

# Woodstock Community Unit School District 200

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**For Immediate Release**

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## District 200 seeks Teacher Residency candidates

A unique Woodstock program allows individuals with bachelor's degrees in other fields to obtain an Illinois Professional Educator License within 12 months through an internship and college coursework.

Woodstock Community Unit School District 200 and Aurora University are restarting the Teacher Residency program during the 2023-2024 school year and seeking new candidates. An information night will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 13 at Aurora University Woodstock Center, 222 E. Church St.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for people who are interested in changing careers and becoming a teacher. There's a significant need for new teachers, and this is a great path toward a rewarding new career," said Keely Krueger, District 200 assistant superintendent for early childhood and elementary education.

In the Teacher Residency program, residents are paired with a mentor teacher and spend a full year with one class, immersing themselves in the classroom culture, building relationships and making deeper connections than typically possible with shorter placements. The mentor will provide one-on-one coaching and support throughout the year, while candidates take classes in the evening through Aurora University leading toward a teaching license in 1st-6th grade.

Since the program's inception, District 200 has hired several teacher residents who have completed the program, and the District places a priority in hiring for individuals who have participated. Financial aid and stipends for tuition are also available.

While the program that began in 2019 was paused briefly during the pandemic, the next round of teacher residents will begin in May of 2023.

For more information on the Teacher Residency program, visit [woodstockschoools.org/teacherresidency](https://www.woodstockschoools.org/teacherresidency) or email Krueger at [kkruieger@wcusd200.org](mailto:kkruieger@wcusd200.org).