I'm not a bot

Some states will have you complete additional steps (or complete steps in a different order), but in general, here's what you'll need to do. Because certification requirements vary by state, subject and grade level, the first step is to figure out where you want to teach, as well as the grade level, subjects or specialty areas (like special education or bilingual education) you'd like to teach.For most teaching certificates, you'll need at least a bachelor's degree. If you don't already have a bachelor's, you can often earn your degree and your teaching certificate at the same time!Some states require a master's degree as well, but you may be able to work toward this while you're already teaching.For some skilled career and technical positions, like electrical engineering or health sciences, you may be able to substitute work experience for a degree.You'll need to complete a state-approved teaching program to earn a teaching certificate. Your program will give you the tools you need to be successful in the classroom.In many states, you can enroll in a teaching program as an undergrad, so you'll graduate with both a degree and teaching certificate.Already have a bachelor's? Some teaching programs that offer a master's degree or a certificate-only option. Many alternative certification programs are designed with working adults in mind, so you can work and get certified at the same time.Check out our Program Explorer to look for programs in your state.Depending on your state and teaching program, you'll need to take one or more tests as part of your certification process. Here are the most common exams you might encounter: A basic skills test of reading, writing, and math. Most teaching programs across the country, no matter what grade or subject you want to teach, require a basic skills test. Each state chooses the test that you need to take, but many use the Praxis I, while others accept scores from the ACT or SAT. A subject knowledge test, based on the specific subject area you want to teach. The subject test is meant to show you know your stuff well enough to teach it. Most states use the Praxis, but some states, like Texas and Missouri, have their own subject matter tests. You'll usually take this test during your teaching program, but you might take it before you begin the program. Check if your program requires this test as part of its application. A teaching portfolio. Some states also require an assessment that covers teaching methods or a portfolio of teaching materials. You might submit videos of yourself in the classroom during your student teaching experience, as well as student work or lesson plans. If testing stresses you out, don't panic! Your teaching program can often help you prepare for any subject tests or teaching portfolios.Once you've completed your program and passed the required tests, you're almost a certified teacher! The last step is to apply to your state education agency for your official certificate. Your teaching program may need to give approval before you can apply.You'll also need to pass a background check. States might have additional requirements, depending on your grade and subject. Your teaching program should help you prepare for this final step. As you complete your requirements, you'll start looking for your first teaching job. Check out district job fairs, virtual fairs and recruiting events with your teaching program. In some cases, your program may have connections with school districts in your area. National Board Certification is the most advanced certification that a teacher can receive. It's purely optional, but completing the rigorous and challenging certification process is a prestigious accomplishment and could lead to a higher salary, more professional opportunities and easier transfer between states.When it comes to teacher certification, there's a lot to remember! That's why we made a free downloadable version of this guide, so you can keep the info handy.You may have heard the terms "alternative certification" or "alternative licensure." If you already have a bachelor's degree, alternative certification can be a great option! These are the most common types of alternative programs: Residency programs prepare teachers for certification with on-the-job training, including a paid job at a school. In some residency programs, you'll lead your own classroom and earn a full teacher's salary while you finish your teaching certificate. In other programs, you'll earn a stipend and work in a classroom alongside a mentor teacher. Accelerated programs are designed for mid-career professionals interested in teaching. If you're thinking about a career switch but need to keep working while you earn your certificate, an accelerated program could work for you. They typically offer hybrid online and in-person coursework and flexible arrangements for practice teaching. Want to get notified about webinars, scholarship opportunities, certification updates and more? Get on the list! To become a teacher in the UK, you need to have a bachelor's degree or equivalent and a recognised initial teacher training qualification. But there are a number of training options, which can involve university study or purely classroom-based learning. Training will take between one and four years depending on your current qualifications and experience. What qualifications do I need? A degree. A teaching qualification. A pass in professional skills tests in