Understanding State-Approved Initial Licensure Pathways

OEDS Provides Career Counseling Services on Licensure Pathways

Program Types:
• Traditional
• Alternative
• Career and Technical

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Understanding State-Approved Licensure Pathways

www.teachwv.com

Identifies WVBE-approved programs
Disclaimer

The Teach West Virginia website at www.teachwv.com and this presentation provide summary information about licensure pathways and requirements. This information does not supersede requirements of WV State Code and WVBE Policies.

WVBE Policies may be accessed at http://wvde.state.wv.us/policies/

• Policy 5202: Minimum Requirements for the Licensure of Professional / Paraprofessional Personnel and Advanced Salary Classifications
• Policy 5100: Approval of Educator Preparation Programs
• Policy 5901: Alternative Programs for the Education of Teachers
General Requirements

Including:

• United States citizenship or qualifying documentation
• Good moral character (character reference or official recommendation)
• Physically, mentally, and emotionally qualified to perform the duties assigned
• Minimum age 18
• Acceptable FBI and State Police background check outcomes

Important: General requirements must be met for ALL licenses discussed in this presentation.
Degree Requirement

• Degrees must come from a regionally accredited institution of higher education (IHE)

Search for an Institution’s Accreditation Status

https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/
Traditional Certification Preparation Programs

• Provided by WV institutions of higher education
• Offered as a program resulting in a Bachelor’s Degree, Master’s Degree or a Post-Bachelor’s Certification Program (varies by IHE)
• Official transcripts analyzed if held prior to enrollment
• Determine program eligibility and required coursework
• Meet all requirements for program completion including successful clinical experiences
• Pass required WVBE exams (Basic Skills, Content, Pedagogy)
• May result in acquiring a Professional Teaching Certificate
Traditional Program Options when Shortages Exist

Teacher in Residence Agreements:
- Requires the school district have a state-approved partnership agreement with an undergraduate-level state-approved educator preparation program

First Class Full-Time Permit:
- Individuals with a Bachelor’s Degree, minimum 2.5 GPA, and enrolled in a state-approved educator preparation program
- Must have a qualifying amount of the program’s coursework completed

Note: The position must be posted with no certified applicants applying
Alternative Certification Preparation Programs

• Provided by WV School Districts with eligible partner(s)
• Only available when a school district has an area of critical need and shortage with a state-approved alternative certification program with aligning endorsements
• Positions posted at least twice (total 10 days) with no certified applicants
• Candidates must meet eligibility criteria, receive an Alternative Teaching Certificate, enroll, complete the program, and WVBE required exams
• Successful completion of the program and required assessments may result in acquiring a **Provisional Teaching Certificate** (non-transferrable)
Alternative Certification Candidate Eligibility

Requirements of ALL Candidates (General and Special Education):
• Bachelor’s degree
• Minimum 2.5 GPA
• Pass Praxis basic skills exams (CASE)

Additional Requirements for General Education Endorsements:
• Pass all WVBE content exams for the endorsement(s)
AND
• Hold related academic qualifications (degree major) OR related work experience to the subject area

Note: All candidate must have an offer of employment (contingent upon receiving an Alternative Teaching Certificate)
Out-of-State Teacher Preparation Programs

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Out-of-State Options for WV Certification

Recommendation-Based Certification Application:

- Official recommendation from an IHE verifying successful completion of an educator preparation program approved for teacher certification in the state where the institution resides
- Successful completion of student teaching or an equivalent experience
- Bachelor’s degree and minimum 2.5 GPA
- Pass all WVBE required Praxis exams
Out-of-State Options for WV Certification

Reciprocity Application:

• The out-of-state license and endorsement must be valid and equivalent to what is issued by the Office of Certification at the WVDE (ex. transferrable without restrictions, etc.)

• Bachelor’s degree and minimum 2.5 GPA

• Successful completion of student teaching or an equivalent experience
Teacher Preparation Programs Completed Outside of the United States

Visit www.teachwv.com and review WVBE Policy 5202 for details

Requires official transcripts be evaluated by an approved foreign education credential service
Substitute Teaching Permits
Short-Term Substitute Permit

• Bachelor’s degree
• Minimum 2.0 GPA
• Successfully complete required training(s) OR student teaching with a state-approved educator preparation program

Long-Term Substitute Permit

• Meet Short-Term Substitute Permit requirements
• Meet additional requirements for content specific coursework and training(s)
Restricted Short-Term Substitute Permit

When a school district has a substitute shortage waiver approved by the State Superintendent of Schools, this permit may be issued.

**State-minimum candidate eligibility requirements include the following:**

- Meet requirements of the Short-Term Substitute Permit with the exception of a bachelor’s degree
- An associate’s degree with a minimum 2.0 GPA
- Successfully complete the required training(s)
Career and Technical Education

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Career and Technical Education Program

- State-approved program is provided by Marshall University
- Individuals typically come directly from the career/industry/field
- Employment begins with meeting qualifications for a first class full-time CTE permit which include, but are not limited to the following:
  - High school diploma, equivalent (ex. GED), or a degree (as applicable)
  - Pass basic skills exam(s)
  - Wage-earning experience
  - Industry credentials (as applicable)
  - Enrollment or a commitment to enroll into the state-approved program
  - The required official’s recommendation
Career and Technical Education Program

• Individuals must successfully complete 6 semester hours of the approved program with a qualifying GPA annually

• Upon successful program completion with a minimum 2.5 GPA in the program, individuals must pass the endorsement(s) required NOCTI exam(s) (as applicable)

• Individuals who qualify are issued a Career and Technical Education Certificate
Career and Technical Education Substitute Permit

Candidate requirements include, but are not limited to, the following:

• High school diploma, equivalent (ex. GED), or a degree (as applicable)
• Wage-earning experience (as applicable)
• Industry credentials (as applicable)
• The required official’s recommendation
• Successfully complete required training(s)
Contact Information:

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Phone: 304.558.3119