

SUMMER TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Why must teachers attend a two-week Summer Teacher Training Institute to teach a *Preparation for Tomorrow* course?

Preparation for Tomorrow courses are built on giving students access to intellectually demanding assignments requiring productive struggle. New *Preparation for Tomorrow* teachers will need to learn how to support students and provide a student-led, teacher-facilitated learning environment.

Preparation for Tomorrow courses provide authentic workplace project- and problem-based learning. Traditional career/technical courses require students to complete projects on which they are assessed; *Preparation for Tomorrow* courses also require teachers to assess student mastery of academic and technical skills embedded in the projects. Many teachers will need assistance in understanding how to assess these projects.

In *Preparation for Tomorrow* courses, students are provided daily instruction for academic skills embedded in the projects. Many teachers may need to shore up their academic skills and learn how to provide this instruction through a project-based strategy.

Experience gained from field testing *Preparation for Tomorrow* curricula and over 25 years of SREB/*High Schools That Work* effort to improve career/technical education suggests it will take a full two weeks and more of professional development for teachers to make the shift to the teacher-facilitated, student-centered classroom.

2. What is the nature of the two-week Summer Teacher Training Institute?

The goal of the *Preparation for Tomorrow* Summer Teacher Training Institute is to prepare teachers to deliver with fidelity the *Preparation for Tomorrow* curricula.

The *Preparation for Tomorrow* Summer Teacher Training Institute will provide instruction for the following:

- Technical content, including technology and software, students will encounter in the selected career area. It is important to recognize that most of the *Preparation for Tomorrow* career areas are newly created career area pathways which have not existed previously in high schools.
- Pedagogy of project- and problem-based learning centered on authentic workplace experiences. This includes facilitation of just-in-time instruction at the appropriate time when students are ready to apply the learning to the project. This will include participation in teach-back opportunities to practice teacher-facilitated, student-centered learning.
- Mathematics embedded in the projects, including completing practice mathematics problems aligned to the Common Core State Standards or other rigorous standards that students are expected to master.

- Science investigations, including how to guide students through inquiry-based learning and through the engineering design process used to solve technological problems. It also includes identifying those known science principles embedded in authentic work and developing lessons that enable students to understand these and their importance in their career fields of study.
- Literacy instruction for reading, writing, speaking and listening career/technical students must master to be college- and career-ready. This will include formulating a research problem, researching known information and preparing and presenting a written report.

The *Preparation for Tomorrow* Summer Teacher Training Institute begins with an orientation webinar approximately two weeks prior to the two-week training. The orientation webinar focuses on the training agenda after which teachers are given an assignment they must complete prior to arrival at the Summer Teacher Training Institute.

3. What is the cost of the *Preparation for Tomorrow* Summer Teacher Training Institute?

For each teacher attending a two-week Summer Teacher Training Institute, there is a registration cost of approximately \$3,250. The registration includes costs associated with organizing and running the Institute. Additional costs not included in the registration are hotel accommodations, food and travel for the participating teacher. The costs also do not include teacher stipends for attendance. The participating school district is required to cover these additional costs.

4. What *Preparation for Tomorrow* curricula will be ready for Summer Teacher Training Institutes in summer 2013?

- West Virginia: Energy and Power
- Kentucky: Informatics
- Arkansas: Innovations in Science and Technology
- Ohio Association of Career-Technical Superintendents: Health Informatics

Other curricula may be ready for implementation in fall 2013 with Summer Teacher Training Institutes held in summer 2013. Continue to watch the SREB/*Preparation for Tomorrow* website — sreb.org/tomorrow. Additional curricula are expected to be announced in January 2013.

5. Who should be selected to participate in the *Preparation for Tomorrow* Summer Teacher Training Institute?

States developing *Preparation for Tomorrow* curricula will make recommendations for certification requirements. Ultimately, it will be the responsibility of the school or district wishing to implement the curriculum to check for highly qualified, certification status required by the state.

