

## CAREERS

# Elementary Teacher

**D**o you like...  
... *being with children?*  
... *helping others?*  
*If so, then teaching may be for you!*

**T**he teaching of children is a rewarding job. Pay is not as high as in other jobs such as law, medicine, and technology. But it pays in other ways. You can lead children to do their best. You can watch them as they learn. You can share their joys and disappointments.

If you think it's for you, go for it! There are many teacher education programs. They will teach you how to work with all kinds of children. You can learn about teaching:

- one class of students all the main subjects
- different classes one subject, such as art, music, reading, and others
- students who are handicapped mentally, physically or emotionally
- "gifted" (very smart) students
- students who do not speak English

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

It is important to have hard working people as teachers. Teachers must have a bachelor's degree from an approved teacher training school. All states say that teachers must be certified. Rules for certification vary from state to state.

### JOB OUTLOOK AND EARNINGS

Jobs will grow for elementary school teachers through the year 2008. The average pay for elementary teachers was about \$40,000 in 1999.



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact your local school system.  
Or write to:  
American Federation of Teachers  
555 New Jersey Avenue NW  
State Department of Education  
Washington DC 20001 ■

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