

HOW TO BECOME A TEACHER IN NEW MEXICO : NM's Pathways for Earning a Level I Teaching License or Certificate

June 2005

Pathways	Pre-Requisites	New Mexico Teacher Assessments	Required Reading Courses	Required Coursework in Teaching Pedagogy and Methodology	Student Teaching/Field Experience	When can a candidate be hired to teach?	What programs are available to support candidates?
Undergraduate	Traditional Licensure Program	General Degree Requirements: 24-36 hours in content area; 12 hours English, 12 hours history; 6 hours math; 6 hours govt.; econ., or soc.; 12 hours science; 6 hours fine arts; Admission to an approved Teacher Preparation Program.	<p>Elementary or Special Education: SIX hours in the teaching of reading</p> <p>Secondary or K-12: THREE hours in the teaching of reading</p>	30 - 36 hours of professional education in an approved teacher preparation program for licensure in elementary or middle school; 24 -30 hours for secondary; 24-36 for k-12; 30 hours for special education; 36-42 for early childhood.	Mandatory 14 Week Student Teaching Component (early childhood is 168-180 hours)	Upon completion of all requirements, graduation, and applied for license at NM PED	Lottery Scholarships; NM Teacher Loan for Service Federal and State Student Aid; Local Scholarships
	Master's + Licensure Program	<p style="text-align: center;">Candidate must hold a Bachelors, Masters, and/or Ph.D.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Degree transcripts must include 30 hours in first content area(s) & 24 hours in subsequent content area(s), or 12 graduate level hours in content area(s), or a PhD in the content area(s).</p>		Program varies by school, but it must include at least the alternative licensure program requirements	Program must include a student teaching or field-based component	<p style="text-align: center;">Candidate is HIGHLY QUALIFIED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">& can be hired to teach on an intern license as the teacher of record, (as long as he/she is assigned to teach in his/her area of expertise). A candidate has 1-3 years to fulfill the requirements for earning a Level I Teaching License. The intern license is nonrenewable.</p>	NM Teacher Loan for Service; T2T in Gallup, Raton, and Four Corners
	Alternative Licensure Program Pathway			Elementary / Special Education: 12 -21 hours (including reading) in an approved program for licensure. Secondary: 12-18 hours (including reading) in an approved program for licensure	Program must include a student teaching or field-based component		NM Teacher Loan for Service; T2T in Gallup, Raton, and Four Corners
	Alternative Licensure Portfolio Pathway			Successfully demonstrate to a panel, by way of portfolio, the initial competencies for the license(s) being sought.	N/A		NM statewide Transition to Teaching at the Public Education Department
	District Alternative Licensure Pathway			Successfully demonstrate the initial competencies for the license(s) being sought by way of evaluation conducted by a local school district over a period of at least two full years, as part of a PED-approved school-based or statewide teacher prep program.	N/A		District Support NM Statewide Transition to Teaching
Other Pathways	Vocational Technical Education Teacher	N/A	N/A	Path A: 15 semester hours of professional education which address the secondary voc-tech competencies; OR Path B: A district or private school may develop and implement a Professional Development Plan (PDP) in lieu of the required 15 hours and supervised student teaching experience, upon approval by the PED, the PDP shall be used to meet licensure requirements. The PDP must address the secondary voc-tech competencies. More than 1 district/ private school may jointly prepare a PDP for approval.	IF PATH A: Supervised classroom internship/student teaching experience through an institution of higher ed. OR through a district or private school	Path A: Upon completion of all requirements, and applied for license at NM PED Path B: Candidate can apply for a one year license through the PED and may teach while fulfilling the requirements of the PDP.	Institution of Higher Education District Support NM PED
	Certificate in Native Language & Culture	Bachelor's NOT required (i.e. person could be an elder or someone that knows the language and culture well). Persons seeking level I certification shall meet the requirements established by each NM Native American tribe or pueblo, who has signed an agreement with the Secretary of Education, to determine an acceptable standard of competence & language proficiency to teach the language and culture. The candidate must provide the Professional Licensure Bureau with verification from a NM tribe or pueblo authority that the candidate meets the standards & criteria for competence & language proficiency to teach the language & culture. This certificate is limited to teaching native language and culture only.				Upon completion of all requirements and applied for certificate at NM PED	NM Native American Tribe or Pueblo

For more information go to www.teachnewmexico.org -- To apply for your license or certificate, download the application at www.ped.state.nm.us