

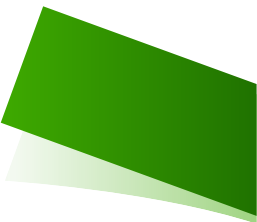
AIKEN COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Pathways to
Become a
Teacher**

**Alternative Certification
CTE Work-Based
Advanced Degrees**

For more questions, reach out to:
Christen Sikes, csikes@acpsd.net

Alternative Certification Pathways





Content Areas

Grades Pk-12 Fields

Art
Dance
English for Speakers of Other Languages
Health
Media Specialist
Music
Physical Education
Special Education: Emotional Disabilities
Theater
World Languages (Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Latin, Russian, or Spanish)

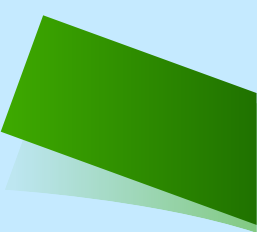
Middle Level (Grades 5-8) Fields

Middle Level Language Arts
Middle Level Mathematics
Middle Level Science
Middle Level Social Studies

Secondary (Grades 9-12) Fields

Agriculture
Biology
Business/Marketing/Computer Technology
Chemistry
Computer Science
English
Family and Consumer Science
History
Industrial Technology
Mathematics
Physics
Science
Social Studies

altcertification@ed.sc.gov or call 803-896-0325
<https://ed.sc.gov/educators/alternative-certification/pace/>



Requirements

- Bachelor's Degree

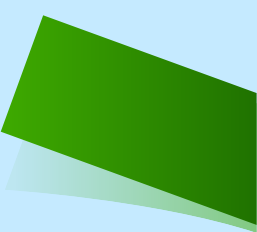
Initial Certificate Requirements (First 3 years):

- Submission of a complete certification application packet
- Presenting passing scores on the content area examination(s)
- Receive Statement of Eligibility by securing employment in a South Carolina public school and completion of the next available pre-service institute

The initial alternative route certificate is valid for one academic year. The certificate can be renewed annually for two additional academic years based on successful progress in completing the program requirements and continuous employment in a South Carolina public school.



Professional Certificate Requirements:

- Complete 3 successful years of teaching in SC public school
 - Complete Induction year (ADEPT)
 - Complete 3 courses from the list of core courses approved by the SCDE within first 3 years of teaching with a B or better
 - Passing score on Principle of Learning and Teaching exam
- 

Steps to apply to PACE

A large, stylized orange pencil with a white eraser and a sharp lead tip, positioned diagonally in the top right corner of the slide.

Step 1: Complete and submit an on-line PACE application through the Educator Portal

Step 2: Submit Official Transcripts from all colleges attended.

Step 3: Once approval is received, schedule, take, and pass the appropriate ETS Praxis II Subject Assessment.

Step 4: After you receive your official passing score report from ETS, schedule and complete the Fingerprinting Process and Criminal Records Review.

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Step 5: Non-refundable \$105 fee through the CATS Portal, Wait to receive a letter from our office granting permission to seek employment as a PACE candidate. This letter is called a Statement of Eligibility (SOE).

Step 6: Secure employment with a S.C. public school district.

Step 7: Attend and pass the 10-day PACE Pre-service Institute to secure your initial PACE educator certificate.

A large, stylized green paper graphic, possibly representing a folder or a piece of paper, positioned in the bottom right corner of the slide.

APEC

Alternative Pathways to Educator Certification



Requirements

- Bachelor's degree
- Application and interview
- Transcripts of 2.5 GPA
- 3 letters of recommendation

Content Areas

- Early Childhood
- Elementary
- Dance
- Middle Level
- Special Education Multi-categorical
- Secondary English and Math

- Program leads to certification in one year (four semesters).
- Participants can complete the Masters in Innovation and Divergent Learning after achieving certification (27 graduate hours are completed during the APEC Program).
- 4 graduate modules along with a work embedded teacher residency are the foundation of the program.
- APEC Fellows receive coaching support and professional development during their first three years of teaching.
- There are tuition costs to APEC Fellows as they also pursue a master's degree but scholarships are available.
- Participants work with a financial aid counselor to develop an individualized plan.

