich.edu/tuition/](http://www.ro.umich.edu/tuition/)

In addition, keep in mind that some planned courses are not offered every semester, and some will occur during specific terms in alternating years (also see response to FAQ #6).
18. **When and where will master's courses take place?**
   Three-credit graduate classes typically meet once per week for three hours during full terms (fall and winter). During the spring half-term, classes typically meet two times per week. Classes are scheduled for Monday and/or Wednesday evenings so as not to conflict with required certification seminars and workshops, which are scheduled for Tuesday or Thursday evenings.

   Most courses will take place at the University of Michigan - Dearborn Campus. There is a possibility of some offerings on the Ann Arbor campus, but they will be scheduled in the evenings or on Saturdays to permit time for commuting from Detroit.

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**FAQS about Non-Candidate for Degree (NCFD)**

1. **When are non-candidate for degree (NCFD) applications due?**
   Apply as an NCFD by January 1 of your second year in the corps. You will elect 5-8 credits and pay tuition in spring of your second year in the corps.

2. **How do I complete an NCFD application?**
   Visit the [NCFD page](#) on the program website (tfa.soe.umich.edu) and use the Non-Candidate for Degree Application Checklist as your guide.

3. **Is financial aid available for NCFDs?**
   Other than the credit of up to $5000 of the certification program fees, NCFDs are not eligible for financial aid, such as federal loans.

4. **Are credits earned as an NCFD transferable?**
   They can be counted toward graduate degree programs at the University of Michigan if they meet those program's requirements. They are also transferrable, per approval by the university to which you plan to transfer them.

5. **Do I need to take the GRE to become an NCFD?**
   No. You must complete an NCFD application on the Rackham Graduate School application website. It requires the same components as the application for a master's degree, except for GRE scores and letters of recommendation.