Educator Exchange Programs

Educator Exchange Programs (EEP) provides a suite of international professional development opportunities for school leaders and teachers.

Collaborating with another education system is an effective and enjoyable way to promote cultural understanding and to reflect upon and enhance practice. The exchange offers a unique opportunity for teachers to learn and to compare and contrast various aspects of education between systems.

What are the benefits of e-exchanges?

- Encourage the exchange of teaching good practices internationally
- Facilitate the participation of teachers in online exchange activities for collaborative leadership
- Offer teachers and administration an open and global approach to learning collaboratively with colleagues from another country, providing an opportunity to contribute to their communities and the world
- Create a learning community by engaging in projects together
- Possibly include classroom projects
- Support ministerial outcomes by providing valuable professional development that supports teacher and school leader excellence

How do e-exchanges work?

- This is a one-on-one virtual exchange where you are paired with another teacher or administrator with similar educational interests.
- Matches can be within the province, within Canada or with our international partners in Spain, and may also be available in Germany, Iceland and Australia.
- Matches are made based on common action research projects/online exchange.
- Projects/online exchange activities are for an approximate four to six weeks.
- Examples of possible projects: student wellness, global citizenship, technology and innovation in the classroom, instructional leadership, women in leadership, rural and remote schools, immigration, second language learning, STEM, inclusion.

When does the e-exchange happen?

• The e-exchange happens throughout the school year, with the exact timing to be determined based on school calendars.

How much does it cost?

• EEP will provide program support throughout the exchange process.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for professional growth through direct experience. It allows you to effect positive change, connect with people globally, and hone skills of adaptability and flexibility."

–Exchange participant

Who is eligible?

- Fluency in the destination country language is not required, as the overseas teacher will be fluent in English (except for those wishing to apply for a year-long exchange to Germany).
- Teachers (K–12) must be Canadian citizens, have a permanent teaching certificate, have district approval and possess a minimum of five years of teaching experience.
- Part-time teachers are eligible only for short-term exchanges.
- Administrators are eligible only for short-term exchanges.
- Applicants should demonstrate flexibility, adaptability, intercultural skills and a strong capacity to act as an ambassador for their school authority and the exchange program.
- Proficiency with web-based learning management systems (such as Google Classroom is required).
- Proven communication skills, resourcefulness, initiative and community involvement are all desirable attributes.

Make this valuable and life-changing professional development experience a part of your career path!

Contact

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Alberta