

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NOW ELIGIBLE FOR FREE ACT 48 ONLINE COURSES PROVIDED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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The Pennsylvania Department of Education has opened eligibility for free online Act 48 courses to all Pennsylvania substitute teachers through the state-funded professional education website <http://PA.ProfessionalEducation.org>.

Active substitute educators are now eligible to enroll in the multimedia courses totaling 105 hours of free Act 48 professional development through the Online Professional Education Network (OPEN). Each course grants 15 hours toward the Act 48 requirements for all Pennsylvania certified educators to achieve 180 hours of professional education every five years.

The service is of particular importance for substitute teachers because of their limited access to Act 48 continuing professional education programs; however, all substitute teachers fall under the requirements of Act 48 to maintain an active teaching certificate.

Course offerings available to substitute teachers through OPEN includes:

Diverse Learners:

- Success for English Language Learners: 5 Strategies for Classroom Teachers

Mathematics:

- K-12 Math: Open-ended Problem Solving

Reading Across All Content Areas:

- Using Graphic Organizers: Tools for Organizing Thinking
- Vocabulary Strategies: Foundation to Comprehending Content
- Student-centered Science: Building Knowledge and Skills Through Inquiry

Science:

- Comprehension Strategies: Tools for the Classroom

Technology:

- Searching the Web

Thanks to the partnership between the Pennsylvania Department of Education and Learning Sciences International the courses are available free to all eligible Pennsylvania educators. The standards-based online courses can be accessed from school or the comfort of home while assuring fast, high performance over the Internet.

All online courses are developed concertedly by Learning Sciences International, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units. This partnership includes representation from practicing teachers, administrators, higher education, intermediate units, the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, content experts, and instructional design and multimedia professionals.

For more information on the free online courses or to register for a course, visit the website <http://PA.ProfessionalEducation.org>.

For more information, please contact the Pennsylvania Department of Education or:

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