



2018 FAQs

Early Career and Master Teacher Applications

APPLICATION PROCESS

How does the application process work?

The official 2018 application will open on the MfA website in January. Based on the fellowship for which you will apply, the application timeline differs. (Please see the MfA website for specific dates.) After all applications for a fellowship are received, MfA staff will review application materials and extend finalist interviews to select candidates. Finalists will then attend full-day interviews from 9:00am to 5:00pm on specified dates. Upon further review of finalists' materials, MfA will award fellowships in late June and early July.

PRAXIS EXAM

I'm an elementary school teacher. What Praxis exam do I take?

Elementary school teachers must take either the Middle School Math (5169) or Middle School Science (5440) exam. For more information, please see our Praxis Exam Guide.

I'm a middle school teacher. Why can't I take the Middle School Math or Science Praxis exam?

Qualified applicants to our programs demonstrate content knowledge that is at a higher level than that which they teach. All middle school and high school teachers must take one of the Content Knowledge Praxis exams.

Will I be reimbursed for the cost of the Praxis exam?

We are no longer reimbursing the cost of all Praxis exams. There is a Praxis Reimbursement Hardship Application available on the 2018 application. Candidates who have not been previously reimbursed and who demonstrate financial hardship may apply to have the full cost of the exam reimbursed.

OBSERVATION REPORT

My school doesn't do formal observation reports. Can I submit an informal observation instead?

If your school does not do formal observation reports, you should submit your two most recent informal observation reports. Remember that all observations should be uploaded in one .pdf document.

REFERENCES

I have a new principal or assistant principal this year. Can I request that my former principal or assistant principal serve as my reference?

You must have your current principal or assistant principal serve as a reference. However, you may have a former principal or assistant principal serve as another reference for you.

Can my reference submit a letter of recommendation instead of completing the reference form?

No. Letters of recommendation will not be accepted in place of the reference form.

TRANSCRIPTS

Do I need to submit a transcript from every higher education institution I've attended?

You should submit a transcript from every degree-granting institution you have attended. Additional transcripts should not be submitted unless you completed STEM or pedagogy coursework at the institution. For instance, you should not submit a transcript from a semester abroad program that only shows history courses.

I've submitted my transcripts before in a previous application. Do I need to submit them again?

If you have previously submitted your transcript(s), you do not need to resubmit. Be sure to check the "Transcript on file at MfA" box in the Education History section of the application.



ELIGIBILITY

Am I eligible for the Early Career Fellowship?

Early Career Teachers are NYC 6-12 public school STEM teachers who are currently in their first through third year of teaching. [For additional eligibility requirements, please see our website.](#)

Am I eligible for the Master Teacher Fellowship?

Master Teachers are NYC K-12 public school STEM teachers who currently have four or more years of teaching experience. [For additional eligibility requirements, please see our website.](#)

I am an ICT teacher. Am I eligible for an MfA Master Teacher or Early Career Fellowship?

ICT teachers are eligible to apply for a fellowship at MfA because they are considered a “teacher of record” for the classes they are in. Teachers who “push in” or serve in another type of support capacity are ineligible to apply.

Do my previous years teaching outside of STEM count toward my total years of teaching experience?

Yes. As long as you were a full-time, teacher of record for your classroom, your non-STEM teaching experience counts. Likewise, private school teaching experience and international teaching experience (at an accredited school) counts.

I teach sixth grade in a K-6 school. Can I apply as an elementary school teacher for the Master Teacher Fellowship?

We consider elementary school to be grades K-5. Sixth grade teachers should apply as middle school teachers.

I am a math teacher who teaches computer science. Should I apply as a mathematics teacher or a computer science teacher?

Computer Science is a track within mathematics. Although some mathematics teachers integrate computer science into their mathematics curriculum, most successful computer science candidates will teach a full program of computer science courses (i.e. courses that are officially classified as computer science). Only high school teachers are eligible to apply as computer science teachers.