

# Teacher Professional Development

## Continuing Education

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Congratulations, and thank you for making the decision to purchase a winning School Theme production. We know you will find “Teacher Professional Development and Continuing Education” a great bonus addition to your resource library.

You’ll find it a valuable tool as you endeavor to meet state & district training requirements and consider your career choices.

Introducing:

- Educator effectiveness
- Career Continuum Components
- Overview
- Continuing Teacher Education
- Principles of Effective Professional Development
- Directory of Professional Development Opportunities
- FAQ’s

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## *Educator Effectiveness*

**It sounds simple enough—schools need to hire good teachers and keep them, and principals and administrators need to motivate staff and lead the charge for school-wide achievement.**

But if accomplishing these imperatives were easy, then superintendents would not lie awake at night worrying about leadership at the school level, education blogs would not be full of stories about teacher burnout, and state officials would not debate how to evaluate teacher performance.

- What attracts people with the teaching gift to the classroom?
- What level of compensation will keep them in the profession?
- Will financial incentives attract teachers to the hardest-to-serve schools and to the subjects—like math and science—where the teacher shortage is the greatest?
- How does the school environment contribute to teachers' happiness or disenchantment?
- What role do principals and school administrators play in inspiring great teaching?
- How do we know if a teacher is "good" or not?
- How do we effectively mentor new teachers and encourage them to stay in the classroom?
- What policies matter most in attracting and retaining Gen Y teachers?

Our nation's future is inextricably linked to educating every child to become a knowledgeable and productive citizen. The demand that no child be left behind, the desire to empower leaders to improve delivery systems, the need for increased school accountability, and the intrinsic value of equitable student learning are vital to the education of today's students for tomorrow's world.

Each of the following components of an educator's career continuum is essential for creating a strong education system:

- Preparation
- Recruitment
- Hiring
- Induction
- Professional development
- Compensation and incentives
- Working conditions
- Performance management

## **Overview**

- The traditional route to becoming a public school teacher involves completing a bachelor's degree from a teacher education program and then obtaining a license. However, most States now offer alternative routes to licensure for those who have a college degree in other fields. Private school teachers do not have to be licensed but still need a bachelor's degree. A bachelor's degree may not be needed by preschool teachers and vocational education teachers, who need experience in their field rather than a specific degree.
- ***Education and training.*** Traditional education programs for kindergarten and elementary school teachers include courses designed specifically for those preparing to teach. These courses include mathematics, physical science, social science, music, art, and literature, as well as prescribed professional education courses, such as philosophy of education, psychology of learning, and teaching methods. Aspiring secondary school teachers most often major in the subject they plan to teach while also taking a program of study in teacher preparation. Many 4-year colleges require students to wait until their sophomore year before applying for admission to teacher education programs. To maintain their accreditation, teacher education programs are now required to include classes in the use of computers and other technologies. Most programs require students to perform a student-teaching internship. Teacher education programs are accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council. Graduation from an accredited program is not necessary to become a teacher, but it may make fulfilling licensure requirements easier.

- Many States now offer professional development schools, which are partnerships between universities and elementary or secondary schools. Professional development schools merge theory with practice and allow the student to experience a year of teaching firsthand, under professional guidance. Students enter these 1-year programs after completion of their bachelor's degree.
- **Licensure and certification.** All 50 States and the District of Columbia require public school teachers to be licensed. Licensure is not required for teachers in most private schools. Usually licensure is granted by the State Board of Education or a licensure advisory committee. Teachers may be licensed to teach the early childhood grades (usually preschool through grade 3); the elementary grades (grades 1 through 6 or 8); the middle grades (grades 5 through 8); a secondary-education subject area (usually grades 7 through 12); or a special subject, such as reading or music (usually grades kindergarten through 12).
- Requirements for regular licenses to teach kindergarten through grade 12 vary by State. However, all States require general education teachers to have a bachelor's degree and to have completed an approved teacher training program with a prescribed number of subject and education credits, as well as supervised practice teaching. Some States also require technology training and the attainment of a minimum grade point average. A number of States require that teachers obtain a master's degree in education within a specified period after they begin teaching.

