



Future Teachers Program: Preparing Future Educational Leaders



Only days after participating in commencement ceremonies at UW-Whitewater, Deonte Iverson, from Crystal Lake, Illinois, finishes his student teaching requirement at West Allis High School. Iverson, who graduated with a degree in special education, went on to graduate school.

(UW-Whitewater photo/Craig Schreiner)



In 2012, the Future Teacher Program was awarded the Anne Lydecker Education Diversity Award by the State of Wisconsin. Students and faculty, including Dean Katy Heyning, second to right, represented the program at the State Capitol.

“The Future Teacher Program allows first-year students like me to connect with peers and explore our interests in education. It also gives us the opportunity to get more comfortable with the UW-Whitewater campus, its staff, and all of the resources it provides us.”

— Chloey Menarek, Paris, Wisconsin
Early Childhood Education major

The College of Education and Professional Studies is committed to expanding opportunities and promoting the success of students who identify as part of underrepresented populations that include, but are not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, first-generation students, students with disabilities, students who are DACA-eligible (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) and students receiving financial assistance.

Wisconsin needs a diverse and highly qualified teaching workforce. The Future Teacher Program recruits and retains diverse students and students interested in teaching high-demand subject areas into the teaching profession.

The program supports students on their educational journey by creating a sense of belonging on the UW-Whitewater campuses. The program uses high-impact practices that facilitate academic success. Students strengthen college readiness skills, engage with peer mentors, staff, and faculty, and participate in personal and professional workshops and community service projects.

The FTP program was started in 2009. A key component to the program is a week-long residential transition program that provides incoming first-year students a great start to their education through extensive, interactive and engaging programs that set them up for success. Students are also introduced to campus student support services, including tutoring, library resources, study skills workshops and working with peer mentors.

The cost of the summer institute is supported by gifts from donors like you. The financial need of participating students is great — more than 75% receive financial aid in the form of loans to finance their college careers. In addition to seeking loans, the majority of FTP students must also work long hours while completing the studies and the rigorous teacher education program requirements, including fieldwork experiences. The cost of attendance continues to rise and the need for support is great.

The FTP has a proven success record. In 2012, it was awarded the Anne Lydecker Education Diversity Award by the State of Wisconsin. Now in its 12th year, FTP continues to boast retention and placement rates of more than 80%.

With your support, the Future Teacher Program can continue to attract, retain and graduate diverse students with promise and potential, graduates who are dedicated to making a difference in their communities by inspiring and educating children throughout Wisconsin.



UW-Whitewater Future Teacher Program participants visit Whitewater City Market in the city's downtown. (UW-Whitewater photo/Craig Schreiner)

