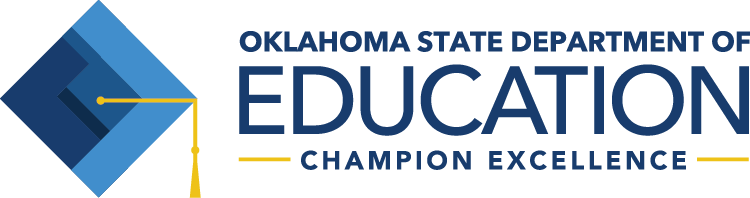


***First Class* Cohort Application**

**Purpose**

The Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) anchors its work on the premise that every child, educator and school can succeed. Leaders at the OSDE strive to support effective teachers at every stage of their careers. Thus, the initiative, *First Class*, has emerged as a focused program to support first-year teachers. Survey data of Oklahoma teachers reveal the need for a stronger foundation in classroom management. As another support for teachers, the Teacher Leader Effectiveness (TLE) system includes a new component that allows teachers to determine and chart their professional growth. The Professional Learning Focus (PL Focus) gives teachers at every grade level, content area, and career stage the opportunity to set professional growth goals that meet their individualized needs.

The Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) invites first-year teachers to join the *First Class* initiative in a community of educators during the 2018-2019 school year. *First Class* cohort groups will include 25 elementary and 25 secondary teachers. Participants will meet together in six sessions spanning the school year as well as through an online learning platform. Through discussions, interactive presentations, and a book study, teachers will develop and enhance their classroom management plans, strategies for engaging students, and multi-tiered systems of support.



**Objectives**

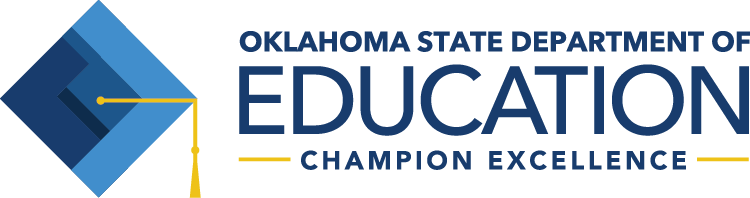
1. Participate in a system of support for first-year teachers.
2. Improve classroom management decisions using evidence-based strategies.
3. Establish and sustain an orderly classroom environment based on consistent rules, routines, and procedures.
4. Increase time spent on meaningful academic engagement.
5. Develop a classroom climate fostering intellectual, social, and emotional growth.

**Logistics**

In-person *First Class* sessions will meet at the Canadian Valley Career Technology Center in Chickasha from 9:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M. on the following dates:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Elementary (grades Pre-K – 6) | Secondary (grades 6 – 12) |
| September 20, 2018 | September 19, 2018 |
| October 25, 2018 | October 24, 2018 |
| November 30, 2018 | November 29, 2018 |
| January 16, 2019 | January 16, 2019 |
| February 21, 2019 | February 20, 2019 |
| March 12, 2019 | March 12, 2019 |

Note: Teachers of sixth grade students may determine if they want to participate in the elementary or secondary cohort.



First-year teachers for the 2018-2019 school year are invited to complete the application on the next two pages. All sections are required including signatures from site and district personnel. Applications will be considered in the order received.

Name Click here to enter your name.

Primary Job Title Click here to enter current job title.

Grade Click here to enter grade taught.

Subject (if applicable) Click here to enter subject.

School Click here to enter school name.

District Click here to enter school district.

Contact number Click here to enter home or cell.

Work number Click here to enter work number.

E-mail Click here to enter e-mail.

Superintendent’s Name Click here to enter superintendent’s name.

Principal’s Name Click here to enter principal’s name.

In case of emergency, please contact Click here to enter name of emergency contact.

Emergency contact number Click here to enter emergency contact number.

For information please contact Susan Pinson, Executive Director of Professional Learning, at (405) 522-1835 or [susan.pinson@sde.ok.gov](mailto:susan.pinson@sde.ok.gov).

*As a voluntary* ***participant*** *of the First Class Cohort, I will make every possible effort to fully attend each of the six sessions listed in the description provided. I realize that these sessions take place during the contract day, and I will be required to meet the parameters set by my principal and superintendent in order to participate in this program.*

Participant Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*As school* ***principal****, I grant permission for the listed applicant to participant in the First Class Cohort. I realize that the six sessions listed take place during the contract day, and I authorize the individual to be released based on the parameters set at the district level.*

Principal Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*As district* ***superintendent****, I grant permission for the listed applicant to participant in the First Class Cohort. I realize that the six sessions listed take place during the contract day, and I authorize the individual to be released based on the parameters set at the district level.*

Superintendent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Oklahoma State Department of Education has budgeted a $50 per session compensation for each participant to cover expenses. This compensation may be paid to the district or to the individual participant at the end of the 2018-19 cohort sessions, as directed by the district superintendent.

*As district superintendent, I understand that a $50 per session compensation will be provided to cover expenses incurred as a result of participation in the First Class Cohort. This compensation will be paid upon completion of the cohort. I authorize the compensation to be paid directly to the following:*

Choose one.

District

Participant

Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_