- Almost all States require applicants for a teacher's license to be tested for competency in basic skills, such as reading and writing, and in teaching. Almost all also require teachers to exhibit proficiency in their subject. Many school systems are presently moving toward implementing performance-based systems for licensure, which usually require teachers to demonstrate satisfactory teaching performance over an extended period in order to obtain a provisional license, in addition to passing an examination in their subject. Most States require teachers to complete a minimum number of hours of continuing education to renew their license. Many States have reciprocity agreements that make it easier for teachers licensed in one State to become licensed in another.
- Licensing requirements for preschool teachers also vary by State. Requirements for public preschool teachers are generally more stringent than those for private preschool teachers. Some States require a bachelor's degree in early childhood education, while others require an associate's degree, and still others require certification by a nationally recognized authority. The Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, the most common type of certification, requires a mix of classroom training and experience working with children, along with an independent assessment of the teacher's competence.
- Nearly all States now also offer alternative licensure programs for teachers who have a bachelor's degree in the subject they will teach, but who lack the necessary education courses required for a regular license. Many of these alternative licensure programs are designed to ease shortages of teachers of certain subjects, such as mathematics and science. Other programs provide teachers for urban and rural

schools that have difficulty filling positions with teachers from traditional licensure programs. Alternative licensure programs are intended to attract people into teaching who do not fulfill traditional licensing standards, including recent college graduates who did not complete education programs and those changing from another career to teaching. In some programs, individuals begin teaching quickly under provisional licensure under the close supervision of experienced educators while taking education courses outside school hours. If they progress satisfactorily, they receive regular licensure after working for 1 or 2 years. In other programs, college graduates who do not meet licensure requirements take only those courses that they lack and then become licensed. This approach may take 1 or 2 semesters of full-time study. The coursework for alternative certification programs often leads to a master's degree. In extreme circumstances, when schools cannot attract enough qualified teachers to fill positions, States may issue emergency licenses to individuals who do not meet the requirements for a regular license that let them begin teaching immediately.

- In many States, vocational teachers have many of the same licensure requirements as other teachers. However, knowledge and experience in a particular field are important, so some States will license vocational education teachers without a bachelor's degree, provided they can demonstrate expertise in their field. A minimum number of hours in education courses may also be required.
- Private schools are generally exempt from meeting State licensing standards. For secondary school teacher jobs, they prefer candidates who have a bachelor's degree in the subject they intend to teach, or in

childhood education for elementary school teachers. They seek candidates among recent college graduates as well as from those who have established careers in other fields.

- ***Other qualifications.*** In addition to being knowledgeable about the subjects they teach, teachers must have the ability to communicate, inspire trust and confidence, and motivate students, as well as understand the students' educational and emotional needs. Teachers must be able to recognize and respond to individual and cultural differences in students and employ different teaching methods that will result in higher student achievement. They should be organized, dependable, patient, and creative. Teachers also must be able to work cooperatively and communicate effectively with other teachers, support staff, parents, and members of the community. Private schools associated with religious institutions also desire candidates who share the values that are important to the institution.
- ***Additional certifications and advancement.*** In some cases, teachers of kindergarten through high school may attain professional certification in order to demonstrate competency beyond that required for a license. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards offers a voluntary national certification. To become nationally certified, experienced teachers must prove their aptitude by compiling a portfolio showing their work in the classroom and by passing a written assessment and evaluation of their teaching knowledge. Currently, teachers may become certified in a variety of areas, on the basis of the age of the students and, in some cases, the subject taught. For example, teachers may obtain a certificate for teaching English language arts to early adolescents (aged 11 to 15), or they may

become certified as early childhood generalists. All States recognize national certification, and many States and school districts provide special benefits to teachers who earn certification. Benefits typically include higher salaries and reimbursement for continuing education and certification fees. In addition, many States allow nationally certified teachers to carry a license from one State to another.

- With additional preparation, teachers may move into such positions as school librarians, reading specialists, instructional coordinators, or guidance counselors. Teachers may become administrators or supervisors, although the number of these positions is limited and competition for them can be intense. In some systems, highly qualified, experienced teachers can become senior or mentor teachers, with higher pay and additional responsibilities. They guide and assist less experienced teachers while keeping most of their own teaching responsibilities. Preschool teachers usually work their way up from assistant teacher, to teacher, to lead teacher—who may be responsible for the instruction of several classes—and, finally, to director of the center. Preschool teachers with a bachelor's degree frequently are qualified to teach kindergarten through grade 3 as well. Teaching at these higher grades often results in higher pay.

