

Application Preparation Checklist

Thank you for your interest in applying to Talent Together! The Cohort 3 application will open on December 2 and close on January 5. Recommendations must be submitted by January 12. To help you get ready and submit a strong application, we encourage you to take these steps:

- [Secure your recommenders](#)
- [Draft essays](#)
- [Create your resume](#)
- [Prepare your transcripts](#)
- [Select certification or endorsement areas](#)

Secure your Recommenders

Applications require **at least two recommendations**, with an option to submit a third. Before listing a recommender on your application, we strongly recommend discussing it with them.

Each recommender will receive a personalized email link to complete a brief form, which takes about 5 minutes. Please note that we only accept recommendations submitted through this form; letters submitted outside the form will not be considered.

At least one recommendation must come from a supervisor in a professional setting. Here's guidance on identifying a supervisor:

- **For school-based applicants:** A supervisor may include a principal, assistant principal, instructional coach, special education director, lead teacher, or any administrator who evaluates your work.
- **For non-school applicants:** A supervisor is anyone responsible for evaluating your work. Additionally, we encourage submitting a recommendation from someone familiar with your experience in an educational context, such as volunteering, camps, or religious institutions.

Draft Essays

Essays are an integral part of our selection process and help us get to know you as an individual and prospective teacher. Before our application window opens, we recommend drafting some responses to our essay questions. Please provide us with thoughtful responses and answer all parts of each question.

- *[Approx. 150-300 words]* Provide a brief description of your interest in becoming a teacher through Talent Together



- *[Approx. 100-200 words]* Talent Together is committed to removing barriers to the teaching profession. We are interested in learning more about the barriers applicants have faced in the past so that we can best understand how to support program participants. What barriers have prevented you from earning your degree and/or certification?
- *[Approx. 150-300 words]* Talent Together's Educator Preparation Program partners are committed to closely reviewing applicants' transcripts and experiences to identify opportunities for experiential and/or credit for prior learning. Please list any professional development, coursework, or experiences you believe may be relevant to the certification area you are most interested in pursuing. If you do not have any relevant experiences to share, please write "N/A"
- *[For certified teachers only, Approx. 150-300 words]* Provide a brief description of your interest in earning an additional certification through Talent Together, including how you intend to use an additional certification.

Create your Resume

A resume with your professional experience is required for admission to Talent Together. If you've never created one before, we recommend using a [free tool like this one](#) to get started. Please keep your resume brief, approximately 1-2 pages.

Prepare your Transcripts (Applicants Seeking Initial Certification Only)

For applicants seeking initial certification, you must submit unofficial transcripts from the latest college/university you have attended. These will help us match you with the best-fit program and assess potential transfer credits if accepted into Talent Together. High school transcripts are not required. Please contact the registrar or records office at your institution to request a copy of your transcript.

Select Preferred Certification or Endorsement Areas

Applicants may select up to three preferred certification or endorsement areas. One certification or endorsement area will be assigned upon acceptance to Talent Together. Visit [our website](#) for resources to guide your decision, and consider consulting local school or district leaders to identify high-need certification areas in your community.