

Teach in Connecticut

Education & Employment Information Center
Connecticut Office of Financial and Academic Affairs for Higher Education

800/842-0229
www.ctohe.org

If you would like to become a teacher in Connecticut, a variety of preparation options exist. You may start as a paraprofessional or a substitute, or seek admission to a **traditional certification program** offered by one of 16 Connecticut colleges:

- Albertus Magnus College, New Haven
- Central CT State University, New Britain
- Connecticut College, New London
- Eastern CT State University, Willimantic
- Fairfield University, Fairfield
- Mitchell College, New London
- Quinnipiac University, Hamden
- Sacred Heart University, Fairfield
- Saint Joseph College, West Hartford
- Southern CT State University, New Haven
- University of Bridgeport, Bridgeport
- University of Connecticut, Storrs
- University of Hartford, West Hartford
- University of New Haven, West Haven
- Western CT State University, Danbury
- Yale University, New Haven

You also can start at one of the several Connecticut community colleges which offer a **Pathway to Teaching Careers** associate's degree. This program parallels the first two years of study at the Connecticut State University for students who wish to transfer to a four-year degree program. Several **non-traditional programs** also operate in Connecticut and are listed on the following page. You can learn more about any of these programs by contacting the **Education & Employment Information Center**, a statewide clearinghouse operated by the Connecticut Office of Financial and Academic Affairs for Higher Education.

By far, the most **popular certification fields** are elementary and early childhood education, followed by history/social studies and English at the secondary and middle school level. **Teacher shortages**, however, exist in ten fields:

- Bilingual Education PreK-12
- Comprehensive Special Education PreK-12
- English 7-12
- Intermediate Administrator
- Mathematics 7-12
- Remedial Reading and Language Arts 1-12
- Science 7-12
- Speech and Language Pathology
- Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages
- World Languages 7-12

In addition to teachers in these fields, the State of Connecticut seeks more minority educators who currently comprise just seven percent of all Connecticut teachers. The State's **Minority Teacher Incentive Grant** and **Weisman Scholarship Programs** (www.ctohe.org/SFA/pdfs/MTIPForm.pdf) offer financial aid and forgiveness loans to minority undergraduates studying to become teachers.

General Information

www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/Cert/guides/ap_ed_prep_prgms.pdf – A list of approved educator programs in Connecticut by subject.

www.ctcert.org – The Connecticut State Department of Education's portal, "How to Become a Teacher in Connecticut," that explains the teacher certification process.

www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2613&q=321284 – Requirements for out-of-state applicants for Connecticut certification.

Non-Traditional Certification Pathways

- www.ctohe.org/ARC** – The Alternate Route to Teacher Certification (ARC I & ARC II) is an accelerated, non-credit program conducted by the Connecticut Office of Financial and Academic Affairs for Higher Education to attract mid-career professionals into teaching. A minimum of a bachelor's degree and an academic major in the subject you wish to teach are among the application criteria.
- www.bridgeport.edu/academics/graduate/elementaryed/** – University of Bridgeport Graduate Intern Program where coursework is tuition-free.
- www.charteroak.edu/Prospective/Programs/ece_arc.cfm** – Charter Oak State College's Alternate Route to Certification in Early Childhood Education. This is in cooperation with Eastern Connecticut State University, Mitchell College, Fairfield University, Southern Connecticut State University, St. Joseph College, University of Connecticut, and University of Hartford. This certifies qualified applicants to work in settings such as public preschools, Birth to Three Early Intervention services, and public school kindergartens.
- www.education.uconn.edu/departments/teachered/TCPCG.cfm** – University of Connecticut's Teacher Certification Program for College Graduates (TCPCG) master's degree program which entails a four-semester time period beginning with two summer sessions.
- www.newhaven.edu/4601/Education/** – University of New Haven's three campuses in West Haven, Main Campus, Newington High School, and Mitchell College in New London offer graduate classes in education; students participate in a full-time internship. By interning in a school, class tuition is paid by host school, but registration and student teaching fees are required.
- www.sacredheart.edu/pages/3265_fifth_year_internship.cfm** – Sacred Heart University's graduate Intern Program located at the main campus in Fairfield or in Griswold, CT.
- www.sjc.edu/kbutler/Major%20Pages/REACH.html** – St. Joseph's College Reach to Teach accelerated Graduate program. In five semesters, from spring to spring, students complete their secondary certification requirements and earn a professional license to teach in Connecticut's public schools. Students are also able to earn their masters degree in one additional summer.
- www.southernct.edu/specialeducationreading/graduateprograms/** – Southern Connecticut State University Special Education Internship Program; 14-month, 48 credit graduate program, East Lyme Middle School, 31 Society Rd., Niantic, CT 06357, 860-691-1209
- www.teachforamerica.org/about-us/regions/connecticut/#ed** – National Organization that recruits recent college graduates of all academic majors who commit two years of teaching in urban and rural public schools. Certifications offered in world languages, elementary education, secondary English, mathematics, science, social studies, and early childhood.

Early Childhood Education

- www.ctcharts-a-course.org** – Professional pathway for students interested in pursuing early childhood instruction. Website includes programs from the child development associate paraprofessional level to professional degrees. Scholarship information also is included.
- <http://ctearlychildhoodcareerdev.info/>** – Connecticut Early Childhood Interactive Career Map.