### **Alternate Routes to Teaching**

To recruit more teachers, especially in areas with a shortage of teachers, a number of states have programs that offer nontraditional routes to teaching. Several have special licensing procedures for non-traditional applicants. The requirements for an alternative teaching licenses can differ by state. See the your state's Department of Education website for

further information or search for alternate routes to teaching on the [National Center for Alternative Certification](#) website. Typically, applicants must hold a bachelor's degree in the subject to be taught, receive a passing score on state-required examinations, complete a state approved teacher preparation program, and may be required to fulfill a supervised teaching internship. After successful completion of these requirements, the applicant will be issued a teaching credential.

**\*\*Recent movements in education reform have created more stringent requirements for teachers. You typically need to be licensed in most states to teach in public institutions, and many private schools are now requiring advanced credentials. Highly trained teachers can earn more money and traditionally have more opportunities for growth and advancement.**

**\*\*Many bachelor's and master's degree programs meet the state-mandated requirements for licensure--but you must check with the program and with your state to make sure. Coursework typically includes curriculum and instruction, classroom management, teaching methods, as well as classes in your desired specialty. Some degree programs have added ESL coursework requirement in recent years.**

## **Continuing Teacher Education**

Nearly every state requires teachers to complete a certain amount of continuing education in order to maintain their license. Beyond this mandatory aspect, continuing teacher education has the potential to help advance your career prospects and increase your salary. These new career opportunities may include becoming a school librarian, administrator, or instructional coordinator. Or you can take courses that enable you to move into a more in-demand field such as math, science, or foreign language, where you may be able to earn more. Highly qualified teachers in all areas can also often command greater salaries.

Some continuing teacher education courses include:

- Administration
- Counseling

- English as a Second Language
- Internet for educators
- Preventing school violence
- Special Education
- Spanish for educators
- Technology in the classroom

### **Optional Certification for Continuing Teacher Education**

Any teacher can choose to receive voluntary national certification, which requires you to prove your aptitude and pass a written assessment and evaluation. This certification can earn you special benefits such as a higher salary, reimbursement for further continuing education, and certification fees. It can also facilitate moving from one state to another without applying for a new license.

### **Refresher Courses**

It's easy to forget the basics and develop bad habits over time, but continuing teacher education helps keep you on track. In addition, technology changes rapidly, becoming almost obsolete within a few years of its release. A lot of continuing education courses help teachers incorporate the latest technology into their instruction along with training on how to teach technology to students.

## **PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The mission of professional development is to prepare and support educators to help all students achieve to high standards of learning and development. When professional development is effective, a number of principles can be identified. In particular, it

- Focuses on teachers as central to student learning, yet includes all other members of the school community;
- Enables teachers to develop further expertise in subject content, teaching strategies, uses of technologies, and other essential elements in teaching to high standards;
- Promotes continuous inquiry and improvement embedded in the daily life of schools;
- Is planned collaboratively by those who will participate in and facilitate that development;

- Focuses on individual, collegial, and organizational improvement;
- Respects and nurtures the intellectual and leadership capacity of teachers, principals, and others in the school community;
- Reflects best available research and practice in teaching, learning, and leadership;
- Requires substantial time and other resources;
- Is driven by a coherent long-term plan;
- Is evaluated ultimately on the basis of its impact on teacher effectiveness and student learning; and this assessment guides subsequent professional development efforts.

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### **Areas of focus include:**

new teacher induction  
mentor training  
meeting the needs of diverse learners  
inclusive education  
differentiation of instruction  
instruction and assessment in a standards-based environment  
educational leadership  
supervision and evaluation  
using data to inform practice  
creating a culture for learning and building professional learning communities  
elementary parallel block scheduling  
results-based professional development training and facilitation skills  
customized consulting and facilitation  
keynotes and pre-conference presentation

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How can I find professional development or online workshops for teachers?

