



# Alief U Graduate Studies

## General Education Teachers elementary/intermediate

### 2022-2023

#### Thank you for choosing Alief!

We recognize that you have numerous school district options and appreciate that you chose Alief. If you have questions about your Alief U Graduate Studies coursework, please reach out to the Teacher Induction Department.

#### Alief Teacher Induction

The goal of the Alief Teacher Induction Program is to assist you in transitioning to a new job whether it is your first year of teaching or your twenty-first year. The program is also designed to build coherence in professional learning that is tightly aligned with teacher performance standards and the expectations for student learning outcomes.

#### Contractual Agreement

The contract you signed with Alief includes participation in a three year induction program. This expectation is outlined in sections 10.1 and 10.2. Each of the three years requires you to complete 35 hours of prescribed professional development as outlined by the Teacher Induction Department. Failure to complete your professional development contractual obligations will result in a reduction of salary based on your daily rate of pay and may result in additional disciplinary action up to and including termination.

#### Alief U School Year 22-23

- Professional learning credit for the 2022-2023 school year must be earned between March 1, 2022 and February 28, 2023.
- Teachers in Alief U are required to obtain 35 district credit hours. 28 district credit hours will be earned through **Best Practices** courses and 7 district credit hours will be earned through **District Choice**.
- All professional learning for district credit hours must be completed outside of your contract time. Outside of your contract time is defined as before or after work hours or on any days off. You may not earn district credits on sick days or during medical leave.
- District professional development will be offered in virtual and face-to-face (F2f) formats, depending on the specific course.

#### Professional Learning Expectations

##### Best Practices Courses – 28 hours

- **Meaningful Relationships – 7 hours**
- **Moving Minds – 7 hours**
- **Better Teaching and Learning with Formative Assessment – 7 hours**
- **LINCSPRING – 7 hours**

##### Personalized Choice – 7 hours

## Best Practices Courses

The district provides training on the specific best practices concepts over multiple years to develop your understandings at a deeper level and to align with professional development research. The research has concluded that teachers need 49 hours of professional development on a single topic or concept to be considered proficient (a math or science concept requires 100 hours).

### Meaningful Relationships (hybrid course)

#### What and Why?

- Participants will learn about the importance of establishing a culturally responsive classroom as well as the importance of building meaningful relationships with students. Participants will create a weekly plan to support building connections in their classrooms and learn and practice implementing techniques designed to proactively strengthen, support, and sustain those relationships.
- This is a hybrid course
  - 3.5 hours face-to-face
  - 1.5 hour Implementation Reflection Assignment (IRA)
  - 2 hour synchronous Zoom
  - The dates and times on the planning page are for the 3.5 hour face-to-face portion of the course. The Zoom date options are included on the course description/registration page in PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL).

### Moving Minds (IRA)

#### What and Why?

- This course will explore ways to incorporate movement in the classroom to increase student engagement. Participants will leave with many content activities that will improve academic learning and student behavior.
- This course includes an Implementation Reflection Assignment (IRA). The face-to-face portion of the course is 6 hours and you must complete the IRA in order to receive credit for the course.

### Better Teaching and Learning with Formative Assessment (IRA)

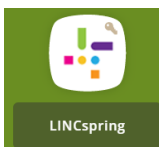
#### What and Why?

- Formative assessment provides critical information about student comprehension throughout the learning process, allowing educators to identify the unique and specific student needs and provide support to accelerate learning for all students.
- This course includes an Implementation Reflection Assignment (IRA). The face-to-face portion of the course is 6 hours and you must complete the IRA in order to receive credit for the course.

### LINCSPRING

#### What and Why?

- LINCspring is a virtual coaching and professional learning platform.
- LINCspring uses the PAACC (personalization, agency, authenticity, connectivity, and creativity) framework which contains the hallmarks of personalized and effective classrooms.
- Through a reflective, job embedded approach, LINC facilitates the: SPARK – mindset shifts by introducing new ideas and strategies, INTERNALIZATION – behavior shifts by supporting direct application in classrooms, and GENERATIVITY – culture shifts by promoting ongoing and self-shared reflection.



## How?

- All LINCspring courses are virtual.
- Access LINCspring through the Alief Hub.
- Complete the Autonomous On-Boarding and **Alief Foundational Playlist** to earn 7 hours district credit. The Autonomous On-Boarding and the Recommended Playlist are the only way to earn district credits/hours through LINCspring. If you have already completed this playlist, please reach out to the Teacher Induction Department for an alternate playlist.
- Autonomous On-Boarding Link: [www.aliefisd.net/linclearning](http://www.aliefisd.net/linclearning)
- On the LINCspring homepage, click the tab on the left menu bar titled: Playlists. The Recommended Playlist – Alief Foundational Playlist – will appear on this page.

## Personalized Choice

### What?

- You will choose 7 district credit hours. This can be earned by attending courses through:
  - PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL) that are assigned district credit
  - out-of-district training
  - campus-based training

### How?

#### PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL)

- From the PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL) homepage, click on Courses in the top menu bar. You can search for a specific course title in the Course Search option. You can also use the Find Courses by Tags option to search for courses that match your teaching assignment.

#### Out-of-District Training

- District credit can only be assigned to training that occurs outside of your contract time. Outside of your contract time is defined as before or after work hours or on any days off. You may not earn district credits on sick days or during medical leave.
- The training should be directly related to your teaching assignment.
- Preapproval from your appraiser is the beginning of the out-of-district credit request process. Be sure to discuss expectations of what will be learned and how that will translate into changes in practices in your classroom. College and university credit hours do not apply towards the district credit requirement.
- A Professional Learning Credit Request form is linked on the Teacher Induction and Professional Development websites. You must be logged into your Alief Google account to access the form.