numeracy and literacy (note: these will be discontinued on 1 April 2020. Find out what's replacing the skills tests). GCSEs at grade C/4 or above in English and maths for secondary, and English, maths and science for primary Find out more about what qualifications you need to become a teacher. If you have a degree, you can choose between a university-led postgraduate course (PGCE) or a school-led training option. If you don't have a degree, you will need to complete one, either via a teaching-specific qualification or a degree followed by a PGCE. What if I have a degree but not in the subject I want to teach? If you want to teach a subject outside of your subject specialism, you can take a subject knowledge enhancement course in your chosen subject. Experience Do I need any classroom experience? Unless you are planning to take an assessment-only qualification, you do not need any classroom experience to begin teacher training. However, if you don't have any experience, your teacher training institution may put you with a school before you begin on the course. What if I'm already working in a school? If you're already employed by a school in a support role, you may be able to train at the school through a school-led route. What kinds of courses are available? University-led PGCE or PGDE A postgraduate course takes one year to complete. In order to qualify for a postgraduate course, you must hold a degree. Many PGCEs also allow you to complete extra essays to earn credits towards a master's. Find out more about Postgraduate teacher training BEd (Bachelor of Education) or BA (Bachelor of Arts) or BSc (Bachelor of Science) with QTS If you have not already obtained a degree, or wish to study for an additional one, there is the option of studying for a degree where qualified teacher status (QTS) is awarded at the end of the course. These courses typically last three or four years. BAs and BSc degrees with QTS are popular with secondary school teachers, as they give trainees subject knowledge while also incorporating classroom training in the course. BEd degrees are generally popular with prospective primary teachers. However, some training providers do offer secondary-level courses. Providers also allow for study for specific specialisms (for example, primary or special educational needs). Find out more about Undergraduate Initial Teacher Training School-led School Direct (tuition fee) This programme is based in a school, and you will be training on the job. However, the school will not be employing you and you will be paying to complete this qualification. You will be working towards qualified teacher status (QTS), and there may be the option of also completing a PGCE. Find out more about School Direct teacher training School Direct (salaried) This route is for graduates with at least three years' employment experience. You will be employed by the school and earn a salary as you train. Your training will last one year and at the end you will have QTS, and possibly a PGCE, depending on the training provider. Some training providers also offer the opportunity to study for master's-level credits. Find out more about School Direct salaried teacher training School-centred initial teacher training (SCITT) This school-based route will take one year and is open to graduates who wish to train based in a school but also covers the same content as university-based routes. As well as being awarded QTS at the end of the course, many institutions also offer PGCE status for their trainees. Find out more about SCITT Straight to Teaching For people already working in schools, such as teaching assistants, higher level teaching assistants and other unqualified teachers, Straight to Teaching provides them with training for those who want to move to the next level and become a qualified teacher. This is a three- to five-term programme (depending on experience) from Tes Institute, and is specifically designed to work with existing school staff to further develop the skills and knowledge they already have, and help them to realise their ambition of becoming a teacher. It mixes on-the-job training and tutorials. Find out more about Straight to Teaching Postgraduate teaching apprenticeship programmes Unlike typical apprenticeships, this apprenticeship still requires trainees to hold a degree, and has exactly the same requirements as any other teacher training option. Find options for postgraduate teaching apprenticeships Teach First leadership development programme This is a two-year salaried programme for those with who have aspirations to take on a leadership role. The programme begins with an intensive five-week training period, after which you go straight into a school and learn on the job while working towards QTS. At the end of the programme, you will gain a PGDE. You will obtain QTS at the end of year one, and then continue to be mentored and trained as part of the course until the end of year two. In your first year, you will be paid as an unqualified teacher and then, in your second year, as a newly qualified teacher. The Teach First programme is for graduates with a 2:1 degree or above, although 2:2 degrees will be considered. Find out more about Teach First Assessment-only route For teachers who have an international teaching qualification that is not recognised in the UK, or have been teaching as an unqualified teacher for a long period of time, there is an option to gain QTS via an assessment-only