

Language Credentialing

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Emergency Teacher Certification (PA)

Description

An emergency permit is issued by the Department upon the request of the employing public school entity when a position has been advertised and no fully qualified and properly certificated applicant is available. The candidate for an emergency permit must have earned a bachelor's degree from a state-approved college or university and must meet all other eligibility requirements.

Certificate Valid for 1 Academic Year

Be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident holding a valid green card. Employment Authorization Cards are no longer accepted for certification purposes.

Employment: Required

State Information

State: Pennsylvania

Contact Name: Bureau of School Leadership and Teacher Quality

Contact Phone: 717-728-3224

For more information please visit the state website: http://www.education.pa.gov/Teachers%20-%20Administrators/Certifications/Pennsylvania%20Certification/Pages/default.aspx#.VtTY_krKHs

Notes

Only schools that are required to have fully certified teachers should apply for an Emergency Permit. It is the responsibility of the employing public school entity to ensure that educators who are employed on Emergency Permits as Exchange and World/Foreign Language teachers are legally authorized to work in the U.S.

Minimum Academic Background

In most states, teachers must have a minimum academic background for certification.

The following is required for this route:

Completed BA Degree

Basic Skills

In most states, teachers must verify basic skills in English (Reading and Writing) and Mathematics through coursework, exams, or degree evaluations.

The following is required for this route:

English:

Exam(s): One exam is required.

- [Pre-Service Academic Performance Assessment \(PAPA\)](#)
- [Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators \(CORE\)](#)
- [SAT](#)

Math:

Exam(s): One exam is required.

- [Pre-Service Academic Performance Assessment \(PAPA\)](#)
- [Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators \(CORE\)](#)
- [SAT](#)

Teacher Preparation

In most states, teachers are required to complete training in education methods through a teacher program.

The following is required for this route:

Content Language and English Language Proficiency

In most states, teachers are required to submit evidence of content language proficiency and English language proficiency through coursework, exams, or degree evaluations.

The following is required for this route:

Content Language Proficiency:

Exam(s): Exams are language specific.

- [ACTFL OPI WPT](#)
Arabic, Chinese-Mandarin, French, German, Greek (Modern), Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese
- [Praxis II \(Chinese-Mandarin, French, German, Latin, Spanish\)](#)

Accept Scores from Out of State

English Language Proficiency: Oral, Out of Country Applicants must demonstrate their proficiency in the English language. The ACTFL test called the "English Language, Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) is required. Passing Score: Advanced Mid.

Notes:

World Language certificate candidates may take either the Praxis II in Chinese-Mandarin, French, German, Latin, Spanish OR ACTFL OPI, WPT when both are available. If the ACTFL option is selected, candidates should take the OPI or Oral Proficiency Interview by Computer (OPIc). ACTFL OPI, WPT Passing Score: Intermediate High Certificates available in Hebrew, Pashto, Persian Farsi as well. Instructional II Certificates available in Lithuanian, Punjabi, Romanian, Sanskrit, Slovak, Swahili, Ukranian. World language certificate holders may teach non-credit exploratory courses in any language including the culture and tradition of the particular ethnic group speaking that language.

Applying to the State

In most states, teachers must apply to the state Individually or through their local School District, or Teacher Program Institution. Requirements for the application are outlined below:

Application Submission: School District

Online at: <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/TIMS/20476/page/1033139>

School District Requirements:

Verification of Employment

Verification of Search for a Certified Teacher

Copy of Academic Transcripts: Required

Copy of International Records: Required

Transcript Evaluation Required

URL: http://langcred.org/resources/transcript-evaluation/?fwp_agency_accepted_by_states=pennsylvania

Background Check

Required

Renewal: Nonrenewable

Subsequent application: The second, or subsequent, Emergency Permit application of the same type being requested by the same public school entity for the same individual in the same subject area. Before a subsequent application is submitted, the school entity is required to post any long-term substitute position for a minimum of 10 days on the school entity's website. If no qualified candidate has been identified, an Emergency Permit application may be submitted. A U.S. licensed physician must complete the Health Certificate section of the application form (338 G) unless the candidate was previously issued a Pennsylvania certificate or Emergency Permit. (If a candidate previously was issued a Type 06).

Notes:

Notice: fee increase to \$200 on 11/1/16 Initial application: The first Emergency Permit application of a specific type being requested by a public school entity for an individual in the desired subject area. Emergency Permit via an internet upload, the Health Certificate section must be completed for all future applications submitted directly to the Bureau) There are different Emergency Permit Types identified to include: 01 – Vacant Position with 9 credit

obligation, 03 – Long Term Sub with education obligation, 04 – Long Term Substitute, 06 – Day to Day and 08 - Exchange. Emergency Permits may be requested by the Chief School Administrator of the public school entity that has a permanent or temporary opening for a professional employee. The entity must have advertised that opening, and yet have no fully qualified and properly certified applicant available. The permit is valid from the first day of the month of issuance until the last day of summer school in that school year. In the case of a permanent opening (vacant position), the school entity must continue to make every effort to fill the vacancy with a fully qualified and properly certified professional employee except: • when the position is slated to be collapsed, or • when the vacancy occurs during the last half of the second semester

Act 114 extends the background check requirements to include student teacher candidates. The following three background checks are required: 1. Pennsylvania State Police Request for Criminal Records Check (Act 34). Applies to individuals hired as of January 1, 1986. 2. Department of Public Welfare Child Abuse History Clearance (Act 151). 3. Federal Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) in a manner prescribed by the Department of Education. Applicants must mail all official college sealed transcripts with a TIMS application coversheet. An Intern certificate may be awarded to a foreign national if they have demonstrated their intent to become a United States citizen, hold a current Immigrant Visa (Green Card), and hold the equivalent of a bachelor's degree. Applicants must obtain a Foreign Evaluation Report of transcripts. This evaluation must show US equivalent of all degrees plus a course-by-course evaluation showing semester hour college credits. Applicants must submit the original report or a notarized photocopy for the certification application. A photocopy of the front and back side of the Permanent Resident Visa (green card) or other visa if not a U.S. citizen if this is required for the credential sought.

Subsequent application: The second, or subsequent, Emergency Permit application of the same type being requested by the same public school entity for the same individual in the same subject area. Before a subsequent application is submitted, the school entity is required to post any long-term substitute position for a minimum of 10 days on the school entity's website. If no qualified candidate has been identified, an Emergency Permit application may be submitted. A U.S. licensed physician must complete the Health Certificate section of the application form (338 G) unless the candidate was previously issued a Pennsylvania certificate or Emergency Permit. (If a candidate previously was issued a Type 06).