



ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION SECTION
5215 GORDON PERSONS BUILDING
POST OFFICE BOX 302101
MONTGOMERY, AL 36130-2101
Telephone: (334) 694-4557
[Alabama Achieves](http://AlabamaAchieves.org)

The First Temporary Special Education Certificate (TSEC) Approach 2025-2026 Application and Summary of Requirements

FORM 1SE

This Form 1SE must be completed in conjunction with an employing Alabama county/city superintendent.

PERSONAL DATA					
<i>Legal name as it appears on government-issued identification.</i>					
Title (e.g., Mr.)	First	Middle	Maiden	Last	Suffix
Street/Apt./P.O. Box/Route and Box			City	State	ZIP Code
Email Address		Cell Number		Work Telephone	
Social Security Number	ALSDE ID		Date of Birth (mm-dd-yyyy)		

FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES ONLY		
Ethnic Origin (<i>Choose one</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> (01) Hispanic Latino <input type="checkbox"/> (02) Not Hispanic Latino	Gender (<i>Choose one</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> (F) Female <input type="checkbox"/> (M) Male	Race (<i>Choose one or more, regardless of Ethnicity</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> (01) White <input type="checkbox"/> (02) Black or African American <input type="checkbox"/> (04) American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> (05) Asian <input type="checkbox"/> (08) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

PROFESSIONAL STATUS AND CRIMINAL HISTORY INFORMATION

Check "yes" or "no" for each question below. "YES" responses require an attached explanation and any additional supporting documentation (e.g. court certified copies of judgment, conviction, and sentencing).

READ CAREFULLY

- Yes No Have you ever had any adverse action (e.g. warning, reprimand, suspension, revocation, denial, voluntary surrender) taken against a professional certificate, license or permit issued by an agency **other than the Alabama State Department of Education?**
- Yes No Are you currently the subject of an investigation involving a violation of a profession's laws, rules, standards or Code of Ethics by an agency **other than the Alabama State Department of Education?**
- Yes No Are you currently the subject of an investigation involving sexual misconduct or physical harm to a child?
- Yes No Have you ever resigned from a position rather than face disciplinary action?
- Yes No Have you ever been convicted of, or entered a plea of no contest to a felony or misdemeanor other than a minor traffic violation?
- Yes No Are you the subject of a pending investigation involving a criminal act?

RECORD OF EDUCATION

Degree and Major	Name of College/University	Location	Dates Attended Beginning MM/YY	Dates Attended Ending MM/YY

The Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, sex, religion, national origin, or age in their programs, activities, or employment and provide equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person is responsible for handling inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Title IX Coordinator, **Support Services**, Alabama State Department of Education, P.O. Box 302101, Montgomery, AL 36130-2101, email: supportservices@alsde.edu.

LEA AUTHORIZATION and RESPONSIBILITIES

This application is to be completed for applicants seeking the TSEC and **submitted by the employing Alabama county/city superintendent** directly to the Educator Certification Section of the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE).

My local board of education is willing to participate in the TSEC Approach and has authorized me to employ, as a full-time employee, the applicant for whom this application packet is being submitted, subject to the issuance of a valid alternative certificate. I understand the TSEC will not be issued for the applicant until all eligibility requirements have been met and background clearance has been received. I have established procedures for monitoring the applicant's compliance with the requirements of the TSEC Approach.

If an applicant began an alternative approach **during or prior to the 2020-2021** scholastic year (that is, five or more years ago) and **did not** complete the approach, the applicant may begin an alternative approach again under current requirements regardless of the number of previously held alternative certificates.

I have checked the **current** Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) Courses Application within the AIM Portal to ensure the applicant will be properly certified for each period/block of the day as a Collaborative Teacher, grades 6-12. Although several courses appear in the ALSDE Courses Application within the AIM Portal as proper certification, for purposes of the TSEC, the **only courses** an applicant can be assigned to are those approved specifically for **Collaborative Teacher, grades 6-12**.

I understand failure to appropriately assign the individual will result in the individual's inability to complete the TSEC Approach. **I understand the individual must teach full-time and cannot serve as a facilitator while completing this approach.** I understand failure to appropriately assign the individual will result in an out-of-field penalty assessment for the employing public school system.

All TSECs must be held within four scholastic years from the July 1 beginning date of the first TSEC. An individual completing the TSEC Approach can be employed in a combination of no more than two public school systems while holding the three TSECs. **The required employment experience while holding the TSEC is only applicable for employment with the public school system to which the TSEC is issued.** Although three one-year certificates may be held, individuals who successfully complete **all requirements** in one scholastic year may apply for the Professional Educator Certificate. An individual must complete at least **one full** scholastic year **while holding** the TSEC.

