

## National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Approach

This certification approach is for individuals seeking Alabama certification based on holding a valid National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certificate. ***This is not an application;*** this document provides general information and outlines requirements.

REQUIREMENTS	
	A \$38.00 <b>nonrefundable</b> application fee. Each additional certificate for which an applicant is determined to be eligible will require a \$38 nonrefundable fee for issuance. A transaction fee will be applied.
	Verification of United States citizenship or lawful presence in the United States.
	Background clearance based on a fingerprint review.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For applicants seeking <b>initial certification, additional certification, or certificate renewal</b> 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 <a href="#">Certificate Search</a>.</li> <li>For Applicants who <b>have not</b> 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 <a href="#">Alabama Achieves – Teacher Certification</a>. If you have any questions about our criminal history background check process, you can contact us at (334) 694-4557 or <a href="mailto:bgr@alsde.edu">bgr@alsde.edu</a></li> <li>Applicants may verify receipt of their criminal history results at the ALSDE by visiting <a href="#">Certificate Search</a>. 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.</li> </ul>
	<p>Official transcripts of all degrees and credits earned must be submitted to the Educator Certification Section in a sealed envelope from the institution(s). Official transcripts may also be submitted securely to the Educator Certification Section through electronic transmission by only the transcript services listed below. The applicant's current full name and Social Security number or ALSDE ID must accompany the transcript(s).</p> <p><b>Required Degrees:</b> Official transcript verifying a bachelor's degree earned from a senior institution that was regionally accredited at the time the degree was conferred; <b>AND</b> Official transcript verifying at least a master's degree earned from a senior institution that was regionally accredited at the time the degree was conferred if applying for <b>School Counselor</b> or <b>Library Media</b> certification. If an Alabama Professional Educator or Professional Leadership Certificate is already held, the bachelor's degree transcript is <b>not</b> required.</p>
	<p>Official transcripts may be submitted securely to the Educator Certification Section using one of the following options:</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> 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 36130-2101</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Submitted securely to the Educator Certification Section through electronic transmission by National Student Clearinghouse. <b><u>Do not select the ETX option.</u></b></p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Submitted securely to the Educator Certification Section through electronic transmission <b>from the institution</b> as an electronic PDF to <a href="mailto:certtranscripts@alsde.edu">certtranscripts@alsde.edu</a>.</p> <p>Transcripts submitted from an individual or a personal/business email account will not be accepted.</p>
	Verification of the valid NBPTS certificate <a href="#">NBPTS</a> . The specific discipline(s) in the area(s) of Career and Technical Education, Exceptional Needs Specialist, Music and World Languages must be verified by the NBPTS.
	For Library Media or School Counseling: Verification, on Supplement EXP, of two full years of full-time professional educational work experience in a P-12 school system(s). Professional educational work experience in increments of less than one semester (4.5 months) will not be calculated toward full-time experience.

Discipline	NBPTS Certificate Held*	Comparable Alabama Professional Educator Certificate	Grade Level(s)
<i>If your area of NBPTS certification is not listed, you may still submit your application packet for review.</i>			
Art	Early and Middle Childhood	Visual Arts	P-12
	Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood		
Career and Technical Education	Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood	<i>The specific teaching field must be verified by the NBPTS. **Area to be determined by the State Director of Career and Technical Education</i>	
	Agriculture and Environmental Sciences	Agriscience Education	6-12
	Arts and Communication	Technical Education	6-12
	Business, Marketing and Financial Services	Business/Marketing Education	6-12
	Business, Marketing, Information Management, and Entrepreneurship		
	Community Services	**	6-12
	Decorative Arts and Design	Family and Consumer Sciences Education	6-12
	Engineering, Design, and Fabrication	**	6-12
	Family and Consumer Sciences	Family and Consumer Sciences Education	6-12
	Health Services (a valid license in a registered nursing, paramedical, or approved health specialty is also required)	Health Science	6-12
	Human Services	**	6-12
	Information Systems and Technology, Communications, and the Arts	**	6-12
	Leisure and Recreation Services	**	6-12
	Manufacturing and Engineering Technology	**	6-12
	Natural Resources	Agriscience Education	6-12
	Technology Education	**	6-12
	Transportation Systems and Services	**	6-12
English as a New Language	Early and Middle Childhood	English for Speakers of Other Languages	P-12
	Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood		
English Language Arts	Early Adolescence	English Language Arts	4-8 and 6-12
	Adolescence and Young Adulthood		
Exceptional Needs Specialist	Early Childhood through Young Adulthood	<i>The specific teaching field must be verified by the NBPTS.</i>	
	Deaf/Hard of Hearing	Hearing Impairment	P-12
	Early Childhood	Early Childhood Special Education	P-3
	Gifted and Talented	Gifted	P-12
	Mild/Moderate Disabilities	Collaborative Teacher	K-6 and 6-12
	Severe and Multiple Disabilities	Collaborative Teacher	K-6 and 6-12
	Visual Impairments	Visual Impairment	P-12
Generalist	Early Adolescence	English Language Arts Mathematics General Science General Social Science	4-8
Generalist	Early Childhood	Early Childhood	P-3
Generalist	Middle Childhood	Elementary Education English Language Arts General Science General Social Science Mathematics	K-6 and 4-8
Health Education	Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood	Health Education	6-12
Library Media	Early Childhood through Young Adulthood	Library-Media	P-12

Literacy: Reading-Language Arts	Early and Middle Childhood	English Language Arts	4-8
Mathematics	Early Adolescence	Mathematics	4-8 and 6-12
	Adolescence and Young Adulthood		
Music	Early and Middle Childhood	<i>The specific teaching field must be verified by the NBPTS.</i>	
	Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood		
	Band	Instrumental Music	P-12
	Orchestra	Instrumental Music	P-12
	Vocal	Vocal/Choral Music	P-12
Physical Education	Early and Middle Childhood	Physical Education	P-12
	Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood		
School Counseling	Early Childhood through Young Adulthood	School Counselor	P-12
Science	Early Adolescence	General Science	4-8 and 6-12
	Adolescence and Young Adulthood		
Social Studies-History	Early Adolescence	General Social Science	4-8 and 6-12
	Adolescence and Young Adulthood		
World Languages	Early and Middle Childhood	<i>The specific teaching field must be verified by the NBPTS.</i>	
	Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood		
	French	French	P-12
	Spanish	Spanish	P-12

Applicants are encouraged to read this document in its entirety to ensure requirements are met to apply. To apply through this approach, visit [Alabama Achieves - Teacher Certification](#) (click *Other Approaches: National Board for Professional Teaching Standards*) and follow provided instructions.