

MOU - Bilingual School Counselor Master's Degree Program

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE PALM BEACH COUNTY CLASSROOM TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (CTA) AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY (DISTRICT)

The School Board of Palm Beach County (the "District") and the Palm Beach County Classroom Teachers Association (the "CTA") as evidenced by the respective signatures below, agree to this Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") related to the ESOL Bilingual/Bicultural School Counselor Scholarship Program.

PURPOSE

In response to the increase in enrollment of English Language Learners (ELL), the Department of Multicultural Education has entered into an agreement with Florida Atlantic University (FAU) to offer an ESOL Bilingual/Bicultural Scholarship, covering full tuition, to District employees for a Master's Degree in School Counseling. Upon completion of the Master's Degree and obtaining full eligibility as determined by the Florida Department of Education and the Department of Multicultural Education, the employee will serve in the capacity of an ESOL School Counselor or School Counselor position for a minimum of three (3) years. Candidates must be selected by the Department of Multicultural Education using the established eligibility criteria listed below and an approved interview rubric and process.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the scholarship, employees must meet the following criteria:

- Current full-time teacher or professional in a District-operated school or department
- Must hold an active Florida Educator's Certificate, preference to be given to employees who hold a Professional Educator's Certificate
- Must be bilingual/bicultural in Haitian Creole, Spanish, Portuguese, Q'anjob'al, Mam, or other as determined by the District
- Must pass a language screening administered by the Department of Multicultural Education in the target language that includes sections in reading, writing and oral language
- Complete the District application for entrance into the cohort and sign the scholarship agreement and any associated documents required in the application

- Complete the FAU application and pay any and all applicable fees for application and registration
- Receive acceptance into the School Counselor Master's Degree program by FAU
- Attend any and all required meetings or events as outlined by FAU or the District
- Maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 throughout the duration of the scholarship
- Maintain continued enrollment and a full schedule of courses aligned with the University's individually prescribed schedule
- For continued eligibility, submit a copy of your grades and upcoming schedule to the District Representative in the Department of Multicultural Education each semester

REQUIREMENTS

- Adhere to all requirements outlined above while completing the Master's Degree
- Graduate with a Master's Degree in School Counseling from FAU
- Submit degree-conferred transcripts to Human Resources upon completion of the program
- Apply for and obtain certification in School Counseling with the FL DOE
- Maintain employment at a District-operated school as a Bilingual School Counselor or School Counselor, serving at a school with a significant percentage of ELL students, for at least three (3) years after completing the master's degree

General Provisions

Funding for each participant will be provided directly to Florida Atlantic University for the prescribed courses. Participants must purchase books and pay any and all non-tuition fees associated with the Master's Degree Program. Following graduation, each employee is responsible for the fees associated with obtaining certification in School Guidance and Counseling.

Employees, whose position is eliminated due to budgetary adjustments, will be placed into ESOL Bilingual School Counselor positions when possible. Participants who voluntarily end employment with the District or refuse to work in the capacity of an ESOL Bilingual School Counselor or School Counselor, serving a significant percentage of ELL students, may be required to repay the full or prorated amount of the scholarship awarded.

The District reserves the right to discontinue the ESOL Bilingual/Bicultural School Counselor Scholarship at any time as determined necessary.

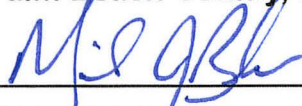
**For the Palm Beach County
Classroom Teachers Association**


Justin Katz, President

Date: 11/14/2022


Theo Harris, Executive Director

**For the School District of
Palm Beach County, Florida**


Michael J. Burke, Superintendent

Date: 12/8/22


John Anthony Boggess, Chief of Staff

Erica Reger

Erica Reger (Nov 30, 2022 12:46 EST)

Erica Reger, Chief of Human Resources



Heather Frederick, Chief Financial Officer



Elaine Gallagher (Nov 17, 2022 07:20 EST)

Elaine Gallagher, Director of Recruitment
and Retention



Melissa Patterson (Nov 15, 2022 11:48 EST)

Melissa Patterson, Director of Multicultural
Education and Migrant Education



Timothy Kubrick (Nov 14, 2022 16:12 EST)

Tim Kubrick, Director of Labor Relations