## How to Become a Teacher

Step One: Be Inspired. You see it in the eyes of others as they look at you. You will be a fantastic teacher, right? You hear it from your high school teachers and family members. They all believe in you, so you need to be inspired to do it too. Your friends even say you'll be a great teacher someday. They say you have the aura of a teacher. What is the aura of a teacher? Whatever it is, let's hope that it'll be enough help to get you through the next four or five years of your life.

Step Two: Get into college. This one shouldn't be too hard. You need to figure out which school will be the best for you! Go through reports and see which has the cheapest and best program, lord knows you won't be able to pay for the best. Let's hope you can get scholarships or that your parents will be willing to pay out of pocket. Perhaps you could get student loans that you'll never pay off instead. That would be easier for everyone, right? You won't have to worry your parents or anyone else and you can keep the amount of money you have to pay to yourself. Let's hope you find someone here who will be able to help you out in the long run. Maybe look for a business major or someone who will be going off to medical school.

Step Three: Dealing with the Education Department. What the hell is an audit sheet? My advisor didn't tell me about this class. What am I supposed to take again? I'm confused on what courses I have to take. My transcript says one thing, but the website says another. Can someone help me? Let's try to email them. I've got my answers for that, but what about everything else? Class is going good, let's hear what they have to say about this test. Wait, how much is the PRAXIS?

Step Four: Take the PRAXIS. You already won't make a ton of money as a teacher, so they make you take a test that can range from \$50-\$220. Isn't that great and easy! Make sure you hit the score of requirements the first time, so you don't shell out more money! You can always use sites like Kahn Academy or study.com, just don't forget that they say they're free until you actually need to take some practice tests. There's always some hidden fee so make sure to also shell out sixty or more dollars so you can truly get that education you want. You really don't want to have to take these tests again, right? Get it done the first time. Make sure to do that. I will drill it in your head to finish it the first time so you can save money. You need the money you won't get later.

Step Five: Get a job. Finding a job is easy! Just make sure that they actually get back to you. Everyone says there's a teacher shortage so finding a job will be easy, right? They said it'll be easy...right? Go to the government website and see what jobs they have. There's so many to pick from. You'll need to apply to them all and figure out which one will pay a living wage while making sure that you're not moving to a food desert or a place that really wouldn't accept you. If you do go to a place that doesn't accept you for who you are, play a role for the money. You need the money more than you need that comfort. Maybe you'll find a nice apartment to get a little bit of that comfort.

Step Six: Cope. Why don't they listen? Admin doesn't listen. They say they do, but they don't. Why won't they listen? There's something wrong. The children can't read or write. They've given up before they've started. Why is this happening? Why are the parents blaming everyone else? I just now started teaching their kids, why are they blaming me that they can't read? Why won't they help? I've tried to make them understand that I didn't know that their child had a hard time reading. It wasn't in any documents. Why isn't there a 504 or an IEP? Where is the help I'm supposed to get? Standardized testing. Why is that still a thing? Sitting in a room for hours while students click away on their laptops. I had to do it with a pencil. Why am I not allowed to read while they test? What do you mean our budget's been cut?

Step Seven: You're doing great. Your student has brought you a drawing. They said that they appreciate you. You take a breath and realize what you've been doing right. You don't need to be perfect, you just need to inspire. That's why you became a teacher in the first place, right? To help inspire the next generation. Follow the protocol and make sure your students feel welcome. You know what you're doing. You're doing great.

Step Eight: Retire. You've done it! You've had a full career as a teacher! Now you can finally relax after all this time. Relaxing. You haven't done that since you started college. Take a breather. You've inspired someone. They will become a teacher next. The cycle will continue to move without you. Maybe they will be the one to finally get teachers better pay and get the government to listen. Until then, relax.