



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
TEACHER EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION OFFICE
 5215 GORDON PERSONS BUILDING
 POST OFFICE BOX 302101
 MONTGOMERY, AL 36130-2101
 Telephone: (334) 242-9977 Fax: (334) 242-9998

SUMMARY OF THE CAREER/TECHNICAL ALTERNATIVE BACCALAUREATE-LEVEL CERTIFICATE APPROACH

This approach allows a local board of education or the headmaster of a nonpublic school to employ, as teachers, individuals who have earned at least a bachelor's degree from a senior institution that was regionally accredited at the time the degree was earned. Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificates must be requested by the local superintendent or headmaster who wishes to employ the individual as a full-time employee with the majority of the time assignment in the teaching field and at the grade level of the Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate. This approach requires that the individual hold the first, second, and third Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificates in the same teaching field for three consecutive scholastic years while employed with the same public school system or nonpublic school. Each Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate is issued at the bachelor's degree level only and is valid for one scholastic year (July 1 to June 30). The application packet must be received in the Teacher Education and Certification Office no later than September 30 of the scholastic year for which the certificate is to be valid. An individual may not be employed for more than three years while holding an Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate, a Special Alternative Certificate, a Preliminary Certificate, or any combination thereof.

AVAILABLE TEACHING FIELDS FOR CAREER/TECHNICAL ALTERNATIVE BACCALAUREATE-LEVEL CERTIFICATES

GRADES 6-8 OR 9-12
Agriscience Education Business/Marketing Education Career Technologies Education Family and Consumer Sciences Education Technical Education

Note: Health Science not included due to licensure requirement

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF THE FIRST CAREER/TECHNICAL ALTERNATIVE BACCALAUREATE-LEVEL CERTIFICATE

An individual must:

1. Hold an earned bachelor's or higher degree from a senior institution that was regionally accredited at the time the degree was earned.
2. Provide to the superintendent or headmaster one of the following:
 - a) Written evidence of at least three years (36 months) of full-time work experience, within the seven years immediately preceding the submission date of the application, in business and industry in the teaching field for which certification is sought. The employing superintendent or headmaster must request that the full-time work experience in business and industry be documented by each previous employer using the *Career/Technical Education Employment Verification Form (Form CT EV)*. The State Director of Career/Technical Education will evaluate the work experience submitted to determine if the work experience satisfies the necessary knowledge needed to teach the content standards in the teaching field for which certification is sought; OR
 - b) Official transcripts verifying a minimum of 32 semester hours of credit, earned at a college or university that was regionally accredited at the time the credits were earned, including 19 semester hours of earned upper division credit (i.e., the 32/19 requirement) in the teaching field for which certification is sought. The credits must have been earned prior to September 1 of the scholastic year for which the certificate is to be valid. The State Director of Career/Technical Education will evaluate the transcript(s) to determine if the courses satisfy the necessary knowledge needed to teach the content standards in the teaching field for which certification is sought.
3. Meet the requirements of the Alabama Prospective Teacher Testing Program (see reverse side).
4. Receive background clearance (see Fingerprint Requirements on reverse side).
5. Be recommended by the employing superintendent or headmaster. The application packet must be received in the Teacher Education and Certification Office no later than September 30 of the scholastic year for which the certificate is to be valid.

COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS

No more than twelve semester hours of applicable coursework with a grade of "C" or above must be earned. Coursework shall include the following:

1. Classroom/laboratory management;
2. Course development and evaluation;
3. Strategies for teaching special needs students in inclusive settings; and
4. Methods of teaching at the grade level for which certification is sought.

Courses completed by an applicant after issuance of his/her first Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate with a valid period of July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008, and thereafter must be earned through an Alabama institution. Courses at Alabama institutions that have been approved to meet these requirements may be obtained at internet web site www.alsde.edu. The Teacher Education and Certification Office shall consider courses earned prior to issuance of the first Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate for meeting the specified coursework requirements.

(continued on page two)

These courses must be earned through an Alabama institution with State-approved teacher education programs and the courses must be part of a State-approved teacher education program. The methods course must be earned at an Alabama institution with a State-approved teacher education program at the grade level for which certification is sought. The institution may or may not have a State-approved teacher education program in the area of certification sought by the applicant. The required courses do not have to be taken at the same institution.

