



West Virginia DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**

# Licensure Pathways Summary Information

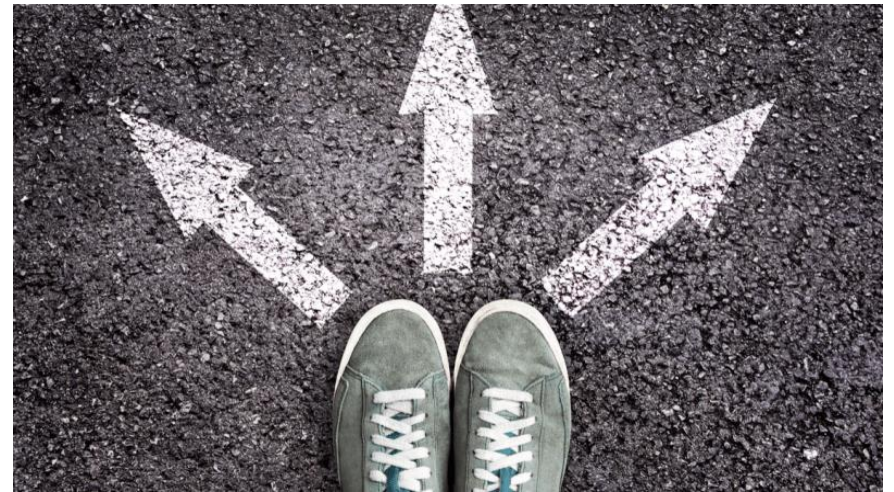
Office of Educator Development and Support  
August 7, 2020

# 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](http://www.teachwv.com)

*Identifies WVBE-approved programs*

# Disclaimer

The Teach West Virginia website at [www.teachwv.com](http://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

# 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



# 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



# 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](http://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
- Review WVBE Policy 5202 and the [CTE Endorsements and Testing Manual](#)

# 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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