<http://www.teachersprofessionaldevelopment.net/index.php>

<http://btc.montana.edu/courses/aspx/ntenhome.aspx>

<http://www.hol.edu/>

<http://www.paec.org/teacher2teacher>

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Teacher credit requirements (by state)

<http://www.paec.org/teacher2teacher/map.html>

Teacher Certification and Renewal Requirements (by state)

<http://www.teachersprofessionaldevelopment.net/certification-resources.php#sr> (scroll to bottom of the page)

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Directory of Professional Development Opportunities

[ANNENBERG MEDIA](#)

[APPLE EDUCATION](#)

[ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY](#)

[ASSOCIATION FOR SUPERVISION AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT](#)

[EDUTOPIA](#)

[FREE-FEDERAL RESOURCES FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE](#)

[INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION](#)

[MIDDLEWEB](#)

[NATIONAL EDUCATION AND COMPUTING CONFERENCE](#)

[NATIONAL STAFF DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL](#)

[PBS TEACHERS](#)

[READING FIRST ACADEMIES](#)

[TEACHER TAP](#)

[VCU CENTER FOR TEACHER LEADERSHIP](#)

[VIRGINIA SOCIETY FOR TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION](#)

<http://dimacs.rutgers.edu/k12-prof-dev/>

<http://www.justaskpublications.com/workshops.htm>

[http://www.ascd.org/professional\\_development/Academic\\_Credit.aspx](http://www.ascd.org/professional_development/Academic_Credit.aspx)

<http://www.hearsayinfo.com/>

<http://www.ecs.org/>

<http://www.serve.org/>

<http://www.nsd.org/>

<http://www.webteaching.com/>

## Professional Development for Educators

*Title I and IID funds are available to provide high quality professional development. Current federal stimulus money as well as ongoing Title I and IID money can be used to support the integration of technology to improve instruction and student outcomes. Title I funds can be used to develop core technology infrastructure in Title I school-wide programs, including teacher professional development in the use of technology. At least 25% of Title IID funds should be used for ongoing, sustained, and intensive high quality professional development.*

<http://professionaldevelopment.altec.org/>

## Continuing Education for Teachers

Virtual Education Software, inc. provides interactive, multimedia continuing education courses for educators. [Online teacher education](#) courses can be taken through any one of our over sixty accredited college and university partners. Whether you need ceu's, pdu's, plu's, extension units, or academic credit, VESi courses will help you meet all of your professional development requirements. Rely on the expert instruction and flexibility of e-learning to advance your career to the next step or compensation level. With new courses always in the works, we look forward to helping you achieve your educational and career goals.

<http://www.virtualeduc.com/>

## Certificate Areas

NBPTS offers 25 certificates that cover a variety of subject areas and student developmental levels, and are applicable to more than 95 percent of America's teachers.

Review a particular certificate's standards, portfolio instructions, assessment exercise descriptions and scoring guides. Select the **subject area**, and then the **developmental area** using the drop-down menus.

[http://www.nbpts.org/for\\_candidates/certificate\\_areas1](http://www.nbpts.org/for_candidates/certificate_areas1)

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## Additional Education Resources

American Federation of Teachers, 555 New Jersey Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20001. Internet: <http://www.aft.org>

National Education Association, 1201 16th St. NW., Washington, DC 20036.  
Internet: <http://www.nea.org>

A list of institutions with accredited teacher education programs can be obtained from:

National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, 2010 Massachusetts Ave. NW., Suite 500, Washington, DC 20036-1023. Internet: <http://www.ncate.org>

Teacher Education Accreditation Council, Suite 300, One Dupont Circle, Washington, DC 20036. Internet: <http://www.teac.org>

Information on alternative certification programs can be obtained from:

National Center for Alternative Certification, 1901 Pennsylvania Ave NW., Suite 201, Washington, DC 20006. Internet: <http://www.teach-now.org>

Information on National Board Certification can be obtained from:

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, 1525 Wilson Blvd., Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22209. Internet: <http://www.nbpts.org>

For information on vocational education and vocational education teachers, contact:

Association for Career and Technical Education, 1410 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Internet: <http://www.acteonline.org>

For information on careers in educating children and issues affecting preschool teachers, contact either of the following organizations:

National Association for the Education of Young Children, 1509 16th St. NW., Washington, DC 20036. Internet: <http://www.naeyc.org>

Council for Professional Recognition, 2460 16th St. NW., Washington, DC 20009-3575. Internet: <http://www.cdacouncil.org>

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## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is teacher certification?**

Certification is the process by which colleges or universities grant professional recognition to a graduate of their program who has completed required coursework in a particular subject area.

