

# Best Fit Check!

Being part of an instructional environment is such a large decision. Before applying to a school, or attending an interview, you should do your research to ensure the school fits your career needs as well as your personal needs. Make no mistake, you will have a large job no matter what school you attend. However, there are some considerations you can make prior to entering into a contract with a school that may be contrary to your needs as a professional.

Does the school have an instructional program that will support your growth? (i.e. instructional coaches, instructional leaders, professional development plans, etc.)



Is the school a high academic school, or is the position for an advanced academics course? (i.e. collegiate, early college, advanced Math, pre-advanced placement or advanced placement courses?) This environment will require study beyond what you originally intended during your first year. Are you comfortable with working at a school in which you will have to spend a considerable amount of time studying and preparing for high achieving students?



Is the school a Title I school, or composed of at least 40% low-income families? This assignment may require additional after school interventions. Are you comfortable with spending an extensive amount of time after school to ensure student success?



Has the school been designated by your state as a school that needs improvement? You will receive many professional development opportunities and heightened coaching, observation and feedback experiences. Professionals in this environment should be able to learn and implement strategies at a fast pace. In an effort to provide equitable learning opportunities for students, they may need more time. You may be asked to give students extended hours before school, after school, or even Saturdays. Are you comfortable with these requirements if they are asked of you?