route, where the teacher receives no training, and compiles evidence to meet the teaching standards over a period of 12 weeks. Find out more about completing the Assessment Only route with Tes Institute Researchers in Schools If you are studying for your PhD and interested in going into teaching, the Researchers in Schools route may suit you. It is a three-year programme, with trainees obtaining QTS at the end of the first year and then, by the end of the third year, trainees will be awarded a Research Leader in Education qualification. Find out more about Researchers in Schools Postgraduate Early Years ITT This one-year course can be completed with a university or a school. At the end of the year, you will be awarded early years teacher status (EYTS). Alternatively, you can be awarded EYTS via an assessment-only route over 12 weeks, without any training. With this qualification you will be able to teach children from age 0-5. Find out more about Postgraduate Early Years ITT Teaching is a noble profession that requires dedication, knowledge, and a passion for shaping young minds. If you're considering a career in education, you may be wondering how long it takes to obtain a teacher certification. The length of time varies depending on several factors, including your state's requirements, your educational background, and the type of teaching certification you're pursuing. In this article, we will explore the typical timeline for becoming a certified teacher and answer some frequently asked questions related to this process. 1. What is a teacher certification? A teacher certification, also known as a teaching license, is a credential that confirms an individual's qualifications to teach in a specific subject area or grade level. It is typically issued by the state's education department after an aspiring teacher completes certain requirements and passes the necessary examinations. 2. How long does it take to get a teacher certification? The duration to obtain a teacher certification can vary from one to four years, depending on various factors. Here is a breakdown of the typical timeline: 3. What are the educational requirements for a teacher certification? To become a certified teacher, you must meet certain educational requirements. These requirements may differ across states, but generally, you need to: 4. Are there any alternative routes to teacher certification? Yes, many states offer alternative routes to teacher certification for individuals who have a bachelor's degree in a non-teaching field. These alternative certification programs are designed to fast-track your journey towards becoming a certified teacher. The duration of these programs varies depending on the specific requirements and the time it takes to complete the necessary coursework. 5. Do I need to complete a student teaching or internship program? Most teacher certification programs require you to complete a student teaching or internship program. This hands-on experience allows you to apply the knowledge gained in your coursework to a real classroom setting. Student teaching typically lasts for a semester or a full academic year, depending on the program requirements and your state's regulations. 6. Are there any required exams for teacher certification? Yes, most states require aspiring teachers to pass certain examinations to obtain their teaching certification. These exams typically include a general knowledge test, subject-specific assessments, and a teaching performance assessment. The duration to prepare for and complete these exams can vary depending on factors such as your prior knowledge and study habits. 7. Can I complete a teacher certification program online? Yes, many accredited colleges and universities offer online teacher certification programs. These programs are designed to provide flexibility to working professionals or individuals who may not have access to traditional on-campus programs. The duration of online certification programs is generally similar to their on-campus counterparts. 8. Are there any prerequisites for teacher certification programs? The prerequisites for teacher certification programs can vary depending on the state and the specific program. However, most programs require you to have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. Additionally, you may need to meet certain GPA requirements or submit letters of recommendation as part of the application process. 9. Can I work while completing a teacher certification program? Many individuals pursue a teacher certification while simultaneously working in another job. However, it's important to note that the demands of a teacher certification program, including coursework, student teaching, and exam preparation, can be intense. Balancing work and your certification program requires careful time management and dedication. 10. Can I transfer my teaching certification to another state? Yes, in most cases, you can transfer your teaching certification to another state through a process called reciprocity. Reciprocity agreements between states allow certified teachers to transfer their credentials without having to complete additional coursework or exams. However, the requirements for reciprocity vary between states, and you may need to fulfill certain conditions to qualify. 