

# *Road to Teacher Certification in Alabama!*

\*[Click here](#) if you are an incoming Freshman or currently enrolled in college, and you are interested in receiving an undergraduate degree in Education.

\*[Click here](#) if you are currently in another career field with at least a bachelor's degree, and would like to become certified while receiving a master's degree in education. In addition, you are interested in teaching Elementary or Special Education. However, everyone can choose this route.

\*[Click here](#) if you are currently in another field with at least a bachelor's degree, and would like to become certified. In addition, you are interested in teaching secondary (4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) single subjects.

\*[Click here](#) if you currently hold a teaching certificate in another state, and you would like to become certified in the State of Alabama.

\*For descriptions on the types of licensures in Alabama, [click here](#).

# Road to Teacher Certification!

## “Traditional Certification Route”

Incoming Freshman must be admitted into an accredited university with a Teacher Education Program (School of Education.)

[Click here for a list of accredited universities with Teacher Education Programs in Alabama!](#)

Start!

During the freshman year, students will be completing course requirements to get ready to apply for the teacher education program. Typically students do not apply for the teacher education program until their Sophomore/Junior Year.

Apply for Teacher Education Program at the university/college you are attending.

Applicant will be notified of the University’s decision. If accepted, proceed to next step. If denied, consult admission office.

Successful completion of the Alabama Prospective Teacher Tests. Prospective teachers have to pass The Praxis Basic Skills Test & a Praxis Content Knowledge Test.

[Click link for more testing details!](#)

Complete remaining undergraduate course work

Complete Student Teaching/Internship and apply for certification. After a successful completion of student teaching/internship, you apply for graduation and graduate from your university!

Congrats!

You are certified to teach in the State of Alabama with a Class B licensure! Now, you must apply for teaching positions that align with your certification.

**\*Note:** This route is recommended for individuals who are in college or are transitioning from high school to college, and would like to enter a Teacher Education Program at an undergraduate level.

# Road to Teacher Certification!

## “Alternative Certification - Interim Employment Certification (IEC)”

### \*Master’s Route

Applicant must have a bachelor’s or master’s degree from an accredited college or university.

Applicant must be admitted into an accredited Education Master’s Program in Alabama. (GRE is required)

[Click here for more details on the GRE!](#)

Complete certification courses.

Approximately 12 Classes

- Complete at least 2 in the 1<sup>st</sup> year
- Complete at least 4 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year

The additional classes may be completed between an 18 - 24 month period.



### Congrats!

Upon completion of master’s, You are certified to teach in the State of Alabama with a Class A licensure!

Start!

Applicant must pass Praxis Subject and Praxis Basic Skills Test. In addition, the applicant must have a 2.75 GPA with a Bachelors degree or 3.0 GPA with a Masters degree.

[Click here for more details on the Praxis!](#)

Find a teaching position and start certification process by submitting paperwork to the [State Department of Education](#), through your perspective hiring district!

State Deadline: 10/1 of current school year

District deadline: varies

**\*Note:** This route is for individuals who did not receive an undergraduate degree in education and would like to earn a master’s in education. In addition, this route is required for all individuals who did not receive an undergraduate degree in education and are interested in Elementary Education and Special Education. However, all teachers are eligible for this track. [Click here for a list of master programs in Alabama!](#)

# Road to Teacher Certification!

## “Alternative Certification - Provisional Certificate in a Teaching Field (PCTF)”

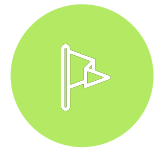
*\*Non-master’s route*

Applicant must have a bachelor’s or master’s degree from an accredited university. (Generally, this route is for people who do not have a degree in education.)

Applicant must be admitted as a non-traditional student into an accredited university in Alabama to complete required undergraduate coursework. (NO GRE is required for admittance!)

While teaching, complete certification courses at the university/college you were admitted into.  
4 Classes

- Complete at least 2 in the 1<sup>st</sup> year
- Complete remaining 2 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year



**Congrats!**

Upon completion of third year of teaching, You are certified to teach in Alabama with a Class B license!

Start!

Applicant must pass Praxis Subject and Praxis Basic Skills Test. In addition applicants must have a 2.75 GPA with a Bachelors Degree or 3.0 GPA with a Masters Degree.

[Click here for more details on the Praxis!](#)

Find a teaching position and start certification process by submitting paperwork to the [State Department of Education](#), through your perspective hiring district!  
State Deadline: 10/1  
District deadline: varies

edTPA must be completed between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year of PCTF.

[Click here for more information on edTPA!](#)

**\*Note:** This route is the non-master’s route. Applicants who are interested in teaching single subjects in 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grades or single subject secondary education are recommended to apply for this route. Certification is achieved upon completion of 4 graduate courses, in addition applicants *MUST* teach a minimum of 3 years in Alabama to be certified.

# Road to Teacher Certification!

## “Reciprocity for Certified Teachers from Qualifying States”

Verify a professional educator certificate in another state and professional education work experience with the Alabama State Department of Education.

[Click here for more information regarding the verification process.](#)

If the State Department of Education rejects the content knowledge test that was passed for issuance of a valid professional educator certificate in another state, applicant must take and meet current requirements of the Alabama prescribed Praxis II Tests. Once testing requirements are met, find a teaching position and submit certification paperwork to the State Department of Education through your hiring district.

State Deadline: 10/1 of the current school year  
District deadline: varies

Start!

If the State Department of Education rejects your certification verification request, verify a content knowledge test was passed for issuance of a valid professional educator certificate in another state. If approved, find a teaching position and start certification process by submitting paperwork to the State Department of Education through your perspective hiring district.

State Deadline: 10/1  
District deadline: varies

Congrats!

You are certified to teach in Alabama! Your licensure class depends on your qualifications from the other state.

**\*Note:** This route is for individuals who hold a valid professional educator certificate by another state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. Territory, or the Department of Defense Education Activity. [Click here for testing requirements!](#)

# Types of Teacher Certifications in the State of Alabama

Certification Area	Class B	Class A	Class AA
Elementary	Bachelor's Degree	Master's Degree	6 <sup>th</sup> year program
Secondary	Bachelor's + Subject Focus	Master's +Subject Focus	6 <sup>th</sup> year program + Subject Focus
Special Education	Bachelor's + Subject Focus	Master's +Subject Focus	6 <sup>th</sup> year program + Subject Focus