

Teach in Connecticut

Education & Employment Information Center
Office of Higher Education

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www.ctohe.org

If you would like to become a teacher in Connecticut, a variety of preparation options exist. You may start as a paraprofessional or a substitute, apply for admission to a traditional or alternate certification program, or enroll in a Pathway to Teaching Careers program offered by a community college. The Connecticut State Department of Education administers certification requirements which are available at www.ct.gov/sde/cert. This website also contains a Guide to Approved Educator Preparation Programs in Connecticut, and required assessments and information for out-of-state teachers seeking certification in Connecticut.

The following colleges and universities offer traditional certification programs:

- Albertus Magnus College, New Haven
- Central CT State University, New Britain
- Connecticut College, New London
- Eastern CT State University, Willimantic
- Fairfield University, Fairfield
- Mitchell College, New London
- Quinnipiac University, Hamden
- Sacred Heart University, Fairfield
- Southern CT State University, New Haven
- University of Bridgeport, Bridgeport
- University of Connecticut, Storrs
- University of Hartford, West Hartford
- University of Saint Joseph, West Hartford
- Western CT State University, Danbury

The Pathway to Teaching Careers associate's degree is offered by several community colleges. This program parallels the first two years of study at a Connecticut State University (CSU) for students who wish to transfer to a CSU four-year degree program. Contact your local community college for more information or visit www.ct.edu/academics/programs.

Each year, the Connecticut State Department of Education designates areas of teacher shortage. For 2016, shortage areas are:

- Bilingual Education PreK-12
- Comprehensive Special Education PreK-12
- Intermediate Administrator
- Mathematics 7-12
- School Library and Media Specialist
- School Psychologist
- Science 7-12
- Speech and Language Pathology
- Technology Education, PK-12
- World Languages 7-12

Teachers in these fields are highly sought after. In addition, the State of Connecticut seeks to attract more minority educators by offering aid and forgiveness loans to minority undergraduates studying to become teachers (www.ctohe.org/SFA/pdfs/MTIPForm.pdf).

Non-Traditional Certification Pathways

Alternate Route to Administrator (092) Certification Residency Program for School Leadership – www.achievementfirst.org/our-approach/residency-program

Alternate Route to Teacher Certification, ARC, is an accelerated, non-credit program conducted by the Office of Higher Education to attract mid-career professionals into teaching. A minimum of a bachelor's degree and an academic major in the subject you wish to teach are among the application criteria. Two sessions are offered in the summer, and on weekends during the school year – www.ctohe.org/ARC

Charter Oak State College's Alternate Route to Certification in Early Childhood Education. This is in cooperation with Eastern Connecticut State University, Mitchell College, Fairfield University, Southern Connecticut State University, the University of Saint Joseph, University of Connecticut, and University of Hartford. This certifies qualified applicants to work in settings such as public preschools, Birth to Three Early Intervention services, and public school kindergartens – www.charteroak.edu/prospective/programs/application-ece-arc.pdf

Sacred Heart University's graduate Intern Program located in Fairfield and Griswold – www.sacredheart.edu/academics/isabellefarringtoncollegeofeducation/programs/offered/graduate_teacher_internship_program

Southern Connecticut State University Special Education Internship Program; 14-month, 48 credit graduate program, 203-392-6400 – www.southernct.edu/academics/schools/education/departments/special_education_reading/graduate_programs.html

Teach for America is a national organization that recruits recent college graduates of all academic majors who commit two years of teaching in urban and rural public schools. Certifications offered in world languages, elementary education, secondary English, mathematics, science, social studies, and early childhood – www.teachforamerica.org/where-we-work/connecticut

University of Bridgeport Tuition-Paid Intern Program where coursework is tuition-free – www.bridgeport.edu/academics/graduate/education-degree-options/

University of Connecticut's Teacher Certification Program for College Graduates (TCPCG) master's degree program which takes place over a four-semester time period beginning with two summer sessions – <http://teacher.education.uconn.edu/tcpcg/tcpcg-overview/>

University of Saint Joseph's Off-Campus Education Master's Program that meets one night per week in five locations – <http://saintjoseph.graduateprogram.org/university-of-saint-joseph/>

Early Childhood Education

CT Charts-a-Course is a professional pathway for students interested in pursuing early childhood instruction. Website includes programs from the child development associate paraprofessional level to professional degrees. Scholarship information also is included – www.ctcharts.org

Connecticut Early Childhood Interactive Career Map – <http://ctearlychildhoodcareerdev.info/>

Substitute Teaching and Job Information

CT State Department of Education Reports & Research EdSight, which provides information on average teachers' salaries, strategic school profiles, No Child Left Behind, CMT and CAPT test information – www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2758&q=334898

