

Language Credentialing

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Professional Certificate (ME)

Description

Applicants must either possess a Provisional Certificate for 2 years or meet the eligibility requirements to hold a professional certificate.

Certificate Valid for 5 years

Employment: Not Required

Reciprocity

The following states may accept this route:

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

State Information

State: Maine

Contact Name: Certification Office

Contact Phone: 207-624-6603

Contact Email: cert.doe@maine.gov

For more information please visit the state website: <http://www.maine.gov/doe/cert/index.html>

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

BA Degree + 24 Hours

BA Degree + Completed State Approved Teacher Education Program

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):

- [Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Reading and Writing](#)

Math:

Exam(s):

- [Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Mathematics](#)

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:

State Approved Teacher Education Program

Student Teaching

Course needed: Methods of teaching foreign language (3 semester hours).

Exam(s):

- [Praxis II: Principles of Learning and Teaching](#)

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.

- [Praxis II \(Chinese-Mandarin, French, German, Latin, Spanish\)](#)
- [ACTFL OPI, WPT](#)

Arabic, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, Russian, Chinese-Mandarin, French, German, Greek (Modern), Portuguese

Course needed: Completed a minimum of 24 semester hours in the world language endorsement area being sought or earned a score of advanced level or higher on the ACTFL Writing and Oral Proficiency Interview
Accept Scores from Out of State

Additional Requirements for this route include the following:

Special Education:

Course needed: Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular Classroom See: <http://www.maine.gov/doe/cert/initial/exceptionalitycourses.html>

Notes:

Applicants may use Praxis or ACTFL for any of the endorsed languages. Praxis II: Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Latin, Spanish ACTFL OPI, WPT Arabic, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Russian Passing Score: Advanced Level or higher if not using Praxis exam. See: <http://www.languagetesting.com/testing-for-teacher-certification> for updated tests. Student teaching may be waived for 1 school year of credentialed teaching in Maine in the Content Language Native Languages - Wapanohki languages subject matter competence: Applicant meets tribal proficiency standards to teach that tribe's native language, documentation by recognized Indian tribe in Maine, or by the Chair, and whose signature in either case is attested by the Tribal clerk.

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: Individual

Form at: <http://www.maine.gov/doe/cert/initial/application/index.html#app>

Form Mailing Address:

Department of Education Certification Office 23 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0023

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=maine

Background Check

Required

Online at: <http://www.maine.gov/dae/cert/fingerprinting/index.html>

Renewal: Renewable

Renewal information found at <http://www.maine.gov/dae/cert/renewal/index.html> 1. 6 credits of approved study and obtain a positive recommendation from the support system; OR 2. In the absence of an approved certification support system, 6 credits of approved study during the term of the certificate. These 6 credits may not have been used previously to renew the same certificate. If a holder is employed in a school with an approved support system, the renewal must be processed through the support system.

Notes:

Review <http://www.maine.gov/dae/cert/initial/application/index.html> for all required documentation. All school personnel are required to complete in-service suicide prevention awareness education training.

No Maine certification until fingerprints on file. For more information: <http://www.maine.gov/dae/cert/fingerprinting/index.html> International transcripts required if from out of country. Find more information see World Education Services (<http://www.wes.org/>) or NACES (<http://www.naces.org/members.html>) or Center for Educational Documentation (<http://www.cedevaluations.com/>)

Renewal forms will be mailed to the applicant. See: <http://www.maine.gov/dae/cert/renewal/full.html>

GENERAL NOTES FOR THIS ROUTE

Out of state/country applicants may skip the Provisional Certificate and apply for the Professional Certificate if he/she: Has 5 or more years of experience teaching in the Content Language within the 7 years prior to application under a valid certificate in another state. Has graduated from a state-approved TEP, OR earned a national board certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. World Language Endorsement Eligibility: Eligibility for the [world language] endorsement shall be established by one of two pathways. Individuals who are not eligible through either pathway may be eligible for a conditional certificate. 1. Endorsement Eligibility Pathway 1 (a) Graduated from a Maine program (b) Earned BA (c) Completed an approved course for "Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular (d) Passed Content Language assessment, and (e) Passed Basic Skills Test in reading, writing, and mathematics. 2. Endorsement Eligibility Pathway 2 (a) Earned BA; (b) One of the following: i. Minimum of 24 semester hours in content language ii. Score of advanced level or higher on the American Council Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Oral Proficiency Interview iii. Score of advanced level or higher on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Writing Proficiency Test (c) Completed an approved course for "Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular Classroom" (d) Passed Content Language methods course or content area methods assessment; (e) Passed Basic Skills Test in reading, writing and mathematics; (f) Passed pedagogical knowledge and skills assessment at the appropriate grade level, or successful completion of an approved alternative professional studies program; and (g) Completed one academic semester or a minimum of 15 weeks of full-time student teaching, or a combination of part-time and full-time student teaching. This requirement shall be waived upon completion of one full year of teaching under a targeted need certificate, a conditional certificate, or a transitional endorsement A provisional certificate is issued to an applicant who has met all of the requirements but has not taught for two school years in a Maine school with a Professional Learning Community Support System (PLCSS). Once an applicant has taught for two school years in a Maine school and been recommended for a five-year certificate by the local school district's PLCSS, the full five-year certificate will be issued.