Desired qualifications of participating teachers:

- Strong background in mathematics and science
- Willingness to embrace a new model for project-based learning
- Willingness to partner with academic teachers of mathematics, science and literacy to ensure academic achievement of career/technical students
- High expectations for all students with an understanding of the dual mission of career/technical education to prepare students for both college- and career-readiness.
- Experience in the career field, if possible
- Must meet requirements for state certification

6. What is the Academic Support Seminar? Are there attendance requirements?

For acceleration of achievement through project-based learning linked to college- and career-readiness to work, it will be important to provide academic support to *Preparation for Tomorrow* classroom teachers. Schools wishing to implement *Preparation for Tomorrow* curricula must agree to send a mathematics, science and literacy teacher to the two-day Academic Support Seminar portion of the Summer Teacher Training Institute.

Academic teachers from mathematics, science and literacy disciplines are required to attend the Summer Teacher Training Institute for two days to become familiar with the expectations and content of the *Preparation for Tomorrow* curriculum.

Academic and career/technical teachers learn specific frameworks for mathematics, science and literacy instruction specific to their school's *Preparation for Tomorrow* curriculum, examine how these frameworks are implemented in the projects within the *Preparation for Tomorrow* course and then make plans for working together throughout the school year to ensure student mastery of academic and technical content.

7. What is the Administrator and Guidance Counselor Support Seminar? Are there attendance requirements?

For acceleration of academic and technical achievement through project-based learning linked to college- and career-readiness to work, it will be important to provide administrative support to *Preparation for Tomorrow* classroom teachers. Schools wishing to implement *Preparation for Tomorrow* curricula must agree to send the administrator assigned to ensure fidelity of curriculum implementation to the two-day Administrative Support Seminar portion of the Summer Teacher Training Institute.

Administrators and guidance counselors from schools wishing to implement a *Preparation for Tomorrow* curriculum are required to attend the two-day Administrative Support Seminar. Administrators will learn the importance of developing a master schedule in an academy model to allow common planning time for the *Preparation for Tomorrow* teacher and academic teachers from the Academic Support Seminar (See #6 above).

Guidance counselors and administrators learn and understand the *Preparation for Tomorrow* career fields and learn about the postsecondary options for careers, certification and further education/training.

Administrators and guidance counselors will spend some time with the *Preparation for Tomorrow* teacher learning the expectations of his or her school's curriculum.

8. What will participating *Preparation for Tomorrow* teachers be expected to do prior to the Summer Teacher Training Institute?

After completing registration requirements, the *Preparation for Tomorrow* teacher is expected to attend an orientation webinar scheduled approximately two weeks prior to the beginning of the Summer Teacher Training Institute.

During the orientation webinar, the *Preparation for Tomorrow* teacher will be given assignments to complete prior to attending the Summer Teacher Training Institute. Failure to complete assignments may prevent the participating teacher from gaining *Preparation for Tomorrow* certification (See #9 below.).

9. Must the participating *Preparation for Tomorrow* teacher meet any additional requirements to become certified to teach *Preparation for Tomorrow* curriculum?

For a teacher to implement a *Preparation for Tomorrow* curriculum, he or she must:

- Meet state requirements for highly qualified status
- Attend the orientation webinar prior to Summer Teacher Training Institute and complete pre-Institute assignments
- Participate actively in Summer Teacher Training Institute activities and professional development
- Agree to work collaboratively with Academic Support Seminar teachers during the Summer Teacher Training Institute and throughout the school year to ensure student success in academic and technical content
- Agree to implement *Preparation for Tomorrow* curriculum with fidelity
- Pass the end-of-course test students will take. If the participating teacher is not able to pass the end-of-course test, he or she will be given provisional certification for one year with assignment for independent study to retake the end-of-course exam during the school year. If the teacher fails a second time he or she will be required to repeat the Summer Teacher Training Institute for the same course before being allowed to teach the course a second year. Provisional certification will also require additional support from the school's administration, guidance counselor and academic teachers.