11. How can I expedite the teacher certification process? If you wish to expedite the teacher certification process, there are a few steps you can take: 12. How much does it cost to get a teacher certification? The cost of obtaining a teacher certification can vary significantly depending on the state you're in and the specific program you choose. Some of the common expenses include: 13. Are there any financial aid options available for teacher certification programs? Yes, there are various financial aid options available for teacher certification programs. These include: 14. Is there a demand for certified teachers? The demand for certified teachers varies depending on the subject area, grade level, and geographic location. However, in general, there is a nationwide demand for qualified teachers. According to the U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of teachers is projected to grow by 4% from 2019 to 2029, which is average compared to other occupations. 15. What are the benefits of obtaining a teacher certification? Obtaining a teacher certification offers several benefits, including: In conclusion, the time it takes to get a teacher certification depends on multiple factors, including your educational background, state requirements, and the type of certification program you choose. It typically ranges from one to four years. It's essential to thoroughly research the specific requirements in your state and consider alternative routes to certification if applicable. Pursuing a career in education can be rewarding and fulfilling, and obtaining a teacher certification is the first step towards making a difference in the lives of students. Teacher training in England leads to a professional teaching qualification called qualified teacher status (QTS). If you're a qualified teacher from outside the UK, you can work as a teacher in England for up to 4 years without QTS. After that, you'll need QTS to teach in many schools in England. Although it's not a legal requirement in all types of schools (for example, academies, free schools and private schools), you'll find it easier to get a teaching job in England if you have QTS. This guidance explains how to apply for QTS if you qualified to teach or have gained teaching experience outside the UK. Learn how to apply for QTS if you trained to teach in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland. Teachers in England are employed by individual schools, not by the Department for Education. If you decide to apply for QTS, you'll have to apply for your teaching job and your visa separately. Get Into Teaching offers information and advice on becoming a teacher in England. Routes to QTS There are 4 routes to qualified teacher status for teachers and trainees outside the UK: Your eligibility for each route will depend on: where you qualified your subject specialism whether you already have teaching experience your personal circumstances Apply for QTS in England Depending on where you qualified, the subject you teach and your qualifications, you may be able to use the Department for Education's professional recognition service, Apply for QTS in England. To get QTS, you must meet strict mandatory requirements fully, exactly as they are set out in awarding qualified teacher status to overseas teachers. It's important to note that an award of QTS does not lead to a teaching job or visa. You will need to apply for teaching jobs and visas separately. There are a small number of schools in England that sponsor visas. When you apply for QTS in England, you do not need to: pay a fee to a training provider undergo any further training visit the UK If you have a teaching qualification from any of the following countries or regions, you can use the Apply for QTS in England service if you meet the requirements: Australia Canada the European Economic Area Gibraltar Guernsey Hong Kong Jersey New Zealand Northern Ireland Scotland Switzerland Ukraine the USA If you have a subject specialism in languages, mathematics or science and a qualification to teach 11- to 16-year-olds from one of the following countries, you can use the Apply for QTS in England service if you meet the requirements: Ghana India Jamaica Nigeria Singapore South Africa Visit awarding qualified teacher status to overseas teachers to check the eligibility criteria and apply for QTS in England. Apply for assessment only QTS If you're not eligible to apply for QTS using the Apply for QTS in England service, assessment only QTS may be the most appropriate route for you. Assessment only QTS means experienced teachers with a degree can gain QTS without doing a teacher training programme. You can apply to a UK government-approved teacher training provider in England for an assessment showing you meet the standards for QTS. You do not need to visit the UK to be assessed and gain QTS. However, you'll need to be assessed at your place of work by an examiner from your teaching training provider. The teacher training provider can explain what type of school you must be working in to undergo assessment only QTS. When you apply for assessment only QTS you'll: have to pay a fee to a training provider not have to undergo any further training not have to visit the UK (unless you're already working in England under the 4-year rule) Assessment only costs Fees range from about £1,500 to £4,000, but vary between providers and may be substantially more if you're outside the UK. Check with individual providers for more details. Working as a teacher in England while you undergo assessment only QTS Although many schools in England prefer applicants for