#### Campus-Based Training

- Your campus may have training specific to your principal's initiatives.
- District credit for these courses can only be assigned to campus-based training that occurs outside of your contract time.
- After the campus training is complete, check your PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL) Transcript to ensure credit has been assigned.

## Virtual vs F2F Professional Learning

The district created virtual courses have been planned and verified for either 3.5 or 7 district credit hours. However, because of the virtual platform, the time required to complete the course will vary from person to person. In a face-to-face course, the instructor paces the instruction and work time. In a virtual environment, the rate at which an individual works and the amount of background knowledge they bring to the content impacts the amount of time required to complete the work.

Learning virtually requires:

- the individual to assign significant periods of time to truly think about and engage in the work, just as a face-to-face course would entail.
- more extensive independent reading and writing because lecture is not utilized as much in online learning.
- the individual to work alone to grapple with new learning. This can be frustrating and require more time to internalize the concepts being presented.
- more written responses which involves more thought and preparation than the discussions typically included in face-to-face instruction.

Only post, upload, or log into the course outside of your workday. All of your work in Schoology is timestamped. The course facilitator is required to monitor participant work time.

## Alief Professional Learning

- Log in to the Alief Hub to find your connection to PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL).
- For step-by-steps written directions or video help with PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL), please visit the Teacher Induction website and click on your year of induction.
- You will register yourself for all of the required coursework. The Best Practices course dates are included on page 6 of this document to assist you in the planning process.
- Almost all courses attended outside of the workday will be assigned district credit hours. District sponsored courses will also carry other credit types as appropriate. Course credits appear on the course description/registration page.



## Virtual Courses

- In PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL), virtual courses do not have a specific start and stop time. The course description will show the range of dates to complete the course. Information about accessing the course will be sent to you prior to the start date via district email.

## Face-to-Face Courses

- Professional standards include being on time and staying for the entire course. When planning your travel, allow yourself enough time for traffic, parking, and getting settled in the training room. You should be in your seat and ready to learn at the course start time. Some of our training facilities are large and attendance varies, so a good rule of thumb is to be in the training center parking lot thirty minutes before the course start time.

- Professional development guidelines extend a 10 minute grace period for late arrivals. If you are more than 10 minutes late for a course, you will not be allowed to attend. The 10 minute grace period for late arrivals does not apply when there are participants on the on-site waiting list. Seats are given away at the course start time. This guideline is established to ensure the learning environment is not disrupted for the presenter and participants.
- If you joined the wait list or you are not registered for a course, you can go to the course as a walk-in. You should arrive early and sign-in on the on-site registration form in the training room. At the course start time, seats will be given away to participants on the on-site registration in the order in which they arrived.
- Please check PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL) for the location of your course, both at the time of registration and the day before the course. In the event a course location changes, the change will be reflected on PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL). If a course is cancelled, an email will be sent to your district account and the word CANCELLED will be typed in front of the course on your PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL) account. You can check your course registration by:
  - From the PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL) homepage, click on Courses in the top menu bar.
  - On the top right side of the page view My courses – My Learning Opportunities
- After attending a district professional learning course, give the Professional Learning Department a few weeks, and then check your PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL) transcript to ensure credit was assigned.

## Alief U Graduate Studies Planning Sheet

- Page 6 contains an Alief U Graduate Studies planning document.
- A list of dates for each Best Practices course is provided for easy reference.
- A table at the bottom of the page provides space to ensure you plan for each professional learning requirement in Alief U Graduate Studies.
- You will register for all courses through PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL).

## Alief U Graduate Studies Planning Sheet

Register through PowerSchool Professional Learning (PSPL)

<b>Meaningful Relationships (hybrid) Elementary/Intermediate</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
April 23	8:00-11:30
May 14	8:00-11:30
June 8	12:45-4:15
July 13	12:45-4:15
July 19	8:00-11:30
July 19	12:45-4:15
September 10	8:00-11:30
September 24	12:45-4:15
October 8	12:45-4:15
October 22	8:00-11:30
November 5	8:00-11:30
January 21	12:45-4:15

<b>Moving Minds (IRA) Elementary/Intermediate</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
April 23	8:00-3:15
May 14	8:00-3:15
June 8	8:00-3:15
June 15	8:00-3:15
July 11	8:00-3:15
July 14	8:00-3:15
July 19	8:00-3:15
July 20	8:00-3:15
September 24	8:00-3:15
October 8	8:00-3:15
November 5	8:00-3:15
January 21	8:00-3:15

<b>Better Teaching and Learning with Formative Assessment (IRA) Elementary/Intermediate</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
April 23	8:00-3:15
May 21	8:00-3:15
June 7	8:00-3:15
June 16	8:00-3:15
July 12	8:00-3:15
July 14	8:00-3:15
July 18	8:00-3:15
July 20	8:00-3:15
September 10	8:00-3:15
October 8	8:00-3:15
November 5	8:00-3:15
February 11	8:00-3:15

<b>Course</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>District Credit Hours</b>
<b>Meaningful Relationships (hybrid)</b> face-to-face + IRA + Zoom			7
<b>Moving Minds (IRA)</b> face-to-face + IRA			7
<b>Formative Assessment (IRA)</b> face-to-face + IRA			7
<b>LINCspring</b>	Self-selected		7
<b>Personalized Choice (7 district credit hours total)</b>			
<b>TOTAL</b>			35