Issuance of the second Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate requires verification, on an official transcript, that credit for at least two of the four areas of coursework was earned prior to September 1 of the scholastic year for which the second Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate is to be valid.

Issuance of the third Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate requires verification, on an official transcript, that credit for the remaining two areas of coursework was earned prior to September 1 of the scholastic year for which the third Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate is to be valid.

TESTING REQUIREMENTS

Individuals who are applying for Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificates must meet the requirements of the Alabama Prospective Teacher Testing Program (APTTP) as a precondition for certification.

1. Issuance of the first Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate valid for the 2007-2008 scholastic year requires proof of registration for the two components of the APTTP: (a) basic skills assessments in Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Writing for a test date no later than the May 17, 2008, test date and (b) the prescribed Praxis II subject assessment for a test date no later than the June 14, 2008, test date. Required registration dates for the certificate to be valid for the 2008-2009 scholastic year will be disseminated prior to the 2008-2009 scholastic year.
2. Issuance of the second Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate valid for the 2007-2008 scholastic year requires passing scores on the assessments required in the APTTP: (a) basic skills assessments in Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Writing attained no later than the May 17, 2008, test date and (b) the prescribed Praxis II subject assessment attained no later than the June 14, 2008, test date. Issuance of the second Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate *valid for the 2008-2009 scholastic year* requires passing scores on the three basic skills assessments attained *no later than the May 17, 2008, test date* and a passing score on the prescribed Praxis II subject assessment attained *no later than the June 14, 2008, test date*. **Scores must be submitted directly from the testing companies to the Teacher Education and Certification Office.**
3. Issuance of the third Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate valid for the 2007-2008 scholastic year requires a **current** passing score on the prescribed Praxis II subject assessment attained no later than the June 14, 2008, test date by applicants for the following teaching fields only: agriscience education, business/marketing education, career technologies education, and family and consumer sciences education. **Scores must be submitted directly from the testing company to the Teacher Education and Certification Office.**

Information about the APTTP may be obtained at internet websites www.alsde.edu, or www.act.org/alabamapttp (for basic skills assessments), or www.ets.org/praxis (for Praxis II subject assessments), or by contacting the teacher testing staff in the Teacher Education and Certification Office at (334) 242-9983 or apttp@alsde.edu. Score reports for the basic skills assessments are automatically forwarded by the testing company to the Teacher Education and Certification Office. The code 7020 is used to designate the Teacher Education and Certification Office as a recipient of Praxis II official score reports.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE OF THE SECOND CAREER/TECHNICAL ALTERNATIVE BACCALAUREATE-LEVEL CERTIFICATE

1. Verification of satisfactory completion of the appropriate State Department of Education-approved Career/Technical Education New Teacher Institute prior to September 1 of the scholastic year for which the second Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate is to be valid.
2. Verification of a passing score on a State Board of Education approved occupational proficiency examination in the area that is to be taught. The passing score must be attained prior to September 1 of the scholastic year for which the second Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate is to be valid. *(Required for all individuals whose eligibility for the first Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate was based on work experience in business and industry)*

EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION

Three full consecutive scholastic years of full-time, satisfactory teaching experience (with the majority of the time assignment having been in the teaching field and at the grade level for which the Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate was issued) with the same school system or nonpublic school while holding the first, second, and third Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificates in the same teaching field are required for professional educator certification.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE ISSUED AFTER COMPLETION OF THE CAREER/TECHNICAL ALTERNATIVE BACCALAUREATE-LEVEL CERTIFICATE APPROACH

The individual must make application for the Professional Educator Certificate no later than six months after the expiration date of the third Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificate. Career/Technical Alternative Baccalaureate-Level Certificates for Grades 6-8 or 9-12 lead to the bachelor's degree-level Secondary Professional Educator Certificates for Grades 6-12.

FINGERPRINT REQUIREMENTS

New applicants as well as applicants for additional certification, upgrades, and renewals who have not been cleared by the Alabama Bureau of Investigation (ABI) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) through the Teacher Education and Certification Office must submit two fingerprint cards, a Release Form, a Background Review Consent Form, and a separate \$49 nonrefundable fingerprint fee.

This summary provides general information and is not all inclusive.

Applicants must meet any new requirements in effect on the date the application is received in the Teacher Education and Certification Office for the first and subsequent Alternative Certificate or the Professional Educator Certificate. Certification regulations contained in this information sheet are subject to change.