teaching jobs to have QTS, it is possible to work as a teacher in England and earn a salary while you're being assessed for QTS. The 4-year rule allows you to work without QTS. It means that, if you are successful in finding a teaching job in England without having QTS, you can apply to a teacher training provider offering assessment only QTS in the region of England where you work. Assessment only training providers cannot give you advice about: finding a teaching job in an English school other routes to QTS applying for a visa to work or study in the UK Qualifications and experience you'll need to be eligible for an assessment only QTS To apply for assessment only QTS, you do not need a formal teacher training qualification. However, you must have: a minimum of 2 years' teaching experience a first (bachelor's) degree from a UK or non-UK university an English language qualification that is the same standard as a grade 4 GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education) a maths qualification that is the same standard as a grade 4 GCSE to teach children aged 3 to 11 in primary school, a physics, chemistry or biology (science) qualification that is the same standard as a grade 4 GCSE A GCSE is an academic qualification awarded for examinations in England, usually taken at the age of 16. International qualifications If your qualifications come from a non-UK institution, your assessment only teacher training provider may want to see a statement of comparability from UK ENIC, the UK national agency for international qualifications and skills, showing how they compare to UK qualifications. You can call us on 0800 389 2500 for guidance on the UK equivalents of your qualifications. Your teaching experience must: consist of time spent teaching (as opposed to other responsibilities in a school) have taken place in 2 separate schools (not 2 classes within the same school or 2 school sites within the same organisation) demonstrate you've taught young people from a range of different backgrounds demonstrate you're familiar with different approaches to teaching, learning and school management Your teaching experience can have been: gained in any type of school – for example, international schools, schools teaching the International Baccalaureate, and state-maintained schools outside the UK spent teaching a non-English curriculum (though you may need to show you have knowledge of the subjects taught in the English curriculum) divided between 2 school settings, as long as you have 2 years' teaching experience in total British international school organisations It is not a requirement to gain your teaching experience at a British international school. However, British international schools provide suitable experience for teachers wishing to apply for assessment only QTS. Reputable British international school organisations include: How to apply for an assessment only QTS Your application for assessment only QTS must be made to one of the UK government's approved assessment only teacher training providers in England. You do not need to visit or train in England to do assessment only QTS. An assessment of your teaching will be carried out in person at your place of work by an examiner from your chosen teacher training provider. Before you apply, contact your chosen teacher training provider directly to: check they accept international applications for assessment only QTS check they can come to your country to do the assessment (if you're not in England) confirm your eligibility for assessment only learn more about their specific requirements If your application is successful, the assessment only provider will: help you put together a portfolio of your teaching work, to demonstrate you meet the English teachers' standards carry out an assessment of your teaching ask to see evidence of your qualifications potentially ask you to sit a test to demonstrate your written and spoken English is fluent, accurate and clear, and is the same standard as a grade 4 in GCSE English language potentially ask you to sit a test to demonstrate your mathematics knowledge and, for primary school teaching, science knowledge is the same standard as a grade 4 in GCSE mathematics or science You'll also need to: If your assessment only provider is satisfied you've met the standards required to teach in England, you'll be awarded QTS and will be able to apply for teaching jobs in England. If you fail to meet the standards required for assessment only QTS, you can: re-apply when you've gained more relevant skills and experience gain your QTS by training to teach in England Apply for an assessment only QTS. Apply for teacher training in England All non-UK citizens can apply to train to teach in England. Train to teach in England as a non-UK citizen explains the academic qualifications and visa you'll need, and how to apply for a teacher training course. When you apply for a teacher training course in England leading to QTS you'll: pay a fee to a training provider for a teacher training course, plus your living costs undergo a year of full-time training – fees will depend on your immigration status and vary between providers, but range from £9,250 to about £32,000 need to relocate to the UK Visit Get Into Teaching to: learn more about teacher training in England register with the get an adviser service for personalised advice about teaching in England by email, phone or online chat get help with a UK ENIC statement of