### **What is a teaching credential?**

A teaching credential is the license conferred by a state to teachers who have completed certain state mandated requirements for teaching certification; such as education courses and passed state mandated teaching examinations. Teachers may earn a credential that allows them to teach the early childhood grades (usually nursery school through grade three); the elementary grades (grades one through six or eight); the middle grades (grades five through eight); a secondary education subject area (usually grades seven through twelve); or a special subject, such as reading or music (usually grades kindergarten through twelve).

### **What is National Teacher Certification?**

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards offers voluntary national certification for teachers in kindergarten through grade twelve. All states recognize national certification and many states and school districts provide special benefits to teachers holding national certification such as higher salaries. Additionally, many states allow nationally certified teachers to carry a license from one state to another. For teachers to acquire a national certificate, teachers must compile a portfolio showing their work in the classroom and pass a written assessment and evaluation of their teaching knowledge. Currently, teachers may become certified in one of seven areas, which are based on the age of the students and, in some cases, subject area. For example, teachers may obtain a certificate for teaching English language arts to early adolescents (ages 11-15), or they may become certified as early childhood generalists.

### **What is an emergency teaching certificate?**

Because of critical teacher shortages, some states extend temporary and emergency licenses that bypass state licensing requirements. These often

are granted to individuals to teach in high-need subject areas, such as mathematics, science, special education, or bilingual education, or for high-need geographic areas such as urban schools.

### **How do elementary and secondary teaching certificates differ?**

Elementary school teaching credentials are usually general, which means the teacher can teach a wide variety of subjects. Middle and secondary school teachers specialize in a specific subject, such as English, Spanish, mathematics, history, or biology. Aspiring secondary school teachers either major in the subject they plan to teach while also taking education courses, or major in education and take subject courses.

### **What are teaching certificate *endorsements*?**

Endorsements qualify middle school and high school teachers to teach subjects that are not covered in their teaching credential. Generally an undergraduate major meets the requirement of a teaching endorsement. Otherwise teachers will need to take several required courses to qualify for an endorsement in a particular subject.

### **What is an alternative route teaching certificate?**

Alternative route certification is specifically for individuals who have not completed a traditional 4-year certification program through an accredited university, but seek an alternative way to attain a teaching certificate. Many are career changers, or have special skills, life or industry experience that would make them effective teachers. In almost every case, candidates have achieved their bachelor's degree, just not in the field of education. Alternate route certification has become increasingly common in recent years as a means of entering the profession. Each state varies in its procedures and requirements for attaining alternate route certification. Check your desired state's Department of Education website for details.

### **What are the requirements for attaining a teaching certificate in my state?**

Each state sets its own requirements for certification, but most require teachers to have earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college and most require teachers to pass a state-licensing exam. Most states have several levels of credentials for teachers and varying certifications based on the age group or subject area taught. In order to find out, you'll need to research what your state currently requires for a teaching credential. Find your state's department of education web site.

<http://www.alleducationschools.com/faqs/statedepartment.php>

### **Can I teach in another state if I already have a teaching certificate?**

Many states have reciprocity agreements that make it easier for teachers

licensed in one state to become licensed in another. There are over 40 states that have agreed to allow teachers to transfer their license from another state to a new state. However, some states consider this transfer only provisional and require individuals to earn the new state's license within the first couple of years of teaching in the new state. To find out if your state has a reciprocity agreement, view our list of state department of education web sites.

<http://www.alleducationschools.com/faqs/statedepartment.php>

### **If I have a teaching certificate from another country can I teach in the U.S.?**

Most states do not accept licensure from foreign countries, but you may qualify for a provisional teaching certificate, which allows you to teach while completing the education courses that you lack. After you complete your required coursework you'll become fully licensed, which may take only one or two semesters of full-time study.

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Information on licensure or certification requirements and approved teacher training institutions is available from local school systems and State departments of education.

