

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

- Provide assistance to instructional staff in developing appropriate teaching practices which support new and existing programs adopted by a school district.
- Develop and implement appropriate interventions and lessons using district programs to enhance instructional practices and provide training and support of the implementation of the interventions.
- Assist in implementing new technology in the classroom with the goal of enhancing new and existing curriculum.
- Assist in the collection, analysis, interpretation and use of data to guide curricular and instructional decisions.
- Serve as a resource to teachers and administrators in the data decision making process and professional development of district programs.
- Research teaching methods and techniques and develop procedures to ensure that instructors are implementing the curriculum successfully and meeting program goals.
- Meet with members of educational committees and advisory groups to explore how curriculum materials meet students' needs.

## 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.

NOTE: We are blending data for both the Implementation Specialist and Instructional Coordinator positions.



## Implementation Specialists

Lisa Getty, Implementation Specialist  
Elyria City Schools, Elyria, Ohio

Implementation specialists play a large role in improving the quality of education in the classroom. They provide ongoing professional development to enhance the implementation of programs and instructional tools used daily in the classroom.

### How did you become interested in your particular field?

A I do not ever remember a time when I didn't want to be a teacher. I think I was born with the teaching "gene". Although my students have changed over the years, from elementary age to adult, the desire to teach has always been in my heart. Throughout my career, leadership positions arose allowing me to become an educational leader within the field.

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

A After graduating from high school, I went to LCCC and Ashland University to earn a Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education. Simultaneously, while teaching 3rd grade I earned my Masters Degree in reading education. I then left the classroom to become a school Literacy Coach where I facilitated professional development and supported teachers in the area of Reading. I am currently one of two Implementation Specialists for Elyria School District where I provide ongoing professional development and support to teachers in the implementation of district approved programs.

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

A A Bachelors Degree is required to teach, but a Masters Degree needs to be obtained within ten years of earning your Bachelors Degree. While teaching, you may be asked to attend additional professional development to refine your teaching skills in district approved programs. The skills needed to be successful in education, no matter at what age level, are excellent communication skills (both listening and speaking) and the ability to be flexible in your thinking.

### What is the best part of your job?

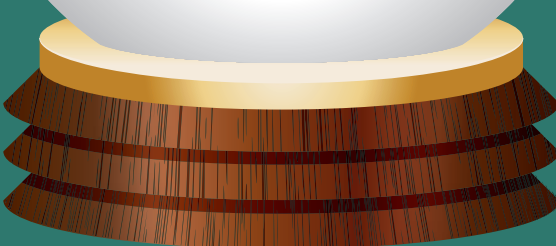
A The best part of my job is I get to help make someone's life better. There is nothing better than helping someone find success in meeting their educational goals – whether that means helping a child become a better reader by teaching them reading strategies or teaching a teacher a new reading program to help students become better readers.

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

A My advice to anyone considering a career path in education is to talk to current teachers about the behind the scenes work of teaching. Everyone who has gone through the education system has seen our up front work such as teaching lessons and grading papers. However, many people do not take into account the prep work, the data collection, and specialized program training teachers undergo to create a strong educational experience for students.

## THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

The number of instructional coordinators is expected to grow by 23 percent over the 2008–18 decade nationwide, which is much faster than the average for all occupations. In Ohio, we can anticipate a 16% increase in employment. In 2008 there were 134,000 individuals employed nationally, while nearly 6,400 were employed in Ohio.



## EARNINGS POTENTIAL

Annual Earnings Potential (2010)

	Low	Median	High
United States.....	\$33,500.....	\$58,800.....	\$93,100
Ohio.....	\$33,900.....	\$60,400.....	\$90,500
Cleve/Elyria/Mentor			
OH MSA.....	\$34,500.....	\$66,000.....	\$94,800

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

## Pathways to success:

The minimum educational requirement for most instructional coordinator positions in public schools is a master's degree or higher—usually in education—plus a State teacher or administrator license. A master's degree is also preferred for positions in other settings. Instructional coordinators should have training in curriculum development and instruction or in the specific field for which they are responsible, such as mathematics or history. Courses in research design teach how to create and implement research studies to determine the effectiveness of a given method of instruction or curriculum and how to measure and improve student performance. Instructional coordinators are usually required to take continuing education courses to keep their skills current. Topics may include teacher evaluation techniques, curriculum training, new teacher orientation, consulting and teacher support, and observation and analysis of teaching. Instructional coordinators must be licensed to work in public schools. Some States require a teaching license, whereas others require an education administrator license.



## What Employers look for in individuals:

- Education and Training - principles and methods for curriculum and training design, teaching and instruction for individuals and groups.
- Psychology - human behavior and performance; individual differences in ability, personality, and interests; and the assessment and treatment of behavioral and affective disorders.
- Administration and Management —business and management principles involved in strategic planning, resource allocation, human resources, leadership techniques, and production methods.
- Customer and Personal Service —principles and processes for providing customer and personal services.
- Personnel and Human Resources — principles and procedures for personnel recruitment, selection, training, compensation and benefits, labor relations and negotiation.
- 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>