QUESTIONS?
KELLY KINARD
KKINARD@COLUMBIASC.EDU

**OBTAIN A SC
TEACHING
CERTIFICATION
AND MASTER'S
DEGREE**

IN 18 MONTHS

APEC
ALTERNATIVE PATHWAYS TO EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION



Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in Studio Art, Fine Arts with Visual Arts or Graphic Arts
- GPA of 2.75
- Passing score on the Praxis 2: Art Content and Analysis

Program Process

- Submit application for Converse Special Status Student and an application for the Converse Teacher Education Program. (up to 12 credit hours)
- Submit a Statement of Disclosure of Felonies and Misdemeanors
- Submit a Statement of Disclosure explaining that the applicant did not student teach in a traditional teacher preparation program or attempt to complete another alternative certification program
- Submit a passing score on the Praxis 2: Art Content and Analysis and GPA of 2.75 with a 2.50 the minimum for provisional acceptance. The GPA in the content area major or the GPA in the last sixty hours of coursework may be used to meet this requirement
- Submit a current, all-clear FBI/SLED fingerprint background check.
- Complete application with State Department of Education
- Submit a conferred Bachelor's degree in Studio Art, Fine Arts with Visual Arts or Graphic Arts Cognate from an accredited institution with transcripts from all institutions on file with the Converse Graduate Admissions Office

Submit a Letter of Employment as a PK-12 Art Specialist in a South Carolina School District or Charter School

American Board

Secondary Content Areas (9-12)

- Biology
- Chemistry
- English
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Science

Middle Level Content Areas (5-8)

- Middle Level Mathematics
- Middle Level Language Arts
- Middle Level Science

Requirements

- Bachelor's degree or higher
- Submit your official college or university transcripts to the American Board
- Pass a standard background check.

Exams Needed:

- Pass the Professional Teaching Knowledge exam (PTK). This exam will be taken on a computer and must be completed at a Pearson VUE testing center. The exam will consist of 150 multiple choice questions and a writing component. We suggest you take this exam before your subject area exam
- Pass the ABCTE exam. This exam will be taken on a computer and must be completed at a Pearson VUE testing center. We suggest taking this exam after you complete your PTK exam.

Apply for South Carolina certification
through the American Board Program
<http://www.americanboard.org/>

American Board



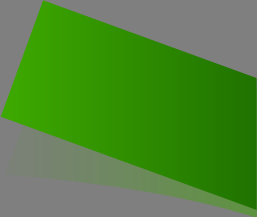
Step 1:

- Complete all ABCTE requirements and achieve passing scores on the required American Board examination(s)
- Submit a completed South Carolina Certification Application, non-refundable \$105 Processing Fee
- Submit Official Copies of all college/university transcripts to the South Carolina Department of Education | Office of Educator Services
- Complete the Fingerprinting Process and Criminal Records Review.

Step 2: With a South Carolina American Board Statement of Eligibility, a candidate may seek employment as a classroom teacher *only in the American Board content area*. South Carolina's Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement provides a listing of teaching employment opportunities statewide as well as an online application that is accepted by most South Carolina school districts.

Step 3: To receive the first South Carolina Alternative Route License, a candidate must obtain a letter of intent to hire from a South Carolina public school or eligible charter school and provide verification of the offer to the Office of Educator Services through the American Board Confirmation of Employment form.

