

Teaching AEL FAQs

1. What kind of degree do I need to teach?

All teachers must have a Bachelor's Degree. Teaching experience, especially in ESL, HSE (GED®) preparation, or basic skills is preferable but not required.

2. Do you have full-time employment?

No, all our positions are part-time. Most positions are for 9 to 12 hours per week.

3. If I have K-12 certification, am I certified to teach adult education?

No, you must obtain adult education certification. You cannot apply for adult education certification until you are hired by an Adult Education Program.

4. How do I obtain Missouri Adult Education certification?

The state of Missouri requires a beginning teacher precertification workshop in order to begin the certification process. Additional professional development is required to maintain certification.

5. How much does the workshop cost?

Once we hire a teacher, the precertification workshop, hotel and mileage are paid for by the program and state.

6. Do I get paid for state certification and Parkway training time?

Training hours are paid at a stipend rate.

7. How long is my certification valid? Are fingerprinting and background checks necessary if I have recently completed them for another agency?

Initial certification is good for 4 years.

8. Are fingerprinting and background checks necessary if I have recently completed them for another agency?

Yes.

9. Does Parkway have any requirements?

We require classroom observation and training with the HSE (GED®) or ESL coordinator. Parkway SafeSchools training is also required each year.

10. How do I apply?

You can find our AEL Application [here](#). After we receive it, we will contact you to come in and observe classes.

11. Do you require lesson plans?

Lesson plans and record keeping are required. Most of this work is done on the teacher's own time.

12. Are there any other requirements?

Since we are federally and state funded, our teachers are required to keep detailed attendance and testing records as stipulated by the state.

13. Why is record keeping so important?

The program's budget is determined by several factors including progress made by students on the government mandated pre-and post-testing.

14. Lesson planning, record keeping and certification seem to be big issues, but what is the teaching itself like?

HSE (GED®) classes are very individualized and the teacher generally works with students on a one-to-one basis but will also spend a part of each class presenting a group lesson.

ESL classes are more of a group dynamic with the teacher acting as a facilitator for the group. Since students WANT to be in class, the atmosphere of the classroom is positive and very rewarding for the teacher.