I understand if the individual does not complete this approach in its entirety, the individual cannot begin any other alternative approach for ten years from the date of expiration of the last issued alternative certificate

I understand a TSEC is only valid for employment with the public school system to which the TSEC is issued.

I understand the local education agency (LEA) is required to provide at least four practical field experiences, each lasting a minimum of 3 hours, which the individual must complete.

I understand the Interim Employment Certificate (IEC) Approach must be used for an individual who has been unconditionally admitted to an Alabama Traditional or Alternative Class A Educator Preparation Program for **Collaborative Teacher, grades 6-12**. If the decision is made to transition to this approach or another alternative approach, coursework from the State-approved program cannot be used towards completion of the alternative approach, nor can coursework from the alternative approach be used to complete the State-approved program.

LEA Representative's Initials: _____ I understand a complete application packet can be received in the Educator Certification Section anytime during the current **2025-2026** scholastic year. However, TSEC applications received or postmarked after October 1st of the scholastic year for which the certificate is being sought will not count as a full year of full-time teaching experience. This Section will not combine months or semesters to equate to the full year of full-time teaching experience, which is required for issuance of the Professional Educator Certificate.

LEA Representative's Initials: _____ I am verifying a photocopy of this form, reflecting signatures, has been given to the individual and I have reviewed this document in its entirety for all-inclusive information pertaining to this approach.

I understand the appropriate LEA designees must complete the **Beginning Teacher Alternative Certification Program (Supplement BTA)** form when applying for the Professional Educator Certificate, indicating acceptable performance for individuals who held less than 3 TSECs.

- If the individual's performance indicators denote **more than two** "Growth Needed" or a response of "No" is procured for question 10, the individual will be required to complete another full year of full-time teaching experience (with improvement in those areas) even if all other requirements are met.
- I also understand if the aforementioned indicators are denoted or a response of "No" is procured for question 10, the individual has been provided a copy of Supplement BTA, and documentation of the appropriate mentoring, professional learning, and/or training must be submitted. Since there is a limit on the number of alternative certificates that can be held, the LEA and the individual should be aware of the individual's performance at all times.

LEA Representative's Initials: _____

RECOMMENDATION*To be completed by the employing county/city superintendent.*

I recommend this individual for the Temporary Special Education Certificate for Collaborative Teacher, grades 6-12.

Date_____
Signature of Alabama Superintendent_____
Name of Alabama Local Education Agency**APPLICATION PACKET CHECKLIST FOR THE FIRST TSEC**Required for issuance of the **first** TSEC from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026. *Please check all boxes to indicate you have read and submitted all required items.***Application Forms**

- Submission of Supplement CIT with supporting documentation verifying United States citizenship or lawful presence in the United States.
- Submission of this application Form 1SE.

Nonrefundable Application Fee

- A \$38.00 **nonrefundable** application fee. **Neither personal checks nor cash will be accepted.**
- The fee must be paid by cashier's check **or** money order made payable to the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) or through the [ALSDE Educator Certification Online Payment System](#), with a major credit card, (a transaction fee will be applied).
 - The cashier's check, money order, or copy of the receipt verifying the confirmation number for the online payment must accompany the application packet.

Background Clearance

- Background clearance is based on a fingerprint review.
- For applicants seeking **initial certification, additional certification, or certificate renewal** to teach in Alabama, your criminal history background checks must have been completed by both the Alabama State Bureau of Investigation (ASBI) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). You can check the status of your background checks and confirm whether you meet the state's suitability requirements for teaching at [Certification Search](#).
 - For Applicants who **have not** been cleared by both agencies through the Educator Certification Section of the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), you will need to undergo fingerprinting for a criminal history background check. Details on how to complete the background review process can be found at [Alabama Achieves - Teacher Certification](#). If you have any questions about our criminal history background check process, you can contact us at (334) 694-4557 or bgr@alsde.edu.

Applicants may verify receipt of their criminal history results at the ALSDE by visiting [Certification Search](#). If your results are not located, or you have questions about your status, please allow 10 business days from the date of fingerprint submission before making an inquiry.

Coursework

- Submission of Supplement SE1 completed by the certification officer at the Alabama college or university authorized to provide coursework for this approach:
- indicating *enrollment in at least one* approved course; OR
 - indicating *completion of at least one* approved course.
- See the **COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS** section of this form for specific information.

Professional Learning

- Submission of the applicant's PowerSchool Professional Learning training history verifying **registration for at least two** of the ALSDE-developed Special Education Professional Learning activities. See the **SPECIAL EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL LEARNING** section of this form for specific information and attestation.

