

## Preparing to Co-Teach

Actions	Questions to ask yourself or others
Assess the current environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What type of collaboration currently exists between general and special education?</li> <li>• Has there been any discussion of inclusion, collaboration, or co-teaching?</li> <li>• How do teachers react when they hear about students with special needs in general education classes? Who reacts favorably?</li> </ul>
Move in slowly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is our joint understanding of co-teaching as a service delivery model?</li> <li>• May I co-teach a lesson with you?</li> <li>• Are there any areas that you feel less strongly about, in which I might be able to assist?</li> </ul>
Involve the administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How is the district addressing the LRE mandate and the inclusive movement?</li> <li>• Would our school site be willing to be proactive by including co-teaching?</li> <li>• What discipline areas will we target first?</li> <li>• How will we ensure that support is provided across all content areas, including electives?</li> <li>• Would we be able to count on administrative support, especially with co-planning time and scheduling assistance?</li> </ul>
Get to know your partner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Could we complete a co-teaching checklist to help guide us in discussing our personal and professional preferences?</li> <li>• Are there any pet peeves or issues that I should know prior to our working together?</li> <li>• Do we both have similar levels of expertise about the curriculum and instructing students with disabilities?</li> <li>• How shall we ensure that we are both actively involved and neither feels over- or under-utilized?</li> <li>• What feedback structure can we create to assist in our regular communications?</li> </ul>
Create a workable schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How often will co-teaching occur (daily, a few times a week, for a specific unit, etc)?</li> <li>• What schedule would best meet the needs of the class and both teachers?</li> <li>• How can we ensure that this schedule will be maintained consistently so that both co-teachers can trust it?</li> <li>• How will we maintain communication between co-taught sessions?</li> </ul>