



South Central Oklahoma Rural Education
— **COLLABORATIVE** —
Growing Local Educators

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C2C Classroom to Classroom

A SCORE Teaching Pre-Apprenticeship

From student. To teacher. Right here in Southern Oklahoma.

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Classroom to Classroom (C2C) is a four-year, step-by-step, paycheck-by-paycheck pre-apprenticeship program for high school seniors with a passion for teaching and their community. It is one that ends with becoming a fully certified elementary teacher in Southern Oklahoma.

This isn't a scholarship application or a college prep program. It's a structured professional pre-apprenticeship career pathway where you'll spend real time in real classrooms from day one and earning a wage while working toward your degree. By the time you finish, you'll have four years of classroom experience and a teaching certificate, with little to no student debt.

QUICK FACTS

The C2C Program at a Glance

Who is this for?	High school seniors with an interest in teaching and a desire to stay and serve in Southern Oklahoma.
How long?	4 years — starting your senior year of high school through your first year as a classroom teacher.
Will I be paid?	Yes. You earn an hourly wage in Year 1 as a pre-apprentice and a full paraprofessional salary in Years 2 and 3.
What about debt?	C2C is designed so participants finish with little to no student loan debt. We just ask that you commit to teaching in Southern Oklahoma.
What degree?	An Associate's from Murray State College, then a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education through one of SCORE's higher-education partners.
Who supports me?	The program director at SCORE along with a dedicated mentor teacher throughout all four years of the program.
Who runs C2C?	The SCORE Collaborative, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that supports educator development in South Central Oklahoma.

Your Four-Year Roadmap

YEAR

1

PRE-APPRENTICE

Discover teaching as a career — and get paid to do it.

- 10–12 hours per week in real classrooms alongside experienced teachers
- Weekly seminars on pedagogy, classroom management, and child development
- Personal mentor teacher paired with you from day one
- Hourly wage paid monthly on a district pay schedule
- Concurrent enrollment courses through Murray State College
- College Credits earned: EDU 2113 and EDU 2000
- Earn a passing score on the Praxis Paraprofessional Assessment

YEAR

2

PRACTITIONER

Step into a full-time school role while building your academic foundation.

- Full-time paraprofessional or substitute teacher role (70% of your time)
- College coursework in general education and elementary education (30%)
- Continue earning a paycheck and gaining valuable experience
- Continued mentorship with a focus on foundational teaching skills
- Build your professional teaching portfolio

YEAR

3

ADVANCED
PRACTITIONER

Take on greater classroom leadership and advance your coursework.

- Continue full-time para/sub work with increased leadership responsibilities (70%)
- Advanced coursework in elementary education and differentiated instruction (30%)
- Lead lesson planning and student support efforts
- Field-based experiences that directly connect coursework to your classroom

YEAR

4

CLASSROOM
TEACHER

Your own classroom. Your name on the door.

- Serve as the primary teacher in your own classroom as a Teacher in Residence
- Complete remaining bachelor's degree coursework part-time
- Professional development in assessment, lesson planning, and family communication
- Graduate fully certified with 4 years of progressive classroom experience

"Every child deserves a champion—an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be." ~ Rita Pierson

The Financial Picture

The cost of college stops a lot of talented people from becoming teachers. C2C is built to eliminate that barrier entirely.

Here are the financial details:

- Earn a paycheck starting in Year 1 — no waiting until graduation to see income.
- Establish a local bank account for direct deposit of your earnings.
- Potential to earn up to \$4,000 during the first year’s pre-apprenticeship.
- Participate in college classroom sessions on financial literacy for teachers.
- Meet with financial planners who are experts in long-term teacher benefits.
- Dual-credit and concurrent enrollment courses reduce future tuition costs.
- Full paraprofessional salary in Years 2 and 3 sustains you while you study.
- Access to grants and scholarships to help bridge the tuition gaps in years 2-4.
- Finish your degree without the student loan burden that stops so many teachers from staying in the profession.
- Participate in local programs that provide discounts and other supports for teachers.
- Learn how to stretch your earnings and leverage local educator programs.

***The traditional path: 4 years of debt, then a starting teacher salary.
The C2C path: 4 years of income, experience, and a career, all with your community behind you.***

WHY SOUTHERN OKLAHOMA?

Why Teach Here? Why Stay?

Southern Oklahoma needs great teachers. And the research is clear: the most effective teachers in rural communities are often the ones who grew up in them. You understand this community. You know its strengths, its challenges, and its people and you are committed to making it a better place for everyone who lives here.

Living and Teaching in Southern Oklahoma Changes Lives:

- Teaching locally means building relationships that genuinely last.
- You become a visible role model for the next generation of students in your own community.
- Your presence directly addresses the critical teacher shortage affecting rural Oklahoma schools.
- C2C graduates are positioned to become mentor teachers, instructional coaches, and future school leaders creating a cycle of local investment that sustains itself.
- Improved school performance impacts the economic health of our community.
- You become a key change agent in making our schools more valuable to future generations.

“Southern Oklahoma’s ability to compete for jobs and investment depends on our ability to attract and keep families *and families are attracted to high-performing schools.*”

Characteristics of a C2C Candidate

We're not looking for a perfect student. We're looking for the right person. Here's what that looks like:

Mature & Accountable

- You take responsibility for your actions and manage your time without being told what to do next.
- You handle conflict or stress with composure and bounce back from setbacks.
- You understand what professionalism looks like, even before you've entered a formal career.

Grounded & Growth-Minded

- You know your strengths and your blind spots, and you're honest about both.
- You have a steady, consistent work ethic, not just when it's convenient.
- You welcome feedback and see every challenge as something to learn from.

Community-Oriented

- You genuinely care about people and children, not just in theory, but in action.
- You're already involved: clubs, volunteering, helping classmates, looking out for others.
- You see education as a way to give back, not just a way to get ahead.

Committed to Southern Oklahoma

- You want to stay and you have a vision for what this community could look like.
- You understand the unique challenges of rural and small-town education.
- You see homegrown talent as the answer to homegrown problems.

Empathetic & Resilient

- You may have faced real hardship, and it has made you more compassionate, not less.
- You can relate to students from difficult backgrounds because you know what difficulty feels like.
- You believe every child deserves a great teacher, regardless of their “side of town”.

A Natural Leader

- Others look to you to take charge; in class, on a team, in your neighborhood.
- You don't wait to be asked. You step up.
- You lead by example and take pride in how your actions affect people around you.

Ready to Go from Classroom to Classroom?

If this sounds like you, and like the future you want, we'd love to talk. C2C is actively recruiting for its next cohort. Here's how to take the first step: Talk to your school counselor or principal about the C2C program and fill out the application.



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***Your community helped shape who you are.
Now it's your turn to shape the next generation.***