Step 4: To advance to a standard South Carolina Professional License, an American Board candidate must:

- Teach successfully for three academic years in a South Carolina public or charter school only.
 - Complete the induction and summative evaluation requirements (ADEPT)
 - Take and pass the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) for Grades 9 – 12.
- 

Teach for America



Requirements

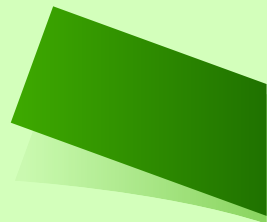
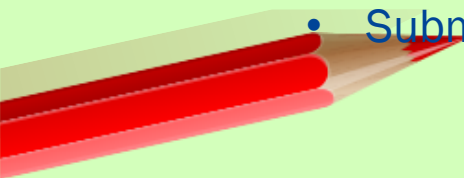
- Bachelor's Degree with minimum GA of 2.5
- U.S. Citizenship or Employment Authorization

Eligible candidates will be granted a one-year, alternate-route certification in their teaching field, with an option for a second year, based upon verification of successful performance. Individuals who wish to continue as teachers in the South Carolina public schools beyond the two-year commitment to TFA will be provided an option to qualify for professional certification by completing additional South Carolina requirements.

What are the requirements for a South Carolina initial teaching certification?

By the first day of school, all corps members must:

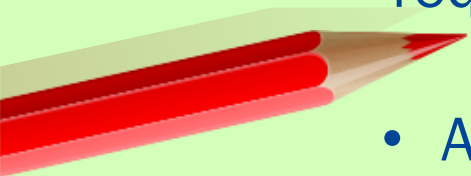
- Pass the Praxis II exam
- Submit an application and \$105 fee to the state of South Carolina Department of Education
 - Complete Darkness to Light child abuse online training
 - Complete a state and FBI background check
- Submit official transcripts with degree conferred and at least 2.5 GPA
 - Submit social security card





What happens to my certification after the corps?

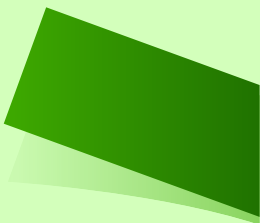
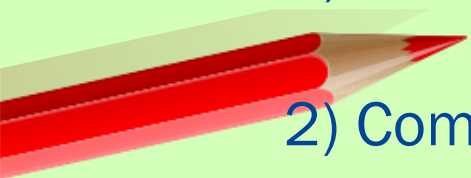
- Your initial teaching certificate in South Carolina will remain valid for a third year in a South Carolina classroom, if you decide to continue to teach an additional year.
- Once you have completed three years in the classroom, you will be eligible to advance to a Professional License, the final level of licensure in South Carolina, if you have met state professional development and testing requirements (many of which you have the option to complete during your two years in the corps).
- Alumni are responsible for submitting the application to advance their license, though our team will support you with information and guidance on the necessary steps.





What are the steps for a South Carolina professional certification?

- Professional Certification is the final level of licensure in South Carolina that will allow you to continue to teach in a South Carolina classroom as a fully certified teacher.
 - The steps to obtain your Professional Certification are:
 - 1) Teach for at least one additional year beyond corps commitment in a Teach For America South Carolina affiliated district
 - 2) Complete nine credit hours (“certification courses”) with Teach For America South Carolina’s university partner, Francis Marion University
 - 3) Pass the Principles of Learning and Teaching Praxis Exam
 - 4) Pass the district teacher evaluation process





ToT

Teachers of Tomorrow

Content Areas



K-12

- Art
- Dance
- English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Health
- School Librarian* requires Master of Library & Information Science or Master of Public Library
- Music
- Physical Education
- Special Education: Emotional Disabilities
- Special Education: Learning Disabilities
- Theater
- World Languages

Elementary Level (Grades 2-6)

- Elementary Education

Middle Level (Grades 5-8)

- Middle Level Language Arts
- Middle Level Mathematics
- Middle Level Science
- Middle Level Social Studies

High School (Grades 9-12)

- Agriculture
 - Biology
 - Business/Marketing/Computer Technology
 - Chemistry
 - English
 - Family and Consumer Science
 - History
 - Industrial Technology
 - Mathematics
 - Physics
 - Science
 - Social Studies
- 

