



How do I become a teacher?

- Teachers in WA must hold a minimum of a **Bachelor Degree** plus a Teaching Certificate.
- Beginning teachers must hold a **Residency Certificate** which is valid for five years.
- After earning the initial certificate and gaining experience in teaching, teachers begin working towards earning the **Professional Certificate**.
- All teachers must be certified in at least one **endorsement** area.
- The **endorsement** area specifies the subjects and grade levels of certification.



Which endorsement area is for me?

- **Preschool - Grade 3** endorsements are granted in these subject areas:
 - Early Childhood Education
 - Early Childhood Special Education
- **Kindergarten - Grade 8** endorsement is granted in the subject area:
 - Elementary Education
- **All Levels: Kindergarten - Grade 12** endorsements are granted in the following subject areas:
 - Health/Fitness
 - Special Education
 - Visual Arts
 - Theatre Arts
 - Dance
 - Library Media
 - Reading
 - Music – Choral, Instrumental, General
 - Bilingual Education
 - English as a Second Language
 - Designated World Languages

For additional information see www.projectteach.org and www.teachwashington.org

- **Grades 4 - 9** endorsements are granted in the subject areas:
 - Middle Level - Humanities
 - Middle Level – Math
 - Middle Level – Science

- **Grades 5 - 12** endorsements are granted in the following subject areas:

○ English/Language Arts	○ Earth Science
○ Science	○ English
○ Social Studies	○ History
○ Biology	○ Mathematics
○ Chemistry	○ Traffic Safety
○ Physics	

- Vocational Instructors must complete a **Vocational Certification** program in one of the following areas:
 - Agricultural Education
 - Family & Consumer Sciences Education
 - Marketing Education
 - Business Education
 - Technology Education

 Can I get more than one endorsement?

- Teachers may hold more than one endorsement, but this is not a requirement for earning the Residency Teaching Certificate.
- For example, Central Washington University’s Des Moines Center offers a double-major program in which graduates earn an endorsement in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education.

For additional information see www.projectteach.org and
www.teachwashington.org

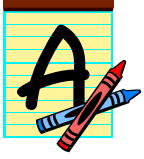


How do I become certified to teach in my endorsement area?

The path to becoming certified to teach in the state of Washington depends on:

1. your current education level
 2. the types of courses you have completed
 3. the endorsement you are seeking.
-
- A. If you are currently a community college student or high school student/graduate, and you are interested in earning an endorsement in **Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education or Elementary Education** go to **page 4, sec A.**
 - B. If you are currently a community college student or high school student/graduate, and you are interested in an endorsement in teaching **Grades 5 -12 (Secondary) or K -12 (All levels)** go to **page 5, sec B.**
 - C. If you have an **Associate** Degree, go to **page 5, sec C.**
 - D. If you have a **Bachelor** Degree, go to **page 6, sec D.**

For additional information see www.projectteach.org and
www.teachwashington.org



Sec A: Are you currