K12 ACADEMICS — NATIONAL REFERENCE SERIES

# Teacher Certification

## All 50 States + D.C.

Exams, requirements, reciprocity & routes — how to become a licensed teacher in each state.

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2026 EDITION

ABOUT THIS REFERENCE

# How every state compares.

This reference covers **teacher certification** in all 50 states and the District of Columbia — one page per state, with the key facts at a glance and a plain-English summary. Part of K12 Academics, the world's largest education resource, online since 2004.

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### A NOTE ON ACCURACY

State rules change. Every entry links to that state's full, regularly-updated guide online, and we recommend confirming specifics with the state's official department of education.

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# Alabama

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Alabama State Dept. of Education** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| Performance | **edTPA** |
| Certificate | **Class B — then Class A (advanced)** |

## OVERVIEW

Alabama certifies teachers through the Alabama State Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams (and a teaching performance assessment), and earn a Class B certificate (advancing to Class A with a master's).

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your teaching field
- **edTPA** — A teaching performance assessment completed during your program (confirm current status)
- **Note** — Basic-skills requirements are generally met through your program — confirm current...

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# Alaska

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | Alaska Dept. of Education & Early... |
| Content | Praxis Subject Assessments |
| Also | Alaska studies & multicultural cou... |
| Certificate | Initial — then Professional |

## OVERVIEW

Alaska certifies teachers through the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development (DEED) . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, complete Alaska-specific coursework, and earn an Initial Certificate , later a Professional Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **Alaska studies & multicultural education** — Required coursework specific to Alaska (a distinctive state requirement)

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# Arizona

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Arizona Department of Education** |
| Subject & pro knowledge | **NES / AEPA** |
| Also | **U.S. & Arizona Constitution requir...** |
| Certificate | **Standard Professional** |

## OVERVIEW

Arizona certifies teachers through the Arizona Department of Education . You complete an approved program (or an alternative pathway), pass the required exams, and earn a Standard Professional Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **NES/AEPA subject test(s)** — Content test(s) for your certification area
- **Professional knowledge** — A pedagogy exam (where required for your area)
- **Constitution requirement** — Arizona requires coursework or an exam on the U.S. and Arizona Constitutions

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# Arkansas

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Arkansas Dept. of Education (DESE)** |
| Content & pedagogy | **Praxis Subject + PLT** |
| Reading | **Foundations of Reading** |
| License | **Initial — then Standard** |

## OVERVIEW

Arkansas licenses teachers through the Arkansas Department of Education (DESE) . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams (and a reading test), and earn an Initial License , later a Standard License .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your license area
- **Praxis PLT** — Principles of Learning and Teaching (pedagogy) for your grade band
- **Foundations of Reading** — Required for elementary and some other candidates — reflecting the science of reading

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# California

| AT A GLANCE | |
|---|---|
| Agency | Commission on Teacher Credentialin... |
| Basic skills | CBEST (with alternatives) |
| Subject matter | CSET (or approved coursework) |
| Reading | Literacy performance assessment |
| Performance | CalTPA |

## OVERVIEW

California teaching credentials are issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) . You earn a preliminary credential first, then clear it to a professional (clear) credential . California is known for having several assessments — though it has been modernizing them , adding alternatives to some tests.

## KEY POINTS

- **CBEST** — Basic skills — though California now allows alternatives (like qualifying coursework or...
- **CSET** — Subject-matter competence — or you can satisfy it through an approved subject-matter...
- **Reading instruction** — A literacy performance assessment (which has replaced the former RICA) for...

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# Colorado

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Colorado Department of Education** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| License | **Initial — then Professional** |
| Note | **No separate basic-skills test typi...** |

## OVERVIEW

Colorado licenses teachers through the Colorado Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis content exam(s), and earn an Initial License , later a Professional License .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area — the primary testing requirement
- **Elementary** — Includes a reading/literacy component reflecting Colorado's READ Act emphasis
- **Note** — Colorado generally does not require a separate stand-alone basic-skills test — confirm...

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# Connecticut

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | Connecticut State Dept. of Educati... |
| Content | Praxis Subject Assessments |
| Reading | Foundations of Reading |
| Certificate | Initial — then Provisional/Profess... |

## OVERVIEW

Connecticut certifies teachers through the Connecticut State Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required tests, and earn an Initial Educator Certificate , advancing to Provisional and Professional . Connecticut uses Praxis plus a reading test .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your certification area
- **Foundations of Reading** — Required for elementary, reading, and special-education candidates
- **Note** — Basic-skills requirements may be met via qualifying scores/coursework — confirm current...

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# Delaware

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Delaware Department of Education** |
| Basic skills | **Praxis Core (or qualifying scores)** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| Performance | **edTPA (confirm current status)** |

## OVERVIEW

Delaware licenses teachers through the Delaware Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams (and a teaching performance assessment), and earn an Initial License , later a Continuing License .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying SAT/ACT/GRE scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your certification area
- **edTPA** — A teaching performance assessment (confirm current status)



**READ DELAWARE'S FULL GUIDE**
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# Florida

**AT A GLANCE**

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Florida Department of Education** |
| Basic skills | **FTCE General Knowledge** |
| Pedagogy | **FTCE Professional Education** |
| Subject | **FTCE Subject Area Exam(s)** |

## OVERVIEW

Florida educator certification is handled by the Florida Department of Education . You earn a Temporary Certificate (which lets you begin teaching) and then a Professional Certificate after meeting all requirements, including the FTCE exams.

## KEY POINTS

- **General Knowledge Test (GK)** — Basic skills in reading, writing, and math
- **Professional Education Test (PEd)** — Pedagogy and professional knowledge
- **Subject Area Examination (SAE)** — The content test for your certification subject

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# Georgia

| AT A GLANCE | |
|---|---|
| Agency | GA Professional Standards Commissi... |
| Content | GACE content assessment(s) |
| Ethics | Georgia Ethics Assessment |
| Performance | edTPA (confirm current status) |

## OVERVIEW

Georgia certification is issued by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) . You complete an approved program, pass the required GACE assessments and the Georgia Ethics assessment, and earn an Induction certificate, later a Professional certificate.

## KEY POINTS

- **Program Admission Assessment** — Basic skills (often waivable with qualifying SAT/ACT/GRE scores)
- **GACE content assessment(s)** — Content test(s) for your certification field
- **Georgia Ethics Assessment** — Required entry and exit modules on educator ethics

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# Hawaii

**AT A GLANCE**

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HT...** |
| Basic skills | **Praxis Core (or qualifying scores)** |
| Content & pedagogy | **Praxis Subject + PLT** |
| License | **Provisional — then Standard** |

## OVERVIEW

Hawaii licenses teachers through the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn a license (Provisional, advancing to Standard/Advanced).

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your license field
- **Praxis PLT** — Principles of Learning and Teaching (pedagogy) for your grade band

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# Idaho

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Idaho State Dept. of Education** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| Performance | **edTPA (confirm current status)** |
| Certificate | **Initial — then renewable** |

## OVERVIEW

Idaho certifies teachers through the Idaho State Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams (and a teaching performance assessment), and earn a certificate.

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **edTPA** — A teaching performance assessment (confirm current status)
- **Reading** — A reading/literacy requirement applies for elementary candidates

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# Illinois

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Illinois State Board of Education...** |
| Basic skills | **TAP or ACT/SAT (often waivable)** |
| Content | **ILTS content-area test** |
| Performance | **edTPA (confirm current status)** |

## OVERVIEW

Illinois issues the Professional Educator License (PEL) through the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) . You complete an approved program, pass the required ILTS content test and a teaching performance assessment, and apply for licensure.

## KEY POINTS

- **Basic skills** — The Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) — though Illinois often lets qualifying ACT/SAT...
- **Content-area test** — An ILTS content test for your endorsement area
- **edTPA** — A teaching performance assessment during student teaching (confirm current status, as...

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# Indiana

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Indiana Department of Education** |
| Basic skills | **CASA (often waivable)** |
| Content & pedagogy | **Indiana CORE assessments** |
| License | **Initial Practitioner — then Profic…** |

## OVERVIEW

Indiana licenses teachers through the Indiana Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Indiana CORE assessments, and earn an Initial Practitioner License , later a Proficient Practitioner License .

## KEY POINTS

- **CASA** — Core Academic Skills Assessment (basic skills) — often waivable with qualifying…
- **Indiana CORE content assessment(s)** — Content test(s) for your license area
- **Indiana CORE pedagogy** — A developmental/pedagogy assessment where required

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# Iowa

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | Iowa Board of Educational Examiner... |
| Content | Praxis Subject Assessments |
| Performance | edTPA (confirm current status) |
| License | Initial — then Standard |

## OVERVIEW

Iowa licenses teachers through the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners (BoEE) . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams (and a teaching performance assessment), and earn an Initial License , later a Standard License .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **edTPA** — A teaching performance assessment (confirm current status)
- **Note** — Basic-skills requirements are generally met through your program — confirm current...

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# Kansas

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Kansas State Dept. of Education** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| Pedagogy | **Praxis PLT** |
| License | **Initial — then Professional** |

## OVERVIEW

Kansas licenses teachers through the Kansas State Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn an Initial License , later a Professional License .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **Praxis PLT** — Principles of Learning and Teaching (pedagogy) for your grade band
- **Note** — Requirements vary by endorsement — confirm your specific tests

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# Kentucky

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Kentucky EPSB** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| Pedagogy | **Praxis PLT** |
| Certificate | **Provisional — then Professional** |

## OVERVIEW

Kentucky certifies teachers through the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn a Provisional Certificate , later a Professional Certificate (after the Kentucky Teacher Internship, where applicable).

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your certification area
- **Praxis PLT** — Principles of Learning and Teaching (pedagogy) for your grade band
- **Note** — Requirements vary by area — confirm your specific tests and scores

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# Louisiana

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Louisiana Department of Education** |
| Basic skills | **Praxis Core (or qualifying scores)** |
| Content & pedagogy | **Praxis Subject + PLT** |
| Certificate | **Level 1 — then Level 2/3** |

## OVERVIEW

Louisiana certifies teachers through the Louisiana Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn a Level 1 Professional Certificate , advancing to Level 2/3 with experience and (for higher levels) a master's.

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying SAT/ACT scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your certification area
- **Praxis PLT** — Principles of Learning and Teaching (pedagogy) for your grade band

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# Maine

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Maine Department of Education** |
| Basic skills | **Praxis Core (or qualifying scores)** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| Certificate | **Conditional/Provisional — then Pro...** |

## OVERVIEW

Maine certifies teachers through the Maine Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn a Provisional Certificate , later a Professional Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **Note** — Requirements vary by endorsement — confirm your specific tests

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# Maryland

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Maryland State Dept. of Education** |
| Basic skills | **Praxis Core (or qualifying scores)** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| Certificate | **Standard Professional** |

## OVERVIEW

Maryland certifies teachers through the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn a Standard Professional Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying SAT/ACT/GRE scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your certification area
- **Reading** — Reading-instruction requirements apply for elementary/reading/special-education candidates

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# Massachusetts

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Massachusetts DESE** |
| Communication/literacy | **MTEL Communication & Literacy Skil...** |
| Subject | **MTEL subject test(s)** |
| License | **Initial — then Professional** |

## OVERVIEW

Massachusetts licenses teachers through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) . You complete an approved program, pass the required MTEL exams, and earn an Initial License , later a Professional License .

## KEY POINTS

- **Communication & Literacy Skills** — Reading and writing — required of essentially all candidates
- **MTEL subject test(s)** — Content test(s) for your license field (elementary candidates take the Foundations of...
- **Note** — Requirements vary by field — confirm your specific tests

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# Michigan

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Michigan Department of Education** |
| Basic skills | **Professional Readiness Exam (often...** |
| Subject | **MTTC subject test(s)** |
| Certificate | **Standard — then Professional** |

## OVERVIEW

Michigan certifies teachers through the Michigan Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required MTTC exams, and earn a Standard Certificate , later a Professional Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **Professional Readiness Examination (PRE)** — Basic skills — often waivable with qualifying SAT/ACT or other scores
- **MTTC subject test(s)** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **Note** — Requirements vary by endorsement — confirm your specific tests

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# Minnesota

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Minnesota PELSB** |
| Basic skills | **MTLE Basic Skills (often waivable)** |
| Pedagogy | **MTLE Pedagogy** |
| Content | **MTLE Subject test(s)** |

## OVERVIEW

Minnesota licenses teachers through the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) . You complete an approved program, pass the required MTLE exams, and earn a tiered license (Minnesota uses a Tier 1–4 system).

## KEY POINTS

- **MTLE Basic Skills** — Reading, writing, and math — often waivable with qualifying ACT/SAT/other scores
- **MTLE Pedagogy** — A pedagogy exam for your grade band
- **MTLE Subject test(s)** — Content test(s) for your license field

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# Mississippi

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | Mississippi Department of Educatio... |
| Content | Praxis Subject Assessments |
| Reading | Foundations of Reading |
| Basic skills | Praxis Core (or qualifying scores) |

## OVERVIEW

Mississippi licenses teachers through the Mississippi Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams (and a reading test), and earn a Standard License .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying ACT/SAT scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your license area
- **Foundations of Reading** — Required for elementary candidates

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# Missouri

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Missouri DESE** |
| General education | **MoGEA** |
| Content | **Missouri Content Assessment** |
| Performance | **MoPTA** |

## OVERVIEW

Missouri certifies teachers through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) . You complete an approved program, pass the required MEGA assessments, and earn an Initial Professional Certificate , later a Career Continuous Professional Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **MoGEA** — Missouri General Education Assessment — often taken for program entry
- **Missouri Content Assessment** — The content test for your certification area
- **MoPTA** — Missouri Pre-Service Teacher Assessment — a teaching performance assessment (confirm...

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# Montana

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | Montana Office of Public Instructi... |
| Content | Praxis Subject Assessments |
| License | Class 2 Standard (Initial) |
| Note | No separate basic-skills test typi... |

## OVERVIEW

Montana licenses teachers through the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis content exam(s), and earn a Class 2 Standard License (advancing to Class 1 with a master's).

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area — the primary testing requirement
- **Note** — Montana generally does not require a separate stand-alone basic-skills test — confirm...

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# Nebraska

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Nebraska Department of Education** |
| Basic skills | **Praxis Core (or qualifying scores)** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| Certificate | **Initial — then Standard** |

## OVERVIEW

Nebraska certifies teachers through the Nebraska Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn an Initial Certificate , later a Standard Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **Note** — Requirements vary by endorsement — confirm your specific tests

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# Nevada

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Nevada Department of Education** |
| Basic skills | **Praxis Core (or qualifying scores)** |
| Content & pedagogy | **Praxis Subject + PLT** |
| License | **Standard** |

## OVERVIEW

Nevada licenses teachers through the Nevada Department of Education (Office of Educator Licensure). You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn a license.

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **Praxis PLT** — Principles of Learning and Teaching (pedagogy) for your grade band

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# New Hampshire

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | New Hampshire Department of Educat... |
| Content | Praxis Subject Assessments |
| Reading | Foundations of Reading (elementary... |
| Credential | Beginning Educator — then Experien... |

## OVERVIEW

New Hampshire certifies teachers through the New Hampshire Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams (and a reading test where applicable), and earn a Beginning Educator credential, later an Experienced Educator credential.

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **Foundations of Reading** — Required for elementary candidates
- **Note** — Basic-skills requirements may be met via qualifying scores/coursework — confirm current...

READ NEW HAMPSHIRE'S FULL GUIDE
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# New Jersey

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | New Jersey Department of Education |
| Subject | Praxis Subject Assessments |
| Basic skills | Praxis Core or qualifying GPA/scor... |
| Certificate | CE / CEAS — then Standard |

## OVERVIEW

New Jersey issues certificates through the New Jersey Department of Education . You typically earn a Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS) or a Certificate of Eligibility (CE) , teach under provisional status, and then receive a Standard Certificate . New Jersey uses the Praxis .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — The content test(s) for your certification area
- **Basic skills** — Praxis Core (or satisfied via GPA / qualifying SAT/ACT/GRE) — confirm current options
- **Note** — New Jersey has revised some requirements (including performance assessments) — verify the...

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# New Mexico

**AT A GLANCE**

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **New Mexico Public Education Dept.** |
| Basic skills | **NMTA Basic Skills** |
| Content | **NMTA Content Knowledge** |
| Pedagogy | **NMTA Assessment of Professional Kn...** |

## OVERVIEW

New Mexico licenses teachers through the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED) . You complete an approved program, pass the required NMTA exams, and earn a Level 1 license, advancing to Level 2/3 with experience.

## KEY POINTS

- **NMTA Basic Skills** — Reading, writing, and math
- **NMTA Content Knowledge** — Content test(s) for your licensure area
- **NMTA Assessment of Professional Knowledge** — A pedagogy exam for your grade band

**READ NEW MEXICO'S FULL GUIDE**
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# New York

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | NY State Education Department (NYS... |
| Pedagogy | NYSTCE EAS |
| Content | NYSTCE CST |
| Performance | edTPA (teacher performance) |

## OVERVIEW

New York teaching certificates are issued by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) . You complete an approved program, pass the NYSTCE exams and a teaching performance assessment, and earn an Initial Certificate , later advancing to a Professional Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **EAS** — Educating All Students — the pedagogy/professional exam
- **CST** — Content Specialty Test(s) — for your certification area
- **edTPA** — A teaching performance assessment completed during student teaching (confirm current...

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# North Carolina

**AT A GLANCE**

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **NC Dept. of Public Instruction** |
| Most areas | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| Elementary | **Pearson: Foundations of Reading +...** |
| License | **Initial Professional — then Contin...** |

## OVERVIEW

North Carolina issues teaching licenses through the NC Department of Public Instruction (DPI) . You complete an approved program, pass the required exams, and earn an Initial Professional License , later a Continuing Professional License .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — For most secondary and many other areas
- **Pearson Foundations of Reading** — Required for elementary (and some other) candidates — reflecting the science of reading
- **Pearson General Curriculum** — Required for elementary candidates (multi-subject)

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# North Dakota

## AT A GLANCE

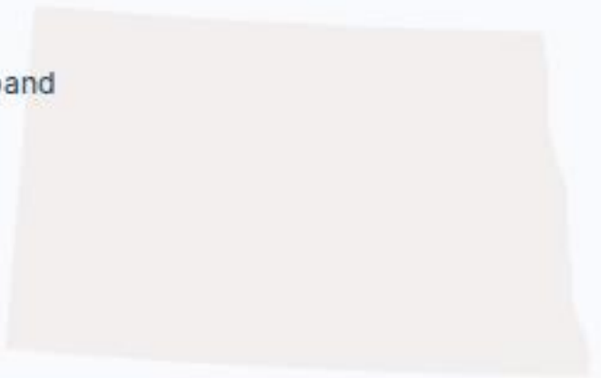
| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **North Dakota ESPB** |
| Basic skills | **Praxis Core (or qualifying scores)** |
| Content & pedagogy | **Praxis Subject + PLT** |
| License | **Initial — then renewable** |

## OVERVIEW

North Dakota licenses teachers through the Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn a license.

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **Praxis PLT** — Principles of Learning and Teaching (pedagogy) for your grade band



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# Ohio

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | Ohio Dept. of Education & Workforc... |
| Pedagogy | OAE APK |
| Content | OAE subject test(s) |
| Reading | Foundations of Reading (elementary... |

## OVERVIEW

Ohio issues teaching licenses through the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce . You complete an approved program, pass the required OAE exams, and earn a Resident Educator License , later advancing to a Professional License .

## KEY POINTS

- **Assessment of Professional Knowledge (APK)** — The pedagogy/professional exam
- **OAE subject assessment(s)** — Content test(s) for your licensure area
- **Foundations of Reading** — Required for early-childhood/primary and some other candidates

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# Oklahoma

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Oklahoma State Dept. of Education** |
| General education | **OGET** |
| Subject | **OSAT** |
| Professional teaching | **OPTE** |

## OVERVIEW

Oklahoma certifies teachers through the Oklahoma State Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required CEOE exams, and earn a Standard Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **OGET** — Oklahoma General Education Test (basic skills)
- **OSAT** — Oklahoma Subject Area Test(s) for your certification area
- **OPTE** — Oklahoma Professional Teaching Examination (pedagogy)

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# Oregon

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Oregon TSPC** |
| Subject | **NES (National Evaluation Series)** |
| Performance | **edTPA** |
| License | **Preliminary — then Professional** |

## OVERVIEW

Oregon licenses teachers through the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) . You complete an approved program, pass the required exams, and earn a Preliminary License , later a Professional License .

## KEY POINTS

- **NES (National Evaluation Series)** — Subject-area test(s) for your endorsement (some areas may use other approved tests)
- **edTPA** — A teaching performance assessment completed during student teaching (confirm current...
- **Civil rights / protecting students** — Oregon requires a Protecting Student and Civil Rights module

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# Pennsylvania

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Pennsylvania Department of Educati...** |
| Most areas | **Praxis subject & core tests** |
| PreK-4 & special ed | **PECT modules** |
| Certificate | **Instructional I — then II** |

## OVERVIEW

Pennsylvania issues the Instructional I certificate (advancing to Instructional II ) through the Pennsylvania Department of Education . You complete an approved program and pass the required tests — Pennsylvania uses a mix of Praxis and its own PECT exams depending on your area.

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis** — Subject Assessments (and, where required, core/basic-skills tests) for most secondary and...
- **PECT (Pennsylvania Educator Certification Tests)** — Used for PreK-4 , PreK-4 & special education , and some other specific certificates
- **Basic skills** — Often satisfied via Praxis Core or qualifying SAT/ACT scores — confirm current options

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# Rhode Island

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | Rhode Island Department of Educati... |
| Content | Praxis Subject Assessments |
| Reading | Foundations of Reading |
| Certificate | Initial — then Professional |

## OVERVIEW

Rhode Island certifies teachers through the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams (and a reading test where applicable), and earn an Initial Certificate , later a Professional Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your certification area
- **Foundations of Reading** — Required for elementary, reading, and special-education candidates
- **Note** — Basic-skills requirements may be met via qualifying scores/coursework — confirm current...

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# South Carolina

**AT A GLANCE**

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | South Carolina Department of Educa... |
| Content & pedagogy | Praxis Subject + PLT |
| Basic skills | Praxis Core (or qualifying scores) |
| Certificate | Initial — then Professional |

## OVERVIEW

South Carolina certifies teachers through the South Carolina Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn an Initial Certificate , later a Professional Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying SAT/ACT/GRE scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your certification area
- **Praxis PLT** — Principles of Learning and Teaching (pedagogy) for your grade band



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# South Dakota

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | South Dakota Department of Educati... |
| Content & pedagogy | Praxis Subject + PLT |
| Also | South Dakota Indian Studies requir... |
| Certificate | Initial — then renewable |

## OVERVIEW

South Dakota certifies teachers through the South Dakota Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, complete the state's Indian Studies requirement, and earn a certificate.

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your certification area
- **Praxis PLT** — Principles of Learning and Teaching (pedagogy) for your grade band
- **South Dakota Indian Studies** — A required course specific to South Dakota (a distinctive state requirement)

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# Tennessee

**AT A GLANCE**

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Tennessee Department of Education** |
| Content & pedagogy | **Praxis Subject + PLT** |
| License | **Practitioner — then Professional** |
| Also | **edTPA (confirm current status)** |

## OVERVIEW

Tennessee licenses teachers through the Tennessee Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn a Practitioner License , later a Professional License .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **Praxis PLT** — Principles of Learning and Teaching (pedagogy) for the appropriate grade band
- **edTPA** — A teaching performance assessment (confirm current status)

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# Texas

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **TEA / SBEC** |
| Core exams | **TExES (PPR + content)** |
| Reading | **Science of Teaching Reading (STR)** |
| Certificate | **Standard (after probationary/inter...** |

## OVERVIEW

Texas educator certification is overseen by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) . You complete an approved Educator Preparation Program (EPP) , pass the required TExES exams, and earn a Standard Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **TExES PPR** — Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities — the core teaching exam
- **TExES content exams** — A subject/grade-level content test for your certification area
- **Science of Teaching Reading (STR)** — Required for early-childhood and elementary candidates

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# Utah

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Utah State Board of Education** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| License | **Associate/Professional pathways** |
| Note | **Multiple licensure routes** |

## OVERVIEW

Utah licenses teachers through the Utah State Board of Education . You complete an approved program (or an alternative pathway), pass the required Praxis content exam(s), and earn a Professional License . Utah offers several routes, including an Associate license.