Substitute Teaching and Job Information

- www.crec.org/mtr/index.shtml** – Minority teacher recruiting information.
- http://sdeportal.ct.gov/Cedar/WEB/ct_report/CedarHome.aspx** – Connecticut State Department of Education CEDaR (Connecticut Education Data and Research), which provides information on average teachers' salaries, strategic school profiles, No Child Left Behind, CMT and CAPT test information.
- www.csde.state.ct.us/public/csde/publicmenu.asp** – Directory of Connecticut public and non-public schools.
- www.csde.state.ct.us/public/der/teacherrecruitment/index.htm** – State of Connecticut minority teacher recruiting.
- www.ctohe.org/edinfo/pdfs/JobLines.pdf** – Links for jobs in education.

- www.ct.gov/trb/site/default.asp – State of Connecticut Teacher's Retirement Board provides information about public school teachers' retirement benefits. Impacts on individual's Social Security also are covered.
- www.cttech.org – Information about the state's 20 technical high schools. Click on the Job Openings link for part- and full-time positions.
- www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2613&q=321310 – Regulations for substitute teaching.

Veterans

- www.newenglandttt.org/index.htm – Information for the New England Troops to Teachers program, which helps eligible service persons transition from the military to a teaching career.

Paraprofessional Information

- www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2618&q=321752 – Connecticut paraprofessional information and resources.
- www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/circ/circ02-03/c15.pdf – Connecticut requirements for teacher aides or assistants.
- www.ets.org/parapro – Parapro standardized test registration and preparation information.

Financial Aid for Teachers

- <http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/teachercancel.jsp?tab=repaying> – Federal student loan cancellation information for teachers.
- www.studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/TEACH.jsp – Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education, TEACH, grant to benefit new and current teachers.
- <http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/attachments/siteresources/LoanForgivenessv4.pdf> – The Federal Loan Forgiveness for Public Service Employees Program provides for the cancellation of the remaining balance due on eligible federal student loans after the borrower has made 120 monthly payments on those loans under certain repayment plans while employed in certain public service fields such as public safety and health, teaching, library and military service.
- www.aft.org/aftplus/scholarships/index.htm – Information about the American Federation of Teachers union Robert G. Porter Scholars and Union Plus Scholarship Programs.
- www.almaexleyscholarship.org – Alma Exley Scholarship for minority students pursuing accredited teacher-preparation programs in Connecticut.
- www.nea.org/grants/1649.htm – The National Education Association teachers union scholarship and grants page.
- www.ctschoolcounselor.org/scholarship – Sponsored by the Connecticut School Counselor's Association, this is open to Connecticut residents who are matriculated in a program for School Counseling certification. Deadline is October 1.
- www.ctpta.org/NSPTA-Scholarship.html – Connecticut PTA Christa McAuliffe Scholarships for students entering the teaching profession.
- www.cea.org/about/cef/index.cfm – Connecticut Education Foundation scholarships available to minority students and Connecticut Education Association members' children.
- www.ctohe.org/SFA/sfa.shtml#CT_Minority_Teacher_Incentive_Grant – Minority Teacher Incentive Grant and Weisman Scholarship Programs.

Praxis

- www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/Cert/guides/assess_for_cert.pdf – Connecticut Department of Education description of required teacher certification assessments.
- www.ets.org/praxis – Educational Testing Services portal for Praxis tests. Also includes tests-at-a glance, registration and review information.
- www.ctohe.org/edinfo/pdfs/CourseWebsites.pdf – Course Search Websites publication that provides information about non-credit Praxis I review classes in two- and four-year colleges and adult education offices.

Foreign Credentials & Foreign Language Certification

- www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2613&q=321296 – A list of offices that evaluate degrees from outside the United States.
- www.actfl.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=1 – ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) standardized test information for teaching foreign languages in Connecticut.
- www.ets.org/toefl – TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), the standardized test that most colleges require of non-native speakers to take for admission. This test examines student ability to use English in speaking, writing and listening.

Cross Endorsement

- www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2613&q=321288 – Connecticut Department of Education regulations regarding current teachers who wish to become certified in an additional subject.
- www.aces.org/departments/pdsi/arclms.aspx – Library Media Specialist cross endorsement for current teachers through ACES (Area Cooperative Education Services), the Regional Educational Service Center in North Haven.
- www.aces.org/departments/pdsi/downloads/ARCTELL_brochure.pdf – The Alternate Route to Certification for Teachers of English Language Learners or ARCTELL program is a pathway for successful Connecticut teachers to acquire a TESOL or Bilingual endorsement administered through ACES, Area Cooperative Education Services.
- www.albertus.edu/academic/depts/education/literacy-cert.shtml – Albertus Magnus College's Advanced Alternative Preparation (AAP) for Literacy Specialist in Reading/Language Arts Certification cross endorsement program for certified teachers who hold a master's degree.
- www.crec.org/tabs/aarc/index.php – Capitol Region Education Council's (CREC) Special Education Advanced Alternate Route to Certification program.
- www.quinnipiac.edu/x4021.xml – Quinnipiac University's online program for certified teachers to cross endorse in math in middle or secondary education.

Regional Educational Service Centers

The Regional Educational Service Centers (or RESCS) are part of a statewide alliance that serve communities and education professionals in six Connecticut regions. At these Centers, teachers and administrators may enroll in professional development courses and workshops. Other services include preparation for teaching standardized tests, fingerprinting and employment applications for member schools.

- www.aces.org – ACES (Area Cooperative Educational Services) serving Greater New Haven and the south central region.
- www.crec.org – CREC (Capitol Region Education Council) serving Greater Hartford and the north central region.
- www.ces.k12.ct.us – CES (Cooperative Educational Services) serving Greater Bridgeport and the southwestern region.
- www.eastconn.org – EASTCONN, serving Greater Willimantic and the northeastern region.
- www.educationconnection.org – EDUCATION CONNECTION, serving Litchfield and the northwestern region.
- www.learn.k12.ct.us – LEARN, serving Old Lyme and the shoreline region.