The logo for Teachers of Tomorrow, featuring the text "ToT" in a large, white, sans-serif font on a blue rectangular background. Below it, the words "Teachers of Tomorrow" are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

ToT

Teachers of Tomorrow



Requirements

Bachelor's Degree
Minimum 2.5 GPA

- 1) Submit an application (<https://www.southcarolinateachers.org>)
- 2) 90 clock hours of *Phase I: Classroom Readiness Training*
- 3) Submit a **complete application for certification** to the SCDE. The application includes the following: application, fee, fingerprints, transcripts
- 4) **Official PRAXIS test scores** submitted officially by ETS to the South Carolina Department of Education. The code is 8108.
- 5) Receive a Statement of Eligibility Letter from the South Carolina Department of Education and seek employment with a public school or public charter school.
- 6) Once hired, have employing district submit a **Confirmation of Employment Form** to the SCDE
- 7) Receive your first Teachers of Tomorrow alternative route teaching certificate.

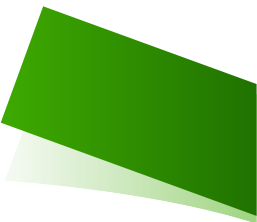
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The Internship Year

The first year of employment is also known as the Internship Year. Teachers will be assigned a mentor and field supervisor. The first year will be under the supervision of Teachers of Tomorrow and the employing district.

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Career & Technical Education (CTE) Work-Based Certification



CTE

Career and Technical Education Work-Based Certificate

CTE work-based certification program enables individuals with industry work experience in certain career and technical fields to be eligible for employment as a 9-12 grade level teacher in a South Carolina public school district. Once enrolled in the program, participants will attend training institutes, enroll in coursework, and complete examinations while employed in a South Carolina public school district. Participants will have a maximum of five school years (July 1 - June 30) to complete all CTE work-based certification program requirements and earn a Professional work-based teaching certificate.

To become eligible, all applicants must:

- Be at least 18 years of age at the time of application
- Meet the minimum industry experience requirement for the requested work-based field
- Complete the fingerprinting process and receive an "All Clear"
- Earn the minimum of a high school diploma or GED.

Please be aware that some work-based fields require applicants to meet additional education requirements, such as holding an Associate's or Bachelor's degree.

<https://ed.sc.gov/educators/teaching-in-south-carolina/cte/fields/>

Advanced Degree Options





Grand Canyon University

Advance Your Career Through ACPSD'S Exciting Partnership With GCU

GCU has varied opportunities for Bachelors, Masters, and Doctoral Degree Programs and is offering scholarships and tuition discounts just for ACPSD employees and their families. It is FREE to apply, and courses are taken one at a time with no designated class times.

GCU has upcoming start dates of February 9, 2023; and March 9, 2023. There are 25 seats available for each start date, and the deadline to apply is 14 days before class starts.

Visit our website to learn more about this employee perk **HERE**.

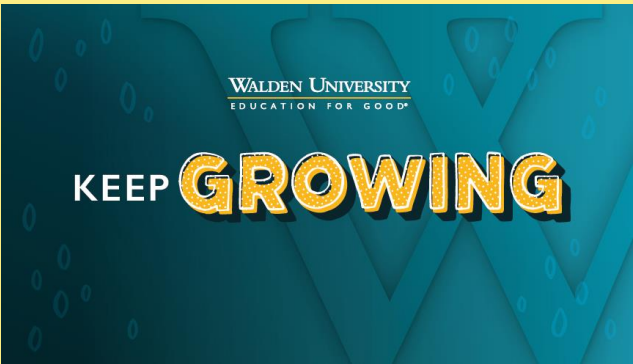


Contact our Region Representative, Zach Riccardelli,
at **Zach.Riccardelli@gcu.edu** for more information.