comparability to confirm how your overseas qualifications compare to UK qualifications Apply to train for international qualified teacher status The international qualified teacher status (iQTS) teaching qualification is backed by the UK government and is: delivered online by English teacher training providers in partnership with schools around the world the same standards as English QTS and leads to the automatic award of QTS open to all non-UK citizens, and is currently available from 14 providers the only international teacher training course that leads to the automatic award of QTS (other courses may offer valuable training but do not lead to QTS) When you apply for iQTS, you will: have to pay a fee to a training provider have to undergo further training not have to visit the UK Learn more about international qualified teacher status. Qualified teachers from outside the UK are allowed to teach in England for up to 4 years without QTS – even in schools where QTS is normally a legal requirement. You can learn more about this exemption, known as the '4-year rule', from the school employing you. To be eligible for the 4-year rule, you'll need to have: qualified as a teacher in a country outside the UK successfully completed a course of teacher training recognised by the organisation that regulates teachers in the country where you qualified The 4-year rule exemption does not apply to: pupil referral units (PRUs) alternative provision academies alternative provision free schools, where QTS is required from the beginning of your employment After 4 years, teachers from outside the UK will need QTS to teach in many state schools in England. In most schools – including academies, free schools and private schools, where QTS is not a legal requirement – QTS is used to assess the quality of candidates for teaching jobs. You may find that having QTS is beneficial when applying for jobs. Teachers with a special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) qualification only To gain QTS, you must be able to adapt your teaching to meet the needs of all pupils in all phases and age groups. Teachers with a qualification limited to SEND pupils are therefore not eligible to use the Apply for QTS in England professional recognition service. SEND teachers can gain QTS by: applying for QTS through the assessment only route applying for a teacher training course in England These routes are open to SEND teachers from anywhere in the world. If you're not sure whether you're eligible to apply for QTS, contact qts.enquiries@education.gov.uk. Qualified teacher learning and skills (QTLS) If you have QTLS status and membership of the Society for Education and Training (SET), you're eligible to work as a qualified teacher in schools in England. It will be up to schools and local authorities to decide whether you're suitable for a post and to teach a particular subject. You'll be exempt from serving a statutory induction period in schools. International teacher training courses that do not include QTS A variety of international teacher training courses are offered by both English and non-English colleges and universities to candidates outside England. The following courses do not lead to QTS and will not qualify you to teach in English schools where QTS is a legal requirement: Postgraduate Certificate of Education International (PGCEi, sometimes called an International Postgraduate Certificate of Education, or iPGCE) Postgraduate Certificate of Education (PGCE), when completed outside the UK Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE), when completed outside the UK However, after completing one of these courses, and depending on where you gained your experience and qualifications, you can apply: for an assessment only QTS for teacher training in England Get help from training providers in England Some English colleges and universities offering PGCEi and similar courses can also help with your application for assessment only QTS. To check which training providers offer this support, refer to the list of approved teacher training providers in England and contact them for advice. Combined PGCE and QTS training courses Combined PGCE and QTS teacher training courses are only available if you study in England. Search the Find postgraduate teacher training service for details. We want to increase the numbers of non-UK teachers coming to England to teach. Teach in England if you trained outside the UK gives advice about visas, immigration and the support available for non-UK teachers. Use the Teaching vacancies service to find and apply for teaching jobs in England. Filter your search by 'Visa sponsorship' to find jobs that can sponsor visas. Whatever route you take to obtain QTS, to get a job as a teacher in England, you'll also need: substantial teaching experience you can demonstrate to an employer to pass criminal and professional safeguarding checks, including an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (these will be organised by your employer) a high standard of written and spoken English – for example, British Council B2 level some knowledge of the English education system Your English QTS will be recognised in many countries around the world. However, you should always check with the organisation responsible for regulating teachers in the country where you want to teach. Early career teacher (ECT) induction Having gained QTS, English teachers complete their professional training