## ***ALABAMA***

### **Alabama Department of Education**

P.O. Box 302101

Montgomery, AL 36130-2101

(334) 242-9977

Department Home Page: <http://www.alsde.edu>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.alsde.edu/cert>

## ***ALASKA***

### **Alaska Department of Education & Early Development, Teacher Education & Certification**

Attn: Assessment Center  
801 West 10th Street, Suite 200  
Juneau, AK 99801-1894  
(907) 465-2831

Department Home Page: <http://www.eed.state.ak.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/cert>

## ***ARIZONA***

### **Arizona Department of Education, Teacher Certification**

P.O. Box 6490  
Phoenix, AZ 85005-6490  
(602) 542-4367

Department Home Page: <http://www.ade.state.az.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.ade.state.az.us/cert>

## ***ARKANSAS***

### **Arkansas Department of Education, Teacher Education/Licensure**

501 Woodlane, Suite 220 C  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
(501) 682-1146

Department Home Page: <http://arkansased.org/>

Certification Requirements: <http://arkansased.org/cert>

## ***CALIFORNIA***

### **California Department of Education**

1430 North Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 323-5472

Department Home Page: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/bt/gc>

[California Teaching Resource Center](#)

## ***COLORADO***

### **Colorado Department of Education, Educator Licensing**

201 East Colfax Avenue, Room 105

Denver, CO 80203

(303) 866-6600

Department Home Page: <http://www.cde.state.co.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cert>

## ***CONNECTICUT***

### **Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Certification and Teacher Preparation**

165 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, CT 06106

(860) 713-6543

Department Home Page: <http://www.state.ct.us/sde>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp>

## ***DELAWARE***

### **Delaware Department of Education**

401 Federal Street

Dover, DE 19901

(302) 735-4000

Department Home Page: <http://www.doe.state.de.us>

Certification Requirements: <https://deeds.doe.k12.de.us>

## ***DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA***

### **District of Columbia Public Schools**

The Presidential Building

825 North Capitol Street, NE

Washington, D.C. 20002

(202) 442-5599

Public Schools Home Page: <http://www.k12.dc.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.k12.dc.us/Teachingandlearning>

## ***FLORIDA***

### **Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Teacher Certification**

Turlington Building

325 West Gaines Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399

(850) 245-0505

Department Home Page: <http://www.fldoe.org/>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.fldoe.org/cert>

## ***GEORGIA***

### **Georgia Professional Standards Commission**

1452 Twin Towers East

Atlanta, GA 30334

(404) 232-2500

Professional Standards Home Page: <http://www.gapsc.com>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.gapsc.com/cert>

## ***HAWAII***

### **Hawaii State Department of Education, Teacher Recruitment Unit**

P.O. Box 2360

Honolulu, HI 96804

(808) 586-3420

Department Home Page: <http://doe.k12.hi.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://doe.k12.hi.us/cert>

## ***IDAHO***

### **Idaho State Department of Education, Teacher Certification**

P.O. Box 83720

Boise, ID 83720-0027

(208) 332-6800

Department Home Page: <http://www.sde.idaho.gov>

Certification Requirements:

[http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/teacher\\_certification](http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/teacher_certification)

## ***ILLINOIS***

### **Illinois State Board of Education, Division of Professional Preparation**

100 North First Street

Springfield, IL 62777

(217) 782-4321

State Board Home Page: <http://www.isbe.state.il.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/cert>

[Chicago Teaching Resource Center](#)

## ***INDIANA***

### **Indiana Professional Standards Board, Division of Teacher Licensing**

251 West Ohio Street

Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 232-9010

Professional Standards Home Page: <http://www.doe.state.in.us/dps>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.doe.state.in.us/dps/cert>

## ***IOWA***

### **Iowa Department of Education**

400 East 14th Street

Des Moines, IA 50319-0146

(515) 281-5294

Department Home Page: <http://www.iowa.gov/educate>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.iowa.gov/boee>

## ***KANSAS***

### **Kansas Department of Education, Division of Certification**

120 SE 10th Avenue

Topeka, KS 66612

(785) 296-3201

Department Home Page: <http://www.ksde.org>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.ksde.org/cert>