Classroom Schedule

- Submission of the individual's schedule from PowerSchool verifying the individual is serving full-time as a Collaborative Teacher, grades 6-12, for each period/block of the day. **The PowerSchool schedule submitted must display the teacher schedule view and is printed from the district office for the current academic year. Courses with zero students enrolled will not be accepted.**
- See the **LEA AUTHORIZATION and RESPONSIBILITIES** section of this form for additional information about the assignment.)

Official Transcripts

- Submission of official transcripts of **all degrees and credits earned**. All degrees and credits must be verified on an official transcript(s) and must be submitted to the Educator Certification Section. At least a bachelor's degree is required to complete this approach, which was earned from a senior institution that was regionally accredited or accredited by the Distance Education Accreditation Commission (DEAC) at the time the degree was conferred.

I, as the designated representative of the LEA who requested the individual's official transcript, am providing a copy of the official transcript(s) **with my signature** attesting to the following:

- I have obtained the official transcript(s) directly from the official transcript provider, **whether by opening or downloading it. (Transcripts that were downloaded by the individual or opened by the individual are not acceptable.)**
- I have reviewed and verified the individual has met the GPA and college/university accreditation eligibility requirements.
 - A bachelor's degree is held, with a minimum overall grade point average (GPA)* of at least 2.50 on a 4.0 scale;

OR

- A master's or higher degree is held, with a minimum overall GPA* of at least 3.00 on a 4.0 scale.

The individual's **current legal** name and Social Security Number or ALSDE ID number must accompany the transcript(s).

LEA Representative's Initials: _____

*The overall GPA must be the GPA used as the basis for granting the degree and posted on the official transcript of the degree-granting institution. An individual who holds a valid Alabama Professional Educator Certificate or Professional Leadership Certificate is exempt from the GPA requirement. **Official transcripts of all credits and degrees earned must be submitted.**

An individual whose degree was earned at a college or university in another country that is not a United States Territory must obtain an evaluation of his/her credentials from a foreign credential evaluation agency approved by the ALSDE. Additional information and a list of approved evaluation agencies may be found at [Alabama Achieves](#) (click *Teachers & Administrators* ∅ *Teacher Center* ∅ *Teacher Certification* ∅ *Other Approaches-Foreign Credentials*).

Teacher Mentor

- Submission of Supplement MVF Verification Form

This form verifies proper mentorship for individuals seeking the Temporary Special Education Certificate.

Mentor Qualifications: A mentor assigned to the individual must hold the following:

- a valid Alabama Professional Educator Certificate in an area of special education AND have at least three full years of full-time professional educational work experience;
- or**
- serve as the Special Education Facilitator/Director with a valid Alabama Professional Educator Certificate in an area of special education

INDIVIDUALS AND LEAs ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE Alabama Teacher Mentor Program (ATMP). Information regarding the ATMP can be found at [Alabama Achieves](#) (click *Teachers & Administrators* ∅ *Teacher Center* ∅ *Teacher Mentor Program*). For questions regarding the ATMP, please email Ms. Kimberly Mitchell at kimberly.mitchell@alsde.edu.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE OF THE SECOND & THIRD TSEC

1. Submission of the Application for the Second or Third Temporary Special Education Certificate Approach by the employing Alabama county/city superintendent.
2. Submission of the *nonrefundable* application fee.
3. Submission of Supplement MVF verifying successful participation in the Alabama Teacher Mentoring Program or meeting mentoring **Option 2** or **Option 3** (*Only required while holding the first and the second certificates*).
4. Submission of individual's schedule from PowerSchool verifying the individual is serving full-time as a Collaborative Teacher, grades 6-12, for each period/block of the day. **The PowerSchool schedule submitted must display the teacher schedule view and is printed from the district office for the current academic year. Courses with zero students enrolled will not be accepted.**
5. **For the Second TSEC: Requirements are to be completed prior to October 1 of the calendar year during which the first TSEC expires:**
 - a. Submission of Supplement SE1 verifying credit earned in **at least two** of the required courses.
 - b. Submission of the individual's PowerSchool Professional Learning training history verifying successful completion of **at least two** of the required Special Education Professional Learning activities.
 - c. Submission of Supplement PFE verifying successful participation in **at least two** of the required practical field experiences (e.g., classroom observation, co-teaching training).
6. **For the Third TSEC: Requirements are to be completed prior to October 1 of the calendar year during which the second TSEC expires:**
 - a. Submission of Supplement SE1 verifying credit earned for **at least four** required courses.
 - b. Submission of the individual's PowerSchool Professional Learning training history verifying successful completion of **at least four** required Special Education Professional Learning.
 - c. Submission of Supplement PFE verifying successful participation in **the four** required practical field experiences (e.g., classroom observation, co-teaching training).

REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE OF THE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE

All requirements must be completed prior to October 1 of the calendar year, during which the TSEC expires.

1. Submission of the Application for the Professional Educator Certificate following the Temporary Special Education Certificate Approach. **This application must be submitted in conjunction with the employing Alabama county/city superintendent.**
 2. Submission of the *nonrefundable* application fee.
 3. Submission of Supplement EXP verifying the individual's full year of full-time teaching experience while holding the TSEC, with the full-time assignment having been teaching only courses for Collaborative Teacher, grades 6-12.
 4. Submission of official transcripts verifying successful completion of **all approved courses as outlined by the authorized Alabama college or university** (*number of courses determined by the institution, see approved listing*).
- Official transcripts must be submitted securely to the Educator Certification Section using **one** of the following options:
- Option 1:** Mailed to the Educator Certification Section in a sealed envelope from the institution.
Alabama State Department of Education • Educator Certification Section • 5215 Gordon Persons Building • Post Office Box 302101 • Montgomery, AL 36130
 - Option 2:** Submitted securely to the Educator Certification Section through electronic transmission by National Student Clearinghouse. **Do not select the ETX option.**
 - Option 3:** Submitted securely to the Educator Certification Section through electronic transmission **from the institution** as an electronic PDF, to certtranscripts@alsde.edu. **Transcripts submitted from an individual, or a personal/business email account will not be accepted.**
5. Submission of the individual's PowerSchool Professional Learning training history of successful completion of **all** required ALSDE-developed Special Education Professional Learning activities.
 6. Submission of Supplement PFE verifying successful participation in the **four** required practical field experiences (e.g., classroom observation, co-teaching training).
 7. Submission of Supplement BTA **Beginning Teacher Alternative Certification Performance** form.
 8. Electronic submission by the testing company of the individual's current passing score on the Alabama-prescribed Praxis subject area test(s) of the AECAP for Collaborative Teacher, grades 6-12. Tests are subject to change, and an individual must meet the subject area test requirement and score in effect on the date the application is received in the Educator Certification Section. See the **TESTING REQUIREMENTS** section of this form for additional information.

COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS

1. Coursework must be completed at an Alabama college/university that has been authorized to provide coursework for the TSEC Approach.
2. All coursework must be completed **at the same Alabama college/university**. Authorized institutions and approved courses can be found at [Alabama Achieves](#) (click *Teachers & Administrators* ⇨ *Teacher Center* ⇨ *Teacher Certification* ⇨ *Alternative Certificates* ⇨ *Special Education Temporary Certificate*).
3. Coursework content areas shall include all the following:
 - a. Survey of Special Education,
 - b. Collaboration/Consultation,
 - c. Methods and Assessment,
 - d. Special education laws, and
 - e. Behavior Analysis/Modification.
4. Coursework completed **ten or more years** prior to the July 1 beginning valid period of the first TSEC **will not** be accepted.
 - a. Courses will only be accepted from an authorized Alabama college/university.
 - b. Courses must be the exact courses on the current approved listing.
 - c. **REMINDER**-All coursework must be completed **at the same Alabama college/university**.
5. Credit must be earned **prior to October 1** of the calendar year during which the TSEC expires. A grade of “C” or above must be earned in each course.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

1. ALSDE-developed Special Education Professional Learning activities must be completed as part of the TSEC Approach.
2. In order to begin the Special Education Professional Learning activities, the individual must:
 - a. Register in the PowerSchool Professional Learning platform, and
 - b. Contact Special Education Services by email at tsec@alsde.edu or by phone at (334) 694-4782 to receive an invitation to register for sessions.
3. Special Education Professional Learning areas shall include all the following:
 - a. Role of a Special Education Teacher, Person First Skills, and ALSDE Special Education Resources,
 - b. Development and Characteristics of Learners,
 - c. Planning and Learning Environment,
 - d. Instruction,
 - e. Assessment, and
 - f. Foundations and Professional Responsibilities.
4. All Special Education Professional Learning activities must be successfully completed **prior to October 1** of the calendar year during which the TSEC expires.

I am verifying that a photocopy of the PowerSchool Professional Learning Training History Report, submitted to the ALSDE:

- **Confirms registration for at least two of the six ALSDE-developed Special Education Professional Learning Activities listed above; and**
- **Includes your signature and the special education facilitator's signature.**

LEA Representative's Initials: _____

For information regarding Special Education Professional Learning activities, contact Special Education Services by email at tsec@alsde.edu or by phone at (334) 694-4782.

