

August 10, 2020

2020-21 Update for the Ohio Resident Educator Program regarding COVID-19

Program Requirements Are Unchanged

The requirements for the Ohio Resident Educator Program can be found [here](#). During the program, Resident Educators must successfully complete the following:

- Mentoring and counseling during Years 1 and 2 of the program
- Focused mentoring
- The Resident Educator Summative Assessment (RESA)
- Locally required program activities
- Teach for four years in the area of the Resident Educator's license.

Annual Credit

To receive credit for each year of teaching in the program, a Resident Educator must provide instruction in the area of his/her license for a minimum of 120 days. As long as Resident Educators continue to work to provide learning opportunities for students through methods acceptable to their school or district, both in-person and virtual teaching days may be considered towards the 120 days of teaching requirement.

Local Resident Educator Program Requirements

Schools and districts have their own local Resident Educator Program requirements which are determined at the local level. Schools and districts may have adopted their own policies and procedures regarding these local activities, requirements, and expectations for Resident Educators to complete during each program year. During continued uncertainty in schools as a result of COVID-19, some local program activities, requirements, and expectations may need to be revised. Because of the public crisis, flexibility in local program requirements is needed; yet program coordinators and mentors should strive to maintain the quality of the local program. Therefore, school and district administrators should use their best judgment regarding any modifications to their local Resident Educator Program and their local activities, requirements, and expectations of Resident Educators.

Mentoring

State-certified mentors provide instructional mentoring to Resident Educators in program years 1 and 2. The Mentor Academy is a two-day training for new mentors to become state-certified. The training is currently being offered in a virtual format. Information on the training and registration may be accessed through STARS.

Districts provide, assign and support mentors at the local level or through an Educational Service Center (ESC). Decisions about how mentoring will be delivered in a COVID-19 environment are made at the local level. Districts may use virtual meetings and training sessions for mentors and Resident Educators and adjust the local mentoring practices, but the requirement for mentoring has not changed.

RESA

At this time, no changes to the RESA submission requirements are anticipated. The RESA has always been adaptable to an online teaching environment. TeachForward has provided guidance regarding how to submit an online lesson for RESA; see the FAQ titled "How do I videotape my online class..." listed on their webpage here: <http://www.ohioresa.com/>.

Resident Educators and Program Coordinators should make sure their contact information in CORE and the OH/ID Portal is up to date to ensure they receive future updates.

For questions, please contact the Resident Educator Team at REProgram@education.ohio.gov