

Alternative Educator License Rule (3301-24-10)

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=540&ContentID=1359&Content=47231>

(A) Alternative educator license. The nonrenewable two-year alternative educator license, valid for teaching the subject area named in such license in grades 7 to 12, shall be issued to an individual who is deemed to be of good moral character and who evidences the following:

1. A baccalaureate degree;
2. A major with a GPA of at least 2.5 in the subject area to be taught, or extensive work experience directly related to the area to be taught or a master's degree with a GPA of at least 2.5 in the subject area to be taught;
3. Completion of six semester hours [9 quarter hours] of professional education coursework within the past five years, with a GPA of 2.5, and from a college or university approved to prepare teachers, including:
 - a) Three semester hours in the developmental characteristics of the adolescent through young adult student; and
 - b) Three semester hours in teaching methods, including a supervised field experience; and
4. Successful completion of the State Board of Education-required examination for teacher licensure that measures content knowledge of the subject area for which the alternative educator license is sought. [Praxis II test(s) in content]

(B) The employing school district shall plan for a mentoring program for alternatively-licensed educators, including the following, and shall submit such plan to the Ohio Department of Education:

1. Assistance in acquiring knowledge of the school curriculum, responsibilities for implementing the curriculum, and the instructional resources available for such implementation;
2. Assistance with management tasks; and
3. Assistance in the improvement of instructional skills and classroom management.

(C) Eligibility for a provisional teacher license. a provisional license will be issued to the holder of an alternative educator license upon successful completion of the following:

1. Two years of successful teaching experience under the alternative educator license as verified by the employing school district superintendent;
2. Completion of 12 additional semester hours of professional education course work, with a GPA of 2.5 or above, prior to expiration of the alternative educator license, from a college or university approved to prepare teachers, in the principles and practices of teaching, student development and learning; pupil assessment procedures; curriculum development; classroom management; and teaching methodology; and
3. Successful completion of the State Board of Education examination required for teacher licensure that measures professional knowledge.

(D) After receiving the two-year provisional license, the educator must then meet the teacher licensure standards to transfer from a provisional to a professional license, and then to renew that license.

Alternative Educator Licensure FAQs

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=540&ContentID=1222&Content=50956>

What is an Alternative Educator License?

The two-year, non-renewable Alternative Educator License was created in January 2000 in response to current and expected teacher shortages in grades 7 through 12 and in special education in grades Kindergarten through 12. The Alternative Educator license is a non-traditional route for qualified baccalaureate degree-holders to transition to careers as classroom teachers. Candidates must meet the academic major or work experience requirement, the professional educator coursework requirement and pass the required subject area Praxis II assessment (if applicable) to qualify for this license.

- [Access the **Alternative Educator License - Adolescence to Young Adult 7-12** application.](#)

What grade levels can be taught by teachers with the Alternative Educator License?

The Alternative Educator License is designated for grades 7 through 12 in a specific subject area. School structures vary from district to district. Some districts include sixth, seventh and eighth grades in a middle school. Holders of the Alternative Educator License would be eligible to teach the subject area identified on the license in grades 7 through 12. The Intervention Specialist (Special Education) Alternative Educator License is valid for teaching grades Kindergarten through 12.

How will I know if I am qualified?

You may request an evaluation by submitting an [**Evaluation Request Application**](#) along with the appropriate fee and original, official transcripts to:

Alternative Licensure Consultant
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front St., Mail Stop 105
Columbus, Ohio 43215

You will receive a response within four weeks. If you qualify, you will receive an Alternative Educator License Statement of Eligibility. If you need to meet additional requirements, you will receive an Evaluation Form for Alternative Educator License indicating the additional requirements to be met.

Eligibility for the Alternative Educator License requires successful completion of the necessary coursework and the State Board of Education examination required for teacher licensure that measures subject knowledge (Praxis II). Applicants are required to have the Educational Testing Service report scores directly to the Office of Educator Licensure. Ohio's recipient number is R7945.

A criminal background check through the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCII) as well as the FBI, will be required at the time of application for the license, and issuance of the license will be contingent upon the outcome of this process.

What kind of coursework is required?

Candidates for the Alternative Educator License must have completed a major (30 semester hours or the equivalent) in each subject area for which the license is requested with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on a scale of 4.0 in the subject area identified. Extensive work experience of at least five years in the subject area may be substituted for the academic major.

The candidate must have also completed within the past five years, six semester hours, or the equivalent, of professional education coursework that includes three semester hours in the developmental characteristics of the adolescent through young adult learner and three (3) semester hours in teaching methods. (The methods course must include a supervised field experience.) This coursework must have been completed with a GPA of 2.5 on a scale of 4.0 at a college or university approved to prepare teachers.

What is considered a major?

For the purpose of evaluating the credentials of candidates for alternative routes to teaching, the ODE defines a major as 30 semester hours, or the equivalent, in a single subject area (e.g. algebra, geometry, biology, chemistry, a foreign language).

The teaching areas of Integrated Language Arts, Integrated Science and Integrated Social Studies require 60 semester hours or the equivalent in the teaching area. See the course descriptions for these areas on the self-evaluation form.

Can the coursework be completed at multiple colleges, or does it need to be taken at just one institution?

The coursework can be completed at multiple colleges or universities, but you will need an official transcript from each institution you attended.

Does my coursework need to be taken within a certain amount of time to apply to the alternative educator license?

The candidate must have completed the required six semester hours of professional education coursework within the past five years. A GPA of 2.5 on a scale of 4.0 is also required for this coursework. There are no time restraints on coursework completed as part of a major.

What is considered “extensive work experience?” What type of documentation is needed to verify this work experience?

The work experience referred to in the rule must be directly related to the subject area to be taught. Documentation should include a letter to ODE from the candidate’s employer(s) indicating job titles and areas of responsibility. The letter should appear on official business letterhead and be signed by the employer. In addition, the candidate should provide other supporting materials, such as work samples, publications, reference letters and other materials that would highlight the quality and scope of the “extensive work experience.” This documentation must support at least five years of work experience in the subject area.

Do I have to take a test?

To qualify for the Alternative Educator License for grades 7 through 12, applicants must take the Praxis II examination for the subject area they will be teaching (if applicable) and attain the minimum qualifying score prescribed by the State Board of Education.

Applicants for the Intervention Specialist Alternative Educator License may take the content knowledge test during the life of the alternative educator license.

Can I get an Alternative Educator License if I already have a provisional license, professional license or a permanent certificate?

Yes, you can apply for an Alternative Educator License if the alternative license is in a new subject area and you meet all of the requirements for the Alternative Educator License.

Do I need to get a Conditional Teaching Permit before I get an Alternative Educator License?

No, it is not necessary to receive or teach on a Conditional Teaching Permit prior to receiving the Alternative Educator License.

Contact Information

Office of Educator Licensure
Educator.Licensure@ode.state.oh.us
(614) 466-3593