TESTING REQUIREMENTS

Individuals must meet current requirements of the Alabama-prescribed Praxis subject area test(s) for issuance of the Professional Educator Certificate. The **current** Alabama-prescribed Praxis-subject area test is Praxis #5355 Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications. A passing score must be attained prior to the **October 1 expiration** date of the four-year window.

1. ONLY Alabama-prescribed Praxis subject area test(s) are accepted.
2. The required subject area test(s) and passing scores for the TSEC may be found at [Praxis](#).
3. For Alabama-prescribed tests taken outside Alabama, the code 7020 is used to designate the Alabama State Department of Education as a recipient of official score reports.
4. **PAPER SCORE REPORTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Only official Praxis score reports, electronically submitted with the individual's complete Social Security number directly from ETS to the ALSDE, will be accepted. Failure to provide the complete and correct Social Security number to ETS will delay the certification process.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION, APPLICATION SUBMISSION, and ATTESTATIONS TO BE COMPLETED
BY THE APPLICANT**

As an individual through the TSEC Approach to certification, I understand:

1. The submission of supporting documents ONLY (e.g., official transcripts) does not constitute making an application for certification. Incomplete forms will delay the review of the file. **APPLICATION FORMS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED BY FAX OR E-MAIL.**
2. The Educator Certification Section is unable to determine eligibility for a TSEC until all required application components have been received and reviewed. Additional information may be requested upon review of the file.
3. I must **thoroughly read** all the requirements of this approach.
4. I must meet all Alabama certification requirements in effect on the date the application is received in the Educator Certification Section. Since certification requirements are subject to change, current requirements may be viewed at [Alabama Achieves | Teacher Center | Teacher Certification](#) (click *Teachers & Administrators* ⇨ *Teacher Center* ⇨ *Teacher Certification* ⇨ *Alternative Certificates* ⇨ *Special Education Temporary Certificate*).
5. I understand meeting requirements for and completing the TSEC Approach leads to a Class B (bachelor's degree level) Professional Educator Certificate in the teaching field of Collaborative Teacher grades 6-12.
6. There is a maximum of three TSECs that can be held. All TSECs, must be held within four scholastic years from the July 1 beginning date of the first TSEC. **An individual must complete at least *one full scholastic year while holding the TSEC prior to applying for the Professional Educator Certificate.**
7. **Applicant's Signature:** _____ I understand a complete application packet can be received in the Educator Certification Section anytime during the current **2025-2026** scholastic year. However, TSEC applications received or postmarked after October 1st of the scholastic year for which the certificate is being sought will not count as a full year of full-time teaching experience. This Section will not combine months or semesters to equate to the *full year of full-time teaching experience, which is required for issuance of the Professional Educator Certificate.
***When the complete application is received or postmarked before October 1st of the scholastic year for which the certificate is being sought, credit for one full scholastic year is earned.**
8. **Applicant's Signature:** _____ I understand if I do not complete this approach in its entirety and as outlined, I cannot begin any other alternative approach for ten years from the date of expiration of the last issued TSEC certificate.
9. **Applicant's Signature:** _____ I have read the Supplement BTA **Beginning Teacher Alternative Certification Program** form and understand the terms. If I hold less than 3 TSECs, within the four scholastic years from issuance of my first TSEC, I must request a **Beginning Teacher Alternative Certification Program (Supplement BTA) Form** from the **current** employing LEA **and** receive successful performance indicators on Supplement BTA form. I also understand if my performance indicators denote more than two "Growth Needed" or a response of "No" is procured for question 10, I will be required to complete another full year of full-time, teaching experience (with improvement in those areas), even if all other requirements are met.
10. **Applicant's Signature:** _____ I understand that obtaining a professional educator certificate requires work experience, but the earned work experience is only applicable to the public school system that requested the TSECs.
11. **Applicant's Signature:** _____ For issuance of my Professional Educator Certificate, I must submit the Application for the Professional Educator Certificate Following the TSEC Approach (Form PFs), and it must be received in the Educator Certification Section by or must be postmarked no later than **October 1, 2029**.
12. I must complete all requirements as outlined in this application; if not, I will not be eligible to continue this approach or attain my Professional Educator Certificate through this approach.
13. I have received a photocopy of this form, reflecting signatures, and I understand what is required to obtain the Professional Educator Certificate through this approach.
14. It is my responsibility to keep all personal data on file in the Educator Certification Section current.
15. By affixing my signature to this document, I am certifying all information pertaining to this application form is true and correct. Failure to submit accurate information may result in the revocation or non-issuance of my certificate.

Date _____ **Signature of Applicant** _____