



Bridging the Gap between Classroom, Community and Commerce



Purpose of WestTeach?

WestTeach is the premier leadership development program for teachers in the 21 counties of West Tennessee. The program topics will expose our teachers to relevant and influential issues that can shape and reshape the classroom engagement for their students. Teachers will be challenged and equipped to translate their WestTeach experiences into transformational opportunities for their students.

WestTeach Mission

The WestTeach mission is to engage and equip West Tennessee teachers with tools and leadership skills for success in and outside the classroom.



WestStar Leadership educates, engages, and empowers a diverse group of community-minded individuals to collaborate, lead, and serve to facilitate positive change in West Tennessee. WestStar is committed to advancing the regional and global community through outreach and community/public service and endeavors.

Selection Criteria

Applicants must be K-12 teachers who aspire to stay in the classroom and want to be leaders in their schools and communities. They should be nominated by their Director/Superintendent of Schools. Selection is also based on leadership achievements and potential to contribute to the region's educational system.

Application Process

Applicants must submit their application with a letter of recommendation from their Director/Superintendent of Schools. Applications are reviewed and selected by the WestTeach Leadership Advisory Board. One teacher per school district will be selected with a maximum of 30 members per class. It is a requirement that each class member attend the opening session and graduation. If requirement can't be met, then applicant needs to wait until next year.

Applications can be found online at utm.edu/westteach. Recruitment begins March 1st.

Cost

Tuition for WestTeach is \$250. Tuition must be paid by the participant or their school system prior to the first session. Upon graduation, each teacher will be given a \$100 gift card to be used for their classroom.

Sponsored by Leaders Education Foundation.

Program Topics

Dates & Location

Agriculture & Entrepreneurship

August 28-29 | Martin/Union City

The Humanity of Leadership

September 27 | Jackson

Education: Creating Partnership for Economic Development

November 2 | Dyersburg

Fundamentals of Economic Development:
Building Communities from the Base Up

November 16 | Brownsville

“Celebrating the WestTeach Class of 2023: Graduation Banquet”

December 14 | UT Martin

Testimonial

“I wish everyone could be a part of this amazing program. I've made life long friends and great memories. I am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of WestTeach.” - Autumn Ratliff, WestTeach '18

“The WestTeach program connected the classroom, community and workforce of West Tennessee. I was able to learn about all of the resources available in West Tennessee that would help the students and families represented in my classroom find success beyond high school. WestTeach strengthened the relationship between the workforce and the school system that will create a pipeline for students' future employment.” - David Westbury, WestTeach '21

Sponsors

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