



Arkansas Department of Education

HOW TO APPLY FOR AN ARKANSAS TEACHING LICENSE THROUGH RECIPROCITY

A. Eligibility

Any applicant possessing a current or expired, standard teaching license from another state or country or any applicant that has completed an out-of-state or out-of-country teacher prep program but has not licensed.

General Requirements

The applicant must complete an application for teacher licensure.

The applicant must complete a background check through the Arkansas State Police and FBI. Checks and forms should be sent to the AR State Police. Instructions and address are on the forms.

The applicant must provide official transcript(s) reflecting the completion of at least a Bachelor's degree (Master's Degree when required) to the Office of Professional Licensure.

The applicant must provide a copy of a current or expired teaching license from another state or country or provide documentation that they are eligible to hold a valid, initial or standard teaching license from another state or country.

The applicant must provide documentation of exam(s) that were required, taken and passed for the out-of-state license. Exam(s) that were required, taken and passed for an Initial or Standard teaching license from another state may be accepted in lieu of exams(s) required for Arkansas teacher licensure in compatible areas.

Verification of teaching experience on school letterhead or form enclosed signed by a school official.

Verification of three years teaching experience may also be accepted in lieu of exam(s) required for Arkansas teacher licensure in compatible

Out-of-state applicants whose current license was granted without professional exams and who do not have three years of teaching experience as a licensed teacher must take and pass the Praxis II Specialty Area Test for all areas of standard licensure and the Praxis II Principles of Learning and Teaching for the appropriate level of teacher licensure. A one-year, non-renewable (1082) provisional teaching license will be available while the applicant clears the required testing. All

other general requirements must be met before the provisional license will be issued.

All standard teaching areas and endorsements being applied for through reciprocity must be compatible/equivalent to Arkansas standard teaching areas and endorsements. All compatible/equivalent, standard teaching areas and endorsements from states with reciprocity agreements with Arkansas will be recognized for Arkansas licensure, provided all other requirements have been met. Incompatible areas will require testing and/or a program of study. Any licensed teacher who has no teaching experience may apply to the Department of Education for mentoring support during the first year of teaching.

All out-of-country applicants must have their credentials evaluated by one of the private evaluation agencies located in the United States. The private evaluation agency must complete a course by course evaluation of the applicant's transcript, indicate the applicant's major area of study and document the applicant's degree is equivalent to one that would have been completed at an institution of higher education in the United States. The private evaluation agency must also document that the professional preparation for teacher licensure out-of-country is equivalent to the preparation required for teacher licensure in the United States and the area of teacher licensure represented by the out-of-country license. A list of private evaluation agencies may be obtained at the ADE website or by request to the Office of Professional Licensure. Web address is arkansased.org.

* All of the documents above should be mailed together to the Office of Professional Licensure.

B. Eligibility

Any applicant with a current or expired, standard teaching license from another state, but who has not graduated from a regionally accredited institution of higher education must make application for Arkansas licensure through the Non-Traditional Teacher Licensure Program.

The applicant must provide official transcript(s) reflecting the completion of at least a Bachelor's Degree (Master's Degree when required).

The applicant must complete a background check through the Arkansas State Police and the FBI. Checks and forms should be sent to AR State Police. The instructions and address are on the forms.

The applicant must meet all licensure requirements as prescribed through the Non-Traditional Teacher Licensure Program for Arkansas licensure.

* The documents should be sent together to Non-Traditional Licensure, 501 Woodlane, Suite 220 C, Little Rock, AR 72201.