

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How long does it take to become a Waldorf teacher?

Teacher preparation programs run from one year full time to three years part time, and include studies in the arts, philosophy, working in groups, organizational development, human development, pedagogy, and teaching. All programs also include practical experience in the classroom.

Are there different opportunities to work in a Waldorf school?

Waldorf schools are a community of teachers and staff, with a variety of positions in early childhood, elementary school, high school, administration, and specialty subjects – arts, movement, handcrafts, woodworking, languages, therapeutic lessons. Early childhood and grades teachers usually carry a class and cover many subjects. High school teachers tend to specialize in science, math, humanities, or language.

Where do I train to become a Waldorf teacher?

There are Waldorf institutes across North America and Europe. For a list see our web site at www.whywaldorfworks.org.

What are the prerequisites to becoming a Waldorf teacher? Do I need to have a teaching certificate?

Most programs require completion of a BA before receiving a Waldorf certificate, but no prior studies in education are required. Some programs require prior studies of the arts, philosophy, an interest in inner work, and a familiarity with Rudolf Steiner's anthroposophy and Waldorf education. These prerequisites are commonly called foundation studies and are also available in programs across North America.

What is the training like?

While each teacher preparation program is unique, all of them include study and practice of the arts – including painting, music, and movement – a deep exploration of child and human development, an exploration of pedagogical approaches and skills, practical experiences in the classroom with experienced teachers, and opportunities to develop skills working in a group of colleagues.

Where can I see a Waldorf teacher or a training program in action?

Contact any Waldorf school or institute. They will let you know about visitation schedules or may set up a time for you to see the teaching/training at work.

Once I've become a Waldorf teacher, can I teach anywhere in North America or other regions of the world?

Absolutely. After completion of a Waldorf teacher training program, your journey to become an inspired teacher begins. That needs time to develop in the classroom and with colleagues in a Waldorf school. But Waldorf schools comprise a social network that allows teachers to relocate when needed to other areas of the continent or world.

Where do I look for a job as a Waldorf school teacher once I've graduated?

Many jobs are listed through a link on our website: www.waldorfteachers.com

Are there many job openings for trained Waldorf teachers?

Each year, the job openings far exceed the number of graduates from training programs.

How many Waldorf schools are there?

There are 77 full member and candidate schools and 67 developing schools, including 40 high schools in North America and over 2,000 Waldorf schools and early childhood centers in 60 countries worldwide.

What are the tuition fees?

Training program fees vary depending upon the program and location. Each program offers a variety of financial aid support to students.

Where can I find enrollment or admissions information?

The list on our website (www.whywaldorfworks.org) links you to the individual program websites where you will find all that information.

Can I apply for and receive financial aid for Waldorf teacher training?

Each program has a variety of financial aid options.