Utah Special Education

New Teacher Support

Utah State Personnel Development Grant Program (SPDG)

A major goal for this grant is to retain highly qualified personnel. This goal has five performance measures:

1. New special education teachers will demonstrate increased knowledge and skills in scientifically-based instructional practices.
2. New special education teachers will report higher levels of job satisfaction and support.
3. New special education teacher retention rates will be greater than 70% after three years of teaching experience.
4. Performance of students with disabilities taught by new special education teachers will improve.
5. The job satisfaction of mentors/coaches of new special education teachers will improve.

Utah Special Education Induction Network (U-SPIN)

Utah school districts and charter schools are required by the Early Years Enhancement Program (EYE) of the Utah State Office of Education (USOE) to provide mentoring for new teachers in their first three years of service. SPDG and UPDC have played a significant role in helping to build and strengthen Utah's new special education teacher induction programs through ongoing training and technical assistance. A group of Special Education Induction Coordinators from throughout Utah meet several times a year to network and share resources.

UTAH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEW TEACHER SUPPORT

Utah Special Education Induction Network (U-SPIN)	Summer Running Start	Online Resources	New Teacher Coach Training	Utah CEC New Special Education Teachers Conference

updc utah personnel development center

SPDIG

UTAH SPECIAL EDUCATION

Running Start: Ready to Teach on Day One!

Running Start is a summer training week for special education teachers involved in alternative teacher preparation programs. It is part of an ongoing comprehensive induction program supported by SPDG and UPDC. Personnel from both projects have partnered with induction coordinators from multiple Utah school districts and instructors from Utah State University to help prepare uncertified teachers to be as effective as possible in instructing Utah students with disabilities.

Training includes:

*Introduction to Special Education
*7 Vital Teaching Behaviors
*Effective Instruction & Lesson Planning
*Behavior and Classroom Management
*Ready to Teach Strategies

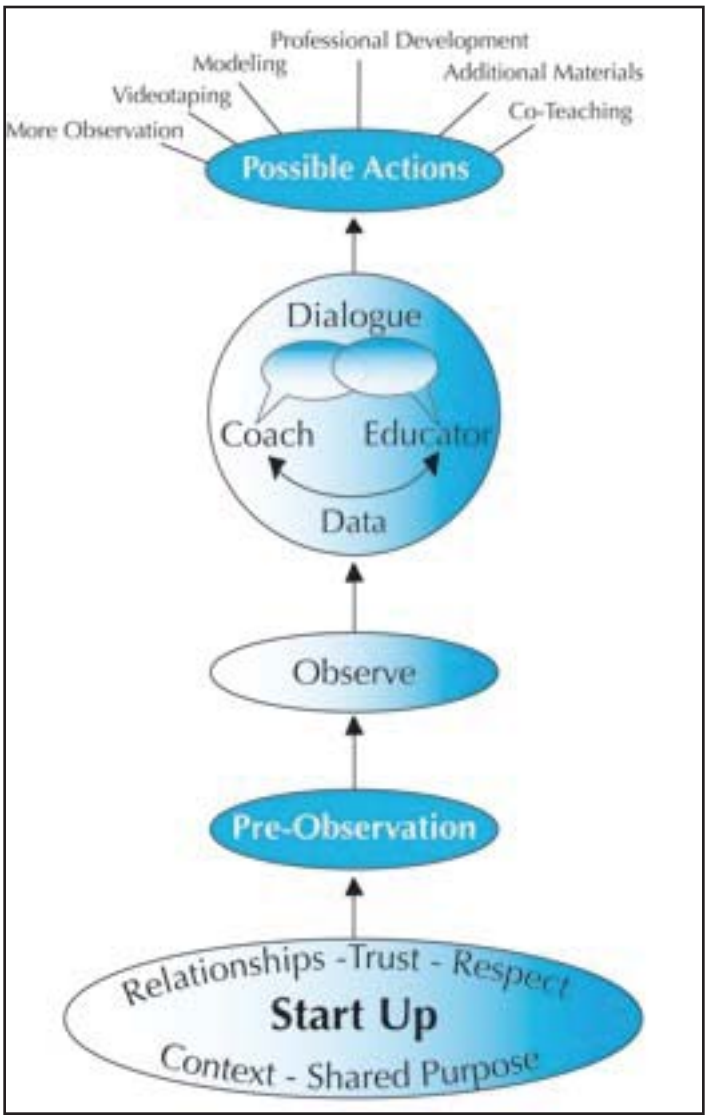
Special Education Mentor / Coach Training

A critical part of supporting new special education professionals is providing a focused induction program with a mentor / coach. U-SPIN coordinators worked together with SPDG and UPDC to create a Utah Instructional Coaching Model that emphasizes a coach's response to the needs of new teachers. Coach training is provided yearly and U-SPIN coordinators work with UPDC's Utah Coaching Network (UCN) to align efforts in preparing instructional coaches.

Utah Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) New Teacher Conference

In the past 10 years, SPDG and UPDC have provided funding and support for 3 conferences for special education teachers in their first 3 years of teaching. This year, they are partnering with Utah CEC to sponsor a conference featuring Anita Archer on March 13, 2012.

Online Resources

A web page is under development that will provide suppport for new special education teachers and those who work with them. Online trainings, video clips and links to mentoring and coaching resources will be included.

U-SPIN Instructional Coaching Model