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your license area — the primary testing requirement
- **Elementary** — Includes a reading component reflecting Utah's literacy emphasis
- **Note** — Utah generally does not require a separate stand-alone basic-skills test — confirm...

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# Vermont

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | Vermont Agency of Education |
| Basic skills | Praxis Core (or qualifying scores) |
| Content | Praxis Subject Assessments |
| Reading | Foundations of Reading (elementary... |

## OVERVIEW

Vermont licenses teachers through the Vermont Agency of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams (and a reading test where applicable), and earn a Level I License , later a Level II License .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **Foundations of Reading** — Required for elementary and some other candidates



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# Virginia

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Virginia Department of Education** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| Communication/literacy | **VCLA** |
| Reading (elementary/SPED) | **RVE** |

## OVERVIEW

Virginia issues licenses through the Virginia Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required tests, and earn an Initial (Provisional/Collegiate) license leading to renewable licensure. Virginia uses Praxis plus its own VCLA and RVE .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area
- **VCLA** — Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment — reading and writing skills
- **RVE** — Reading for Virginia Educators — required for elementary, reading, and special-education...

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# Washington

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **OSPI / Prof. Educator Standards Bo...** |
| Basic skills | **WEST-B (or alternatives)** |
| Subject | **WEST-E / NES** |
| Performance | **edTPA** |

## OVERVIEW

Washington certifies teachers through the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) . You complete an approved program, pass the required exams, and earn a Residency Certificate , later a Professional Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **WEST-B** — Basic skills — though alternatives (like SAT/ACT) can satisfy it
- **WEST-E / NES** — Subject-knowledge test(s) for your endorsement area
- **edTPA** — A teaching performance assessment completed during student teaching (confirm current...

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# Washington, D.C.

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **OSSE (D.C.)** |
| Basic skills | **Praxis Core (or qualifying scores)** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| License | **Initial — then Standard** |

## OVERVIEW

Washington, D.C. licenses teachers through the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn an Initial Credential , later a Standard Credential .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your certification area
- **Note** — Requirements vary by area — confirm your specific tests

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# West Virginia

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | West Virginia Department of Educat... |
| Basic skills | Praxis Core (or qualifying scores) |
| Content & pedagogy | Praxis Subject + PLT |
| Certificate | Initial Professional |

## OVERVIEW

West Virginia certifies teachers through the West Virginia Department of Education . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis exams, and earn an Initial Professional Certificate .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Core** — Basic skills — or satisfied with qualifying scores
- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your certification area
- **Praxis PLT** — Principles of Learning and Teaching (pedagogy) for your grade band

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# Wisconsin

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruct... |
| Content | Praxis Subject Assessments |
| Reading | Foundations of Reading Test (FoRT) |
| License | Provisional — then Lifetime/Profes... |

## OVERVIEW

Wisconsin licenses teachers through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) . You complete an approved program, pass the required tests, and earn a license (advancing through the state's tiered license structure). Wisconsin uses Praxis plus the Foundations of Reading Test .

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your license area
- **Foundations of Reading Test (FoRT)** — Required for elementary, special-education, and reading candidates — reflecting the...
- **Note** — Basic-skills requirements may be met via qualifying scores/coursework — confirm current...

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# Wyoming

## AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| Agency | **Wyoming PTSB** |
| Content | **Praxis Subject Assessments** |
| Also | **U.S. & Wyoming Constitution requir...** |
| License | **Initial — then renewable** |

## OVERVIEW

Wyoming licenses teachers through the Professional Teaching Standards Board (PTSB) . You complete an approved program, pass the required Praxis content exam(s), meet the Constitution requirement, and earn a license.

## KEY POINTS

- **Praxis Subject Assessments** — Content test(s) for your endorsement area — the primary testing requirement
- **U.S. & Wyoming Constitution** — A required course or exam on the U.S. and Wyoming Constitutions
- **Note** — Wyoming generally does not require a separate stand-alone basic-skills test — confirm...

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