through the ECT 2-year induction period. As a non-UK teacher, if you want to teach in England, you will also need to complete the ECT induction if you gained QTS through: the Apply for QTS in England service, if you have less than 2 years' experience as a teacher assessment only QTS teacher training in England During your ECT induction, you'll work and be assessed as a paid teacher in a school. This induction period is part of the early career framework for teachers. You'll be expected to show you meet the teachers' standards and you'll also get training and support from a mentor. If you're already working as a teacher outside England, and applying for an assessment only QTS, you may not need to complete an induction period in England. Check with your assessment only provider. If you do need to undergo an induction period, you may be able to complete it outside England in the country where you're now working or training. However, the school where you complete your induction must have met our requirements. Check a list of schools which have met these requirements. Useful resources Visit Get into Teaching for advice for non-UK teachers and trainees about visas, fees and applying for jobs or training places. The following resources may also be helpful: For any additional QTS queries, email teach.inengland@education.gov.uk. The button below leads to the platform where you can register for the Google Certified Educator exams. Select your language If you are using a Google Workspace for Education account and you aren't able to access the link above, then please contact your domain administrator. Alternatively, you can return to this page while logged into a different Google account. It takes a lot of work to become a teacher. In addition to training, studying, and student teaching, in many cases you also have to pass teacher certification exams. Every single U.S. state requires exams of some sort, but each one is very different. Whether you are studying for the Praxis, NES or a state-required exam, take a look at this list to get an idea of the tests you may need to take to earn your certificate or license by state. Teacher Certification Exam Overview Here are a few notes on teacher tests in general: If you're earning your initial teaching license or certificate through your college training program, good news! They'll tell you which tests you need to take and may help you arrange for them. While most new teachers earn their licenses through college teacher training programs, many states offer alternative routes. In most cases, required tests remain the same, but this can vary by state. If you're moving from one state to another and need a new license, you may or may not need to take teacher certification exams. Use the state-level links on this page to find more information. Many states use at least some nationally standardized tests, usually from organizations like ETS Praxis or Pearson NES. You'll find more info about those tests on the companies' websites, linked here for your convenience. Some states offer endorsements on licenses or certificates, which can require additional tests. Not all of those tests may be listed here, so be sure to check with the state if you have questions. Some states require tests for substitute teachers and teachers' aides, which aren't listed here. Check with your state for requirements. And finally: States are constantly changing, revising, and updating their testing requirements. This information is accurate as of summer 2022 but can change at any time. So always verify the tests you'll need to take before signing up. And now, on to the testing requirements by state! Alabama In Alabama, teachers take two types of exams: Alaska Alaska requires two types of tests for teacher certification: Arizona In Arizona, there are three areas in which teachers must prove their proficiency, known as the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessments: Arkansas Arkansas exam requirements depend on the age and subject(s) you plan to teach. California California administers its own set of teacher certification exams (note that Praxis II exams are no longer accepted, with the exception of Speech-Language Pathology). Required tests vary by age and subject and include: Colorado In Colorado, you can bypass testing by completing approved college programs in many cases. Some endorsements do require Praxis content knowledge tests. Learn more here. Connecticut Connecticut requires content knowledge exams, offered by Praxis and Pearson. Delaware In Delaware, you'll need to pass content knowledge exams. Florida Florida uses its own teacher certification exams program, known as FTCE (Florida Teacher Certification Examinations). There are three types of tests all teachers need to pass: General Knowledge Test: This four-part test measures your basic reading, writing, and math skills. It includes multiple-choice questions and an essay. Professional Education Test: The pedagogy and professional skills test is comprised of approximately 100 multiple-choice questions. Subject Area Examinations: Subject area examinations may be multiple-choice only or might include written and oral sections, depending on the subject and age. Some tests have several subtests. Georgia Georgia has developed its own teaching testing program, GACE (Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators). Tests include: Program Admission: This basic skills test of reading, writing, and math is