



Eden Educators

Who are they? An Eden Educator is an independent contractor who contracts with The Eden Alternative, Inc. to provide Certified Eden Associate Training, Eden at Home Trainer Certification and other educational offerings from the Eden Alternative around the United States.

How do I become an Eden Educator? It is our desire to seek out people that have the qualifications, skills and the heart to help people see and experience a life worth living. To determine if you have the qualifications, read through and fill out the Eden Educator application. After it is submitted and reviewed you will be contacted about your acceptance to attend a Train the Educator Intensive class.

How do I receive the training needed? Train the Educator Intensives happen across the US during the year. Once you have been approved to attend a Train the Educator Intensive, you will be given a password that enables you to register for a class that fits your availability. The dates and locations for Train the Educator Intensives are posted on the Eden Alternative website. You must be able to be present for the entire 5 days in order to become a certified Eden Educator. The sessions will start at 8:30 a.m. on Monday and end at 4:00 p.m. on Friday.

Does attending the Train the Educator Intensive guarantee me status as an Eden Educator? No. Part of the Train the Educator Intensive class is to assess the skills that you will learn during the training. At the end of the 5 days, our trainers will help you develop a growth plan. If at that time, the trainers and you do not feel that you are prepared to conduct training on your own, they will offer suggestions for ways to grow your skills to become an active Educator. These may include partnering with a certified Eden Educator, attending an Eden Associate Training where you work with one of our trainers, or even a self-paced effort to learn and grow your skills.

What will it cost? General registration to attend a Train the Educator Intensive is \$1500. If you are becoming an Eden Educator for a Registered Home, the cost is \$1200. The Educator's kit is priced separately and can be purchased after the Intensive class. Organizations growing their own Eden Educator receive value for their investment because their internal training cost per participant is reduced.

How will it work? The Eden Alternative Education Coordinator partners work with Eden Educators to set up trainings around the U.S. The Eden Educator and/or the host site fills out a Host Information Sheet and turns it into the Education Coordinator. Once submitted the Host Information Sheet then guides the development of the marketing, registration, venue details and mailing of materials. If registrations go well, in return, the host site may get scholarships to send people to the training.

The Eden Educator works with the host site on AV needs, room set up needs, food and beverages for breaks and lunches and some supplies like magazines and flip charts. The Educator will want to let the host know when they want to get into the training room and to make sure the supplies from the Eden Alternative are there when they arrive. The host site and Educator will be given a link to follow the progress of registrations. The Educator uses resources on the Educators only pages of the Eden Alternative website to set up the teams for their class, print out sign-in sheets and collect e-mail addresses of the attendees. Eden Educators can invite people from the hosting home to help with the training.

The Eden Educator coordinates their travel plans staying within the budget allotted from the Eden Alternative. They bring their Educator's Kit with them, which contains the supplies they will need. The Eden Alternative ships prizes, workbooks, books, certificates and other supplies ahead to the hosting organization based on registrations. Once you arrive, you will set up the room and conduct the training. After the training, you will put leftover supplies and videos that belong to the Eden Alternative in a box and drop them off at the post office on your way home. They need to be sent back as soon as possible!

The Eden Alternative will compile the evaluation scores and send you a summary. Someone from the Eden Home Office will also make follow up calls to some of the participants and to the Educator to see how the training went and provide the Educator with any feedback received. The Educator is invited to give the Eden Home office team feedback on improvements they can make to the education process.

What will I be paid? Eden Educators will receive an honorarium based on the number of paying participants registered for the training. The Educator will also receive reimbursement for travel expenses. Educators will be given guidelines for travel expenses to keep costs reasonable. The Eden Educator will submit a travel expense form to Kathy Hagen at the Eden Home Office with original receipts. Once received and processed, the Educator will receive a check for your honorarium plus your travel expenses.

What if I am employed by someone else? First, congratulations to your organization for recognizing your skills and growing an internal education resource for their Eden Alternative journey. Their Educator will be able to learn and conduct a variety of Eden Alternative trainings for the organization at a significantly reduced cost per person.

Second, don't quit your day job. What we will need from the Educator is a letter of support from their manager/leader supporting their attendance at the Train the Educator Intensive. The letter should also express their support of the Educator's time investment to conduct at least two Eden Alternative trainings per year and attend at least one Eden Educator meeting per year.

How can I contribute to successful training events? The Eden Educator has a major, starring role in the success of Eden Alternative educational events. With the support of the Eden Home Office team, Educators find host sites for the educational offerings. They assist the organization in filling out and turning in the host sheets. The Educator can provide contact names to help get the word out about upcoming educational events. The more involved the Educator is in setting up and marketing the training, the more successful it will be. Educators are the local Eden Alternative representatives, building relationships and drawing their community into the mission of eliminating loneliness, helplessness and boredom. The Eden Alternative has learned from the Educators that those who are willing to go out and create connections stay the busiest. Educators have much to contribute to the success of their role.

What ongoing requirements are there? Eden Educators will be required to attend at least one Educator meetings annually where they will hear from the Eden Alternative's founder, learn all the latest and updated information, share what they are learning with other Educators helping each other to grow, help us improve the trainings being offered, and help the Eden Home Office team to refine its systems to better serve our Eden Alternative community.

Are there opportunities for additional training? Yes. Educators are eligible to provide other Eden Alternative offerings. Eden Educators need to attend the other trainings offered such as the *Leadership Pathways*, *GROWTH: Six Steps to Implementing Change* or *Dementia Beyond Drugs* training. There will be an additional application process to assess the Educators skills to conduct the training. Once an Educator has experienced each curriculum, been approved to teach it, and purchased the Educator Kits, then they will be prepared to deliver it. Information on these additional curricula will be given to you at the Train the Educator Intensive session. There will also be Train the Educator Intensives offered during the year for current Eden Educators to experience and add multiple Eden Alternative offerings, for example, spending five days and learning the *Leadership Pathways*, *GROWTH: Six Steps to Implementing Change* and *Reframing Dementia* courses. These are opportunities for Educators to grow personally and bring new knowledge back to their organization to help it grow as well.