



Since the pilot of the program in spring 2004, EducateVA has licensed 500 teachers throughout the Commonwealth, and they are staying there.

77% of EducateVA Career Switchers are currently teaching school, and 83% see themselves teaching in five years. There appears to be a low turnover among those that are currently teaching.

EducateVA teachers are evaluated on the Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria set forth by the Education Accountability and Quality Enhancement Act of 1999.

EducateVA provides program support to help our teachers succeed during their first year, and all the years that follow.

"The career switcher program has been an invaluable asset in providing accessible and effective alternative teacher preparation across the Commonwealth."

- Phillip Hamilton, Member Virginia House of Delegates

Planning & Assessment

Executing well the responsibilities for both planning and evaluating students, our teachers learn to base planning that provides students with feedback that encourages progress and measures student achievement.

"Career Switchers bring a unique richness to their classrooms. They've had experience. They've used their skills and applied them to past professions. In classrooms this credibility and expertise helps students deeply understand and experience application of skills sets. That's powerful! That's meaningful! That's what students need to get hooked into learning!"

- Amy Holleb, Principal, Mark Twain Middle School, Fairfax County

Instruction

Implementing a variety of activities consistent with instructional objectives is fundamental training for our teachers. They learn to select methods compatible with their students' abilities, prior knowledge, and learning styles.

"The Career Switcher Program has impressed me with the rigor it demands of its students. That, along with the maturity of the students has produced the quality of teachers that has reached beyond the extent of many veteran teachers in understanding and implementing high standards in the classroom."

-Harriet Dawson, Assistant Superintendent (Retired) 30 year Veteran Educator

Safety & Learning Environment

While being trained to plan and demonstrate effective routines, our teachers learn the art of creating an organized and positive learning environment.

"EducateVA gave me good information from experienced teachers so going into the public schools, I knew it would be much different than teaching students on the college level. You have to love what you do, headaches, pay, hours and all, but the golden moments are extremely precious."

-Chris Headlee, Former Lieutenant Colonel & Air Force Academy Instructor, Current Career Switcher Teacher at Marion Senior High School.

Communication and Community Relations

EducateVA teachers are trained to use effective communication strategies in working with students, parents, and members of the community to promote broad support for student learning.

"This program helps meet the need for skilled, talented, and highly qualified teachers in critical, identified teacher shortage areas. The flexibility and affordability of the program facilitates access to experienced professionals who want to rise to the challenge of teaching and learning in the 21st century classroom."

-Phillip Hamilton, Member Virginia House of Delegates



Professionalism

Demonstrating a commitment to professional ethics and growth, and for complying with school divisions' policies and procedures, are essential components of EducateVA teacher training.

"I have sought out and hired Career Switchers because I found them to be valuable employees who are knowledgeable in their subject areas, well equipped to handle the challenges of the classroom, and dedicated to creating an environment of acceptance and high expectations for their students. I expect the highest level of professionalism from our Career Switchers, just as I do from all staff hired to work with our students. They deserve this from all of us."

-Judy Amos, veteran teacher and administrator for over 30 years, Hired two Career Switchers for Goochland County in 2008