## ***KENTUCKY***

### **Kentucky Department of Education, Office of Teacher Education/Certification**

100 Airport Road, 3rd Floor

Frankfort, KY 40601

(502) 564-4606

Department Home Page: <http://www.kde.state.ky.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.kyepsb.net>

## ***LOUISIANA***

### **Louisiana Department of Education, Division of Certification & Preparation**

P.O. Box 94064

Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064

(225) 342-3490

Department Home Page: <http://www.doe.state.la.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.doe.state.la.us/doe/asps/cert>

## ***MAINE***

### **Maine Department of Education, Certification and Placement**

23 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0023

(207) 624-6603

Department Home Page: <http://www.state.me.us/portal/education>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.maine.gov/education/cert>

## ***MARYLAND***

### **Maryland Department of Education**

200 West Baltimore Street

Baltimore, MD 21201

(410) 767-0412

Department Home Page: <http://www.msde.state.md.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.msde.state.md.us/cert>

## ***MASSACHUSETTS***

### **Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education**

350 Main Street

Malden, MA 02148-5023

(781) 338-3000

Department Home Page: <http://www.doe.mass.edu>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/cert>

## ***MICHIGAN***

### **Michigan Department of Education**

P.O. Box 30008

Lansing, MI 48909

(517) 373-3324

Department Home Page: <http://www.michigan.gov/mde>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.michigan.gov/mde/cert>

## ***MINNESOTA***

### **Minnesota Department of Education, Teacher Licensing**

1500 Highway 36 West

Roseville, MN 55113-4266

(651) 582-8200

Department Home Page: <http://education.state.mn.us/MDE>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.education.state.mn.us/cert>

## ***MISSISSIPPI***

### **Mississippi Department of Education**

P.O. Box 771

Jackson, MS 39205

(601) 359-3513

Department Home Page: <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/cert>

## ***MISSOURI***

### **Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education**

P.O. Box 480

Jefferson City, MO 65102

(573) 751-4212

Department Home Page: <http://dese.mo.gov>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.dese.state.mo.us/cert>

## ***MONTANA***

### **Montana Office of Public Instruction**

P.O. Box 202501

Helena, MT 59601-2501

(406) 444-3150

Public Instruction Home Page: <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.metnet.state.mt.us/cert>

## ***NEBRASKA***

### **Nebraska Department of Education, Teacher Certification**

P.O. Box 94987

Lincoln, NE 68509

(402) 471-0739

Department Home Page: <http://www.nde.state.ne.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/cert>

## ***NEVADA***

### **Nevada Department of Education, Teacher Licensure**

9890 South Maryland Parkway, Suite 231, Room 234

Las Vegas, NV 89183

(702) 486-6458

Department Home Page: <http://www.doe.nv.gov>

Certification Requirements: [http://nde.doe.nv.gov/Teachers\\_Licensing](http://nde.doe.nv.gov/Teachers_Licensing)

## ***NEW HAMPSHIRE***

### **New Hampshire Department of Education**

101 Pleasant Street

Concord, NH 03301-3860

(603) 271-3494

Department Home Page: <http://www.ed.state.nh.us/education>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.state.nh.us/doe/cert>

## ***NEW JERSEY***

### **New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Licensing and Credentials**

P.O. Box 500

Trenton, NJ 08625-0500

(609) 984-1216

Department Home Page: <http://www.state.nj.us/education>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/cert>

## ***NEW MEXICO***

### **New Mexico Public Education Department**

300 Don Gaspar

Santa Fe, NM 87503-2786

(505) 827-6587

Department Home Page: <http://sde.state.nm.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/licensure>

## ***NEW YORK***

### **New York State Education Department**

89 Washington Avenue, 5N EB

Albany, NY 12234

(518) 474-3901

Department Home Page: <http://www.nysed.gov>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert>

## ***NORTH CAROLINA***

### **North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Licensure Section**

301 North Wilmington Street

Raleigh, NC 27699-6365

(919) 807-3310

Department Home Page: <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/licensure>

## ***NORTH DAKOTA***

### **North Dakota Department of Public Instruction**

600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 201

Bismarck, ND 58505-0440

(701) 328-2264

Department Home Page: <http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/>

