



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
**PROFESSIONAL &
CONTINUING STUDIES**

University of Delaware Montessori Teacher Residency (UDMTR)

Preparing educators to meet the unique needs of contemporary Montessori schools

Program Description

The University of Delaware Montessori Teacher Residency (UDMTR) has partnered with the National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector (NCMPS) to instruct and certify cohorts from participating schools in the Montessori method. Students—called *residents*—include anyone who would like to be a teacher in a Montessori classroom.

The program provides high-quality Montessori instruction and coaching that is schoolwide and practice based. The program prepares teachers to work in the public sector by focusing on family engagement, classroom management, and meeting the needs of English language learners and learners with special needs.

Primary Residents pursue age 3–6 certification (preschool to kindergarten); Elementary Residents pursue age 6–12 certification (grades 1–6).

We expect to launch our first cohorts of Elementary Residents and Primary Residents in the summer of 2020.

Program Highlights

Multi-year study of Montessori education

- Teaching residency in partnering school (Primary Residents: one year; Elementary Residents: two years; paid by the school)
- Elementary or primary course instruction (600 hours)
- Production of Montessori albums

Embedded academic year residency

- Weekly instructional coaching
- Three or four field-site supervision visits
- Weekly cohort meetings built around Lesson Study and Child Study
- Three weekend seminars each year of residency

Prerequisites for enrollment in UDMTR

- Bachelor's degree
- Commitment of employment from a partnering school (UDMTR Advisory Council will be available to assist with placement in a partnering school, as necessary.)



Summer 2020 Cohort Program Schedule

Upon successful completion, residents will receive a MACTE-accredited (Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education) Elementary I and II, or Primary diploma.

COHORT TIMELINE	PRIMARY RESIDENTS	ELEMENTARY RESIDENTS
Summer 1	July–August 2020 (five weeks)	July–August 2020 (five weeks)
Field Supervision Visits	Fall / Spring	Fall / Spring
Year 1	Three weekend seminars	Three weekend seminars
Summer 2	July–August 2021	July–August 2021
Year 2	n/a	Three weekend seminars
Summer 3	n/a	June 2022

For more information

For more information, contact Linda Zankowsky at lzankow@udel.edu or visit pcs.udel.edu/udmtr.

Important Dates

May 15, 2020—Applications due with deposit

June 15, 2020—Balance of program tuition due



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How does UDMTR meet the unique needs of contemporary Montessori schools?

Teacher pipeline

The University of Delaware has an impeccable reputation for the high-quality teachers graduating from our Elementary Education and Early Childhood programs. These young teachers are eager to teach in child-centered classrooms. In partnership with your school, we are uniquely positioned to help you market positions to our teacher candidates. Once you have determined that you would like to hire them, they will complete their Montessori preparation in the UDMTR.

Solid grounding in Montessori curriculum and materials

Residents will learn the Montessori philosophy, curriculum and materials from experienced Montessori instructors in three five-week summer sessions, in weekly lesson studies during the academic year, and in four weekend seminars over two years. Upon program completion, all elementary teachers will be prepared to teach 6-12 year olds, providing schools much needed flexibility and ensuring that UDMTR teachers understand the full continuum of development.

Surround learning experiences

Teachers in public Montessori schools often face unique challenges. Based on the NCMPS (National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector) model, the UDMTR embeds learning experiences into the residency supporting the resident to manage a respectful Montessori classroom, meet the needs of children with identified and unidentified special needs, support English language learners, ensure strong literacy development, create sincere and authentic ways for families to engage, and deal with children and families in trauma.

Emphasis on literacy and cultural diversity

The University of Delaware's faculty is recognized for its work in literacy and culturally-responsive teaching. The UDMTR is uniquely positioned to draw on this expertise to support the work of Montessori teachers. All teachers in partner schools will have opportunities to participate in professional development webinars and workshops on these topics and other topics of interest.

Montessori professional learning community

Following the NCMPS residency model, the focus of the UDMTR is to work with you to develop a school culture that leads to success for a Montessori teacher resident. Key components include a commitment to time for coaching, bi-weekly child study meetings, weekly lesson studies, and for teachers to attend the academic year seminars. It is this partnership that allows us to work together to develop a strong Montessori professional learning community in your school.

This culture allows you to grow not only your current UDMTR residents, but your entire community of Montessori teachers. Child study and lesson study meetings provide an opportunity for all teachers to further develop their understanding of how to support the unique needs of children in the Montessori classroom and to refine their use of the Montessori materials.

Coaching and coach preparation

UDMTR will provide a coach for your residents, or you may have a Montessori-prepared teacher whom you would like to have serve as a school-based coach. Working with NCMPS, your coach will be prepared with coach training, biweekly online coaching workshops with a network of coaches, and an annual coaching symposium. Each resident will receive a 30-minute weekly observation and follow-up debrief with their coach.

Advisory council

Partnership schools will be invited to participate in the advisory council for the UDMTR. This council will assist us to best meet the needs of our partner schools engaging in a cycle of continuous improvement.

Additional opportunities for the public Montessori community

The UDMTR partnership with NCMPS connects our partners' schools with the largest public Montessori network in the country. NCMPS is a leader in Public Montessori assessment and implementation with additional opportunities for continued growth and improvement offered throughout the year.

For more information

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