Walden University



WALDEN UNIVERSITY
EDUCATION FOR GOOD™
KEEP GROWING

Walden University wants to empower you to continue growing and to do so, we want to help fund your future. For more than 50 years, Walden has provided high-quality education to help graduates excel in their professions and communities.

A DEGREE WITHIN REACH

Receive a 10% tuition reduction* on programs including the following:

Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (BSEE)

Master of Science in Education (MSED)

Doctor of Education (EdD)



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ON YOUR OWN TIME

Walden's Engagement Hub offers year-round professional development webinars presented by industry experts, from leadership development, self-care, and hot topics in business.

[Learn More at: WaldenU.edu/Aiken](https://www.waldenu.edu/Aiken)



North Greenville University



NGU-Online

Elementary Educational Studies

Experiential Credit

If you have worked in the field of education, you may be eligible for up to 12 credit hours of experiential learning for the cost of only one credit hour (applied during your Senior year).

Teacher Certification

Elementary Educational Studies is a four year degree without certification. For students interested in teaching in public schools consider the Certification for Elementary Education Certificate. In this program, graduates of the Elementary Educational Studies program can earn their teaching certification through their first year of teaching while receiving a portion of teacher pay.

For more information, contact Dr. Kathryn McColskey at

kmccolskey@ngu.edu or 864.977.2098

Quick Facts

100% Online

120 hours

Bachelor of Arts

Five 8-Week Sessions
per Year

Two Courses per Session
(Full-Time)

ACE

American College of Education

For more information contact Darryl Brown Darryl.Brown@ace.edu

<https://ace.edu/>

ONLINE BACHELOR'S DEGREE COMPLETION

Education Studies

Launch your career in education with our educational studies program

Turn your passion for education into your career. Our B.A. in Education Studies degree is a fully online, transfer-friendly program that equips you with a solid foundational framework for working in non-licensure educational roles such as academic advisors, paraprofessionals and youth development leaders.

Why ACE?



AMERICAN COLLEGE of EDUCATION®

Your dollar goes further.

Here's the scoop: Tuition at the American College of Education is 50-70%¹ less than other online colleges. What's our secret? We actually don't have one, we just choose to not participate in Title IV federal student loan funding programs, and our online format lowers our overall operating cost. And the best part — we get to pass those savings straight to our students.

We're committed to keeping tuition affordable. To us, affordability isn't just a buzzword — it's a guiding principle.



Let's talk about cost. Transparent, with no hidden fees.

Bachelor's completion under

\$10,000

Master's under²

\$9,500

Doctorate under

\$24,000

A few things you should know about us: <

- In applicable states, our licensure pass rates exceed state averages and are as high as 98 percent.³
- 96% of graduates say their professional skills are stronger after attending ACE.³
- 78% of ACE graduates complete their master's degree in 18 months or less.³
- We offer over 80 doctoral, specialist, master's, bachelor's, and certificate and micro-credential programs.
- ACE's student satisfaction rate is 95%.³
- Our students enjoy access to a range of support technologies, including Tutor.com, our online library and more.



Ranked #2:
America's
Top Online
Colleges⁴

Accredited
By The Higher
Learning Commission

Fully Online
Degree, Certificate and
Micro-credential Programs

Explore our programs and the student experience at

ace.edu

For more information contact

Darryl Brown
Darryl.Brown@ace.edu

American College of Education is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, hlcommission.org. In addition, Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) programs are accredited by the



SC CREATE

Scholarship Sponsored by SCDE

Requirements

Full-time employees in your district who
(a) hold an Associate's degree in any area, or
(b) have completed some college credits, but no degree, or
(c) hold a high school diploma or GED

FREE SPED degree!

