I. Mission and Overview

ARC’S MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Connecticut’s Alternate Route to Certification (ARC) Program is to provide a time-condensed pathway to teaching credentials for adults who have a strong desire to become teachers and who possess strong academic and content backgrounds as well as a wide array of life and professional experiences. ARC is a teacher preparation program that is designed to support the learning styles of adults.

Welcome to the Alternate Route to Certification (ARC) Program. Focusing on critical teacher shortage areas, ARC prepares talented adult learners to teach in Connecticut schools. ARC offers* certification in the following areas:

- Secondary Business Education.
- Secondary English.
- Secondary Mathematics.
- K-12 World Languages.
- Pre K-12 Family and Consumer Sciences.
- Pre K-12 Technology Education.
- Pre K-12 Music.

An innovative and challenging program, ARC was created as part of the Education Enhancement Act of 1986. It has been offered since 1988 and is administered by the Connecticut Office of Higher Education. ARC is a non-credit and non-degree program that prepares individuals with expertise in their subject area to become eligible for teacher certification.

ARC candidates bring a wide variety of academic, work, and life experience to classrooms across the state and come from professions such as architecture, medicine, engineering, law, the sciences, and business. Many ARC candidates have worked previously as substitute teachers, private school teachers, and college instructors. Numerous state and local organizations have recognized ARC graduates for their contributions to the teaching profession. Connecticut’s 2007 Teacher of the Year is an ARC graduate. Since 2007, more than 50 ARC graduates have been named District or Building Teacher of the Year, selected for the Presidential Award in Mathematics and Science, and received fellowships or other honors. Still others have become superintendents, district leaders, and administrators.

*ARC reserves the right to cancel or reschedule training to a later program cycle in any subject area depending on hiring patterns, the number of qualified applicants, and availability of student teaching placements. If a subject area cannot be offered, application fees will be refunded to applicants for that subject area.