

# Starting WaKIDS 101 | Frequently Asked Questions

Welcome to the 2025–26 WaKIDS 101 Course! Before you begin, please thoroughly read this document, as it will answer the frequently asked questions for getting started with WaKIDS 101. **Please consult this letter before contacting the OSPI WaKIDS Team or your WaKIDS 101 instructor.**

## Course Audience

This course is required for all:

- Transition to Kindergarten (TK) teachers
- Kindergarten teachers
- Special Education teachers supporting TK or kindergarten students with disabilities

If your role is not listed above, please visit the [OSPI WaKIDS Training and Webinars page](#) for other available WaKIDS courses. If you are mistakenly enrolled in this course, please contact your instructor so that they can remove you from their roster.

**Note:** If you have previously completed WaKIDS 101, you do not need to retake it.

## Course Information

Session Number	Session Dates	Instructor Name and Email	Course Link (use this link when logging back into your course)
1	July 9–August 6	Whitney White <a href="mailto:wwhite@psed.org">wwhite@psed.org</a>	<a href="https://waesd.instructure.com/courses/5142">https://waesd.instructure.com/courses/5142</a>
2	August 13–September 10	Latisha Conley <a href="mailto:latisha.conley@k12.wa.us">latisha.conley@k12.wa.us</a>	<a href="https://waesd.instructure.com/courses/5143">https://waesd.instructure.com/courses/5143</a>
3	September 17–October 22	Whitney White <a href="mailto:wwhite@psed.org">wwhite@psed.org</a>	<a href="https://waesd.instructure.com/courses/5144">https://waesd.instructure.com/courses/5144</a>

- **Course Format:** Self-paced, asynchronous learning through Canvas platform.
- **Time Commitment:** approximately 16 hours (over the span of 4 weeks.)\*
- **Clock Hours:** 16 clock hours from OSPI awarded upon completion.
- **Completion Requirement:** All components must be completed within the 4-week course window. Partial Clock Hours will not be awarded.

*\* Participants will have from the start date of the monthly session to the end date to complete their course. The amount of time they have available will depend on when they register, and no extensions will be granted.*



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## Getting Started

About 1–2 days before your course window opens, you will receive a welcome email from Alondra Mendoza ([alondra.mendoza@k12.wa.us](mailto:alondra.mendoza@k12.wa.us)). In this email, you will receive everything necessary to start your WaKIDS 101 journey:

- The link to your canvas course
- Your *SmartTeach*™ username (you will use this username during the school year for the WaKIDS Whole-child Assessment)

## Logging into Canvas

Your username and password are already assigned to you.

**Canvas Username/login:** the email you used to register for this course

**Password:** Password1 (this is case sensitive)

[This video](#) shows you how to log into Canvas for the first time or read this [article on accepting a Canvas invitation](#).

Once you have successfully logged in, bookmark the page so you can easily access it. You can use the table above to find the link to your course.

If you sign out of Canvas at any time, you can sign back in by going to <https://waesd.instructure.com/> and entering your username and password. From there go to your Dashboard, which will list all the classes that you are enrolled in.

Note: **Do not re-use the enrollment link to access the course after you have already registered.**

If you need Canvas support, please read this [article on accepting a Canvas invitation](#).

## Reset Your Canvas Password

You can request a password reset via the usual “Forgot password?” link at <https://waesd.instructure.com/>. OSPI cannot reset your password for you.



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## I can't log into Canvas

You will only have access to your course during your course window. Your course opens at 9:00 am on the first day and closes at 11:59 pm on the last day. You will not be able to see content before or after this window.

## Canvas vs. *SmartTeach*<sup>®</sup>

You will have two separate usernames for your WaKIDS 101 course

Canvas	<i>SmartTeach</i> <sup>®</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="https://waesd.instructure.com/">https://waesd.instructure.com/</a></li><li>• Used ONLY for WaKIDS 101</li><li>• Your username/login is the email you used to register for this course</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="https://teachingstrategies.com/">https://teachingstrategies.com/</a></li><li>• This will be your log in information for throughout your time in TK/K and will be used throughout the school year for the WaKIDS Whole-child Assessment.</li><li>• Your username is assigned by OSPI and is shared in your welcome email.</li><li>• If you need assistance logging in, <a href="#">please refer to this support article</a>.</li></ul>

## Optional *SmartTeach*<sup>®</sup> Demo Username

During your WaKIDS 101 two-week training period, you have access to a *general SmartTeach*<sup>®</sup> *Demo username* with a *sample* child roster, *sample* documentation, and *sample* checkpoint data so you can explore the platform in advance of your personal district class roster being associated with your WaKIDS *SmartTeach*<sup>®</sup> username indicated above.

### IMPORTANT NOTES:

- **DO NOT** enter assessment results for children in your class into this *Demo username* during the assessment window! Remember to use your WaKIDS username/password indicated above for all child data related to children from your fall class list.
- This *Demo username* environment reflects the full *GOLD*<sup>®</sup> item set, while your WaKIDS username reflects the WaKIDS limited item set.
- Multiple teachers may be sharing *Demo usernames* during WaKIDS 101 trainings throughout the year, so please only access the *Demo username* assigned to you during your two-week training period.



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## Support and Resources

**Weekly Office Hours with your WaKIDS 101 Instructor.** There will be weekly optional office hours throughout your WaKIDS 101 course. You can find the details and Zoom link in your course.

## Questions?

1. If you have any issues with Canvas login (usernames, passwords, etc.) AND have walked through the above information, please email [alondra.mendoza@k12.wa.us](mailto:alondra.mendoza@k12.wa.us).
2. If you have any content issues, please email your instructor (you can find their email above in the table or in your course). Please note that WaKIDS 101 instructors respond to emails within 24 hours during the week, and 48 hours during the weekend.
3. If you have questions about logging into *SmartTeach*™, please contact the WaKIDS Team at [WaKIDS@k12.wa.us](mailto:WaKIDS@k12.wa.us).