required to enter a teacher-training program in Georgia. Other test scores like the SAT and ACT may exempt you from taking this exam. Check with your teacher-training program for more info. Content Examinations: These test your knowledge of subject matter and teaching skills. Different tests are required based on the age and subject(s) you plan to teach. See the full list here. Georgia Ethics Assessment: This assessment includes built-in training modules with assessments throughout. It's required for all teachers. Hawaii Most Hawaii teacher exams are offered through ETS Praxis. Here's what the state requires: Idaho Idaho requires the appropriate Praxis Content Knowledge tests for the area and subject(s) you plan to teach. Some tests have multiple subtests built in. Learn more about Idaho's required Praxis tests here. Illinois In Illinois, you need to pass two types of teacher certification exams. Indiana Indiana transitioned to Praxis Subject Area tests as of September 1, 2021. These verify your knowledge of subject matter and teaching skills for the ages and subject(s) you'll be teaching. Learn more about the Indiana Praxis Subject Area Tests here. Iowa In Iowa, if you complete a state approved teacher prep program, exams are not required. You'll be granted your initial teaching license after completing the program and meeting state requirements. If moving to the state of Iowa, teachers need to show proof of completing an accredited out-of-state program including transcript review. Learn more here. Kansas Kansas requires two types of teaching certification tests: Kentucky Kentucky has several teacher testing requirements: Louisiana Louisiana requires the following teacher exams: Maine Maine has three required teacher tests: Maryland Maryland has several teacher testing requirements: Massachusetts The Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL) program oversees teacher testing in the state. They are currently trying a pilot program of alternative assessments, so you may have a variety of options to meet each testing requirement. Be sure to visit Massachusetts' Department of Education website to find the latest information. Here's an overview of the current test requirements: Michigan You'll need to pass the appropriate MTTC (Michigan Test for Teacher Certification) content exams. These Pearson tests vary based on the ages and subject(s) you'll be teaching. Learn more here. Minnesota The Minnesota Teacher Licensure Examinations (MTLE) cover several areas. The state has a tiered licensing system, with varying tests required at each tier. Mississippi Mississippi has multiple testing requirements: Missouri Missouri has its own set of teacher certification exams called MEGA (Missouri Educator Gateway Assessments), administered by Pearson. They include: Montana Montana requires the Praxis Content Knowledge tests appropriate to the ages and subject(s) you'll be teaching. Learn more about the required Praxis tests here. Nebraska Nebraska uses Praxis testing for teacher certification. These tests include: Nevada Nevada uses Praxis exams, including: New Hampshire New Hampshire's teacher testing requirements include: New Jersey New Jersey uses Praxis testing for teacher certification. These tests include: New Mexico New Mexico is in the process of changing its testing requirements. Praxis PLT and Content Exams: Those graduating from a New Mexico approved teacher prep program in 2022 and 2023 must still take the appropriate Principles of Learning and Teaching and content exams by age and subject. Beginning in spring 2024, only out-of-state applicants will be required to take these exams. Praxis Teaching Reading: Elementary Exam: Per state statute, all Elementary Education candidates will continue to take this exam, now and in the future. New York As of April 27, 2022, New York eliminated the edTPA testing requirement for all applicants. However, they still require these teacher tests: North Carolina North Carolina uses Pearson and Praxis tests for teacher certification. North Dakota North Dakota uses Praxis exams for teacher licensure: Ohio In Ohio, these are the testing requirements: Oklahoma Oklahoma is in the middle of revising many of its test requirements. The state eliminated the OGET (Oklahoma General Education Test) as of May 6, 2022. However, it still requires these tests: Oregon In Oregon, there are several types of testing requirements: Pennsylvania Here are Pennsylvania's teacher certification exam requirements: Rhode Island Rhode Island uses Praxis tests for teacher certification. These tests include pedagogy and content knowledge assessment. See Rhode Island's testing requirements here. South Carolina South Carolina teacher tests include: South Dakota South Dakota uses these tests: Tennessee Tennessee uses the following tests: Texas Teacher certification exams in Texas include: Utah Utah requires two types of tests: Vermont Vermont requires the following tests: Virginia In Virginia, testing requirements include: Washington Washington requires two types of teacher assessments: West Virginia West Virginia uses Praxis tests for teacher licensing: Wisconsin Wisconsin teacher certification exams include: Wyoming Wyoming has only these requirements: Looking for a place to ask more questions about teacher certification exams and other new-teacher topics? Join the WeAreTeachers HELPLINE group on Facebook! Plus, check out 15 Philosophy of Education Examples for Job-Hunting Teachers.