Directory of Connecticut public and non-public schools – www.csde.state.ct.us/public/csde/Connecticut%20State%20Department%20of%20Education4.htm?sdePNavCtR=#45474

Job openings listed for part- and full-time positions at CT's 20 technical high schools – www.cttech.org

Links for jobs in education – www.ctohe.org/edinfo/pdfs/JobLines.pdf

Minority teacher recruiting information – <http://www.crec.org/mtr/>

Regulations for substitute teaching – www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2613&q=321310

State of Connecticut Teacher's Retirement Board provides information about public school teachers' retirement benefits. Impacts on individual's Social Security also are covered – www.ct.gov/trb/site/default.asp

Veterans

New England Troops to Teachers program which helps eligible service persons transition from the military to a teaching career – <http://www.proudtoserveagain.com/>

Paraprofessional Information

CT paraprofessional information and resources – www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2618&q=321752

CT requirements for teacher aides or assistants – www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/circ/circ02-03/c15.pdf

Paraprofessional standardized test registration and preparation information – www.ets.org/parapro

Financial Aid for Teachers

Alma Exley scholarship for minority students in accredited CT teacher-preparation programs – www.almaexleyscholarship.org

American Federation of Teachers union Robert G. Porter Scholars and Union Plus Scholarship Programs – www.aft.org/about/member-benefits/scholarships/eligibility

CT Education Foundation scholarships available to minority students and CT Education Association members' children – www.cea.org/about/cef/index.cfm

CT School Counselor's Association open to CT residents who are matriculated in a program for School Counseling certification. Deadline is October 1 – www.casca.wildapricot.org

Federal Loan Forgiveness for Public Service Employees Program provides for the cancellation of the remaining balance due on eligible federal student loans after the borrower has made 120 monthly payments on those loans under certain repayment plans while employed in certain public service fields such as public safety and health, teaching, library and military service – <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/public-service>

Federal student loan cancellation information for teachers – <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/teacher>

Minority Teacher Incentive Grant – www.ctohe.org/SFA/sfa.shtml#CT_Minority_Teacher_Incentive_Grant

National Education Association teacher's union scholarship and grants – www.nea.org/home/16692.htm

Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education or TEACH Grants for new and current teachers – <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/teach>

Praxis

Educational Testing Services portal for Praxis tests. Includes tests-at-a glance, registration and review information – www.ets.org/praxis

Information about non-credit Praxis I review classes in two- and four-year colleges and adult education offices – www.ctohe.org/edinfo/pdfs/CourseWebsites.pdf

Required state teacher certification assessments – www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/Cert/guides/assess_for_cert.pdf

Foreign Credentials & Foreign Language Certification

ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) standardized test information for teaching foreign languages in Connecticut – www.actfl.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=1

State approved offices that evaluate degrees from outside the U.S. – www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2613&q=321296

TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), the standardized test that most colleges require of non-native speakers to take for admission. – www.ets.org/toefl

Cross Endorsement

Albertus Magnus College's Advanced Alternative Preparation (AAP) for Literacy Specialist in Reading/Language Arts Certification cross endorsement program for certified teachers who hold a master's degree – www.albertus.edu/masters-degrees/education/AAP.php

Alternate Route to Certification for Teachers of English Language Learners or ARCTELL program is a pathway for successful CT teachers to acquire a TESOL or Bilingual endorsement administered through ACES, Area Cooperative Education Services – www.aces.org/professional-development/arctell/overview

Capitol Region Education Council's (CREC) Special Education Advanced Alternate Route to Certification program – www.crec.org/tabs/aarc/index.php

Library Media Specialist cross endorsement for current teachers through ACES (Area Cooperative Education Services), the Regional Educational Service Center in North Haven – www.aces.org/professional-development/arclms/overview

State regulations for in-service teachers seeking certification in an additional subject – www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2613&q=321288

Regional Educational Service Centers

The Regional Educational Service Centers (or RESCS) are part of a statewide alliance that serves communities and education professionals in six Connecticut regions. Teachers and administrators may enroll in professional development courses and workshops at these centers. Other services include preparation for teaching standardized tests, fingerprinting and employment applications for member schools.

ACES (Area Cooperative Educational Services) serving Greater New Haven and the south central region – www.aces.org

CES (Cooperative Educational Services) serving Greater Bridgeport and the southwestern region – www.ces.k12.ct.us

CREC (Capitol Region Education Council) serving Greater Hartford and the north central region – www.crec.org

EASTCONN, serving Greater Willimantic and the northeastern region – www.eastconn.org

EDUCATION CONNECTION, serving Litchfield and the northwestern region – www.educationconnection.org

LEARN, serving Old Lyme and the shoreline region – www.learn.k12.ct.us