- Online course offerings leading to certification in **Special Education**
- Full tuition and textbooks funded through CREATE scholarships as long as participant remains eligible (state employee and good academic standing with grades of C or better)



Contacts:

Dr. Tracy West, twest@columbiasc.edu for next step information

SC CREATE contact jsutton@ed.sc.gov

<https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/special-education-services/projects-and-supports/create/>



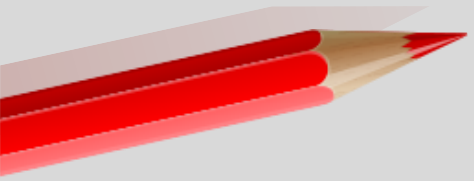
SC CREATE

Scholarship Sponsored by SCDE



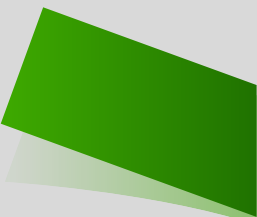
4 things needed:
Application to SC Create
Acceptance letter to university
Program of study
Agreement

Promise to teach in SC district for 3 years.



- Bachelor's Degree in Special Education
Fully online: Columbia College, USCA, Southern Wesleyan, Horry Georgetown/Coastal Carolina
- MAT-recognized for certification (17 courses)
Lander, USC, Frances Marion (LD)
- School Psychologist Ed.S Degree
Fully Online: Frances Marion
- Visual Impaired Degree
Fully Online: USC Upstate
- SLP Master's Degree
Fully Online: USC
- Behavior Interventionist: National Certification (not a teaching certification)
Fully Online: Frances Marion
- Transition Specialist Add-On
 - o 11th and 12th grade SPED students transitioning to college/work industry
 - o PM/Summer: SC State

FREE!



APEC Center Columbia College Alternative Certification

- Bachelor's degree-does not have to be directly related to the area of certification.
- Program leads to certification in one year (four semesters). Participants can complete the Masters in Innovation and Divergent Learning after achieving certification (27 graduate hours are completed during the APEC Program).
- 4 graduate modules along with a work embedded teacher residency are the foundation of the program.
- Dance, Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle Level (all subjects), Secondary Math, Secondary English, and Multicategorical Special Education.
- APEC Fellows receive coaching support and professional development during their first three years of teaching.
- There are tuition costs to APEC Fellows as they also pursue a master's degree but scholarships are available.
- Participants work with a financial aid counselor to develop an individualized plan.
- Apply to the graduate program at CC (columbiasc.edu) and identify the APEC program on the application. Follow up information will be provided by Mr. Ashton Peterson, apeterson@columbiasc.edu

CREATE (Columbia College) Traditional Undergraduate Degree-Fully Online

- Employee does not possess a bachelor's degree
- Online course offerings leading to certification in Multicategorical Special Education
- FREE: Full tuition and textbooks funded through CREATE scholarships as long as participant remains eligible (state employee and good academic standing with grades of C or better)
- Apply to the evening program at CC (columbiasc.edu) and apply to the CREATE program (www.sccreate.org). Once both are completed email Dr. Tracy West, twest@columbiasc.edu for next step information.

Compare APEC and CREATE

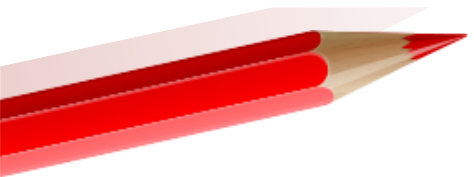
The logo for TeachSC, featuring the text "TeachSC" in white on a blue, torn-edge banner.

TeachSC




Need support with advice on which pathway is best for you?

TeachSC can help!



<https://southcarolina.teach.org/>

Application with South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE)



Applying to the SCDE is a MUST when seeking a teaching certificate.



Good to Know!

- Initial Certificate=First 3 years of teaching
- Induction=First year of teaching, receive a mentor
- Professional Certificate received after successfully completing Induction 1 and ADEPT evaluation for 3 years along with completion of program requirements

Requirements may vary slightly between programs. However, everyone must submit the following to the SCDE:

- Online application
 - Fee of \$105
 - Submit transcripts
 - Fingerprints
- 

<https://ed.sc.gov/educators/certification/apply/>