## ***OHIO***

### **Ohio Department of Education**

25 South Front Street

Columbus, OH 43215-4183

1-877-466-2761

Department Home Page: <http://www.ode.state.oh.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.ode.state.oh.us/cert>

## ***OKLAHOMA***

### **Oklahoma State Department of Education, Teacher Certification**

2500 North Lincoln Boulevard

Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4599

(405) 521-3301

Department Home Page: <http://sde.state.ok.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://sde.state.ok.us/Teacher/ProfStand>

## ***OREGON***

### **Oregon Department of Education**

255 Capitol Street, NE, Public Service Building, Suite 105

Salem, OR 97310-0203

(503) 947-5600

Department Home Page: <http://www.ode.state.or.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.tspc.state.or.us>

## ***PENNSYLVANIA***

### **Pennsylvania Department of Education**

333 Market Street

Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

(717) 787-3356

Department Home Page: <http://www.pde.psu.edu>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.pde.psu.edu/cert>

## ***RHODE ISLAND***

### **Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education**

255 Westminster Street

Providence, RI 02903

(401) 222-4600

Department Home Page: <http://www.ride.ri.gov>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.ride.ri.gov/EducatorQuality>

## ***SOUTH CAROLINA***

### **South Carolina Department of Education, Teacher Education/Certification**

1429 Senate Street

Columbia, SC 29201

(803) 734-8466

Department Home Page: <http://ed.sc.gov>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.scteachers.org/cert>

## ***SOUTH DAKOTA***

### **South Dakota Department of Education**

700 Governors Drive

Pierre, SD 57501

(605) 773-5470

Department Home Page: <http://doe.sd.gov/>

Certification Requirements: <http://doe.sd.gov/cert>

## ***TENNESSEE***

### **Tennessee Department of Education, Office of Teacher Licensing**

Andrew Johnson Tower, 6th Floor,

710 James Robertson Parkway

Nashville, TN 37243-0382

(615) 741-2731

Department Home Page: <http://state.tn.us/education>

Certification Requirements: <http://state.tn.us/education/cert>

## ***TEXAS***

### **Texas State Board for Educator Certification**

P.O. Box 13717

Austin, TX 78711-3717

(888) 863-5880

Department Home Page: <http://www.sbec.state.tx.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.sbec.state.tx.us/cert>

## ***UTAH***

### **Utah State Office of Education, Education**

250 East 500 South

P.O. Box 144200

Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4200

(801) 538-7500

State Office Home Page: <http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/cert>

## ***VERMONT***

### **Vermont Department of Education, Teacher Certification**

120 State Street

Montpelier, VT 05620-2501

(802) 828-2445

Department Home Page: <http://education.vermont.gov>

Certification Requirements: <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/maincert>

## ***VIRGINIA***

### **Virginia Department of Education, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure**

P.O. Box 2120

Richmond, VA 23218-2120

(804) 371-2522

Department Home Page: <http://www.doe.virginia.gov>

Certification Requirements:

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/newvdoe/teached>

## ***VIRGIN ISLANDS***

### **Virgin Islands Department of Education**

1834 Kongens Gade

St. Thomas, VI 00802

(340) 774-0100

Department Home Page: <http://www.doe.vi>

## ***WASHINGTON***

### **Washington Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Professional Certification**

Old Capitol Building, P.O. Box 47200

Olympia, WA 98504-7200

(360) 725-6400

Public Instruction Home Page: <http://www.k12.wa.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.k12.wa.us/certification>

## ***WEST VIRGINIA***

### **West Virginia Department of Education, Teacher Certification**

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East

Charleston, WV 25305

(800) 982-2378

Department Home Page: <http://wvde.state.wv.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://wvde.state.wv.us/cert>

## ***WISCONSIN***

### **Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Teacher Education and Licensing**

P.O. Box 7841

Madison, WI 53707-7841

(608) 266-3390

Public Instruction Home Page: <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us>

Certification Requirements: <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us>

## ***WYOMING***

### **Wyoming Department of Education**

1920 Thomes Avenue, Suite 400

Cheyenne, WY 82002

(307) 777-6261

Department Home Page: <http://www.k12.wy.us/>

Certification Requirements: <http://ptsb.state.wy.us>

