

For the next several weeks, we are focusing on careers in Education, which includes Secondary School (High School) Teacher, Implementation Specialist and Guidance Counselor.



Careers in Education

The type of work

- Establish and enforce rules for behavior and procedures for maintaining order among students.
- Instruct through lectures, discussions, and demonstrations in one or more subjects, such as English, mathematics, or social studies.
- Adapt teaching methods and instructional materials to meet students' varying needs and interests.
- Maintain accurate and complete student records as required by laws, district policies, and administrative regulations.
- Assign and grade class work and homework.
- Prepare materials and classrooms for class activities.
- Plan and conduct activities for a balanced program of instruction, demonstration, and work time that provides students with opportunities to observe, question, and investigate.

Quick Facts ?

Education is an important part of life. The amount and type of education that individuals receive is a major influence on both the types of jobs they are able to hold and their earnings. Lifelong learning is important in acquiring new knowledge and upgrading one's skills, particularly in this age of rapid technological and economic changes. The educational services industry includes a variety of institutions that offer academic education, career and technical instruction, and other education and training to millions of students each year.

In recent decades, the Nation has focused attention on the educational system, because of the growing importance of producing a trained and educated workforce. Many institutions, including government, private industry, and research organizations, are involved in improving the quality of education.

Greater numbers of children and adults enrolled in all types of schools will generate employment growth in this industry. A large number of retirements will add additional job openings and create good job prospects for many of those seeking work in educational services.



Secondary School Teachers

Shuangshuang Liu, Mandarin Teacher K-12
Avon School District, Avon

Instruct students in secondary public or private schools in one or more subjects at the secondary level. May be designated according to subject matter specialty, such as typing instructors, commercial teachers, or English teachers.

Q How did you become interested in your particular field?

A I have been teaching in Chinese weekend schools for a couple of years. I've always enjoyed teaching, especially introducing the Chinese culture to anyone who is interested.

Q How did you get to where you are today? What path did your employment journey take?

A I was fortunate to get enrolled in the CORE program in CSU, which is where I received my State Teaching Certificate back in 2008. Before I came to Avon in 2010, I have taught in two other school districts. Besides my full-time job in the Avon School District, I also teach at two different weekend Chinese schools. Meanwhile, I teach online Mandarin courses.

Q What skills or certifications do you think are needed to be successful in this field?

A Interpersonal communication skills are very important if you want to succeed in this field. You have to let yourself be understood by others. More important, you have to do it in a professional way. Besides communicating with students inside the classroom, you also need to communicate with parents or guardians outside the classroom. "Lost in Translation" might be cute in Hollywood but certainly not in the real world.

Q What is the best part of your job?

A The best part of my job is to see new things almost every day. When you think you have seen enough, something else will come up and amaze you. New questions, new ideas, new concepts, new challenges, new progress, new achievement... My students keep me surprised all the time. They keep my heart young for sure.

Q Do you have any words of advice for someone considering a career in your field?

A Being an educator requires tremendous patience. If you can't handle pressure, don't pursue this career. Also, you need to keep an open mind all the time. People shouldn't judge a book by its cover. The same logic applies here - don't judge a student by his/her grade.

In 2008 there were approximately 1.1 million individuals employed as secondary school teachers nationally, with a 9% projected increase in this employment occupation. In Ohio, there were nearly 52,000 individuals employed with a projected increase of 3%.

\$85,000+

Annual Earnings Potential (2010)			
	Low	Median	High
United States.....	\$35,000.....	\$53,200.....	\$83,200
Ohio.....	\$35,100.....	\$55,500.....	\$79,500
Cleve/Elyria/Mentor			
OH MSA.....	\$39,100.....	\$63,900.....	\$90,600

Net Online, <http://online.onetcenter.org>

Pathways to success:

Aspiring secondary school teachers most often major in the subject they plan to teach, while also taking a program of study in teacher preparation. Many 4-year colleges require students to wait until their sophomore year before applying for admission to teacher education programs. To maintain their accreditation, teacher education programs are now required to include classes in the use of computers and other technologies. Most programs require students to perform a student-teaching internship. All 50 States and the District of Columbia require public school teachers to be licensed. Usually licensure is granted by the State Board of Education or a licensure advisory committee. Teachers may be licensed to teach the early childhood grades (usually preschool through grade 3); the elementary grades (grades 1 through 6 or 8); the middle grades (grades 5 through 8); a secondary-education subject area (usually grades 7 through 12); or a special subject, such as reading or music (usually grades kindergarten through 12).



What Employers look for in individuals:

- Education and Training - principles and methods for curriculum and training design, teaching and instruction for individuals and groups, and the measurement of training effects.
- Psychology - human behavior and performance; individual differences in ability, personality, and interests; learning and motivation; psychological research methods; and the assessment and treatment of behavioral and affective disorders.
- Computers and Electronics - circuit boards, processors, chips, electronic equipment, and computer hardware and software, including applications and programming.
- Clerical - administrative and clerical procedures and systems such as word processing, managing files and records, stenography and transcription, designing forms, and other office procedures and terminology.
- Sociology and Anthropology - group behavior and dynamics, societal trends and influences, human migrations, ethnicity, cultures and their history and origins.

Sponsors



Elyria City School District



Sources: Occupational Information Network, O*Net Online, <http://online.onetcenter.org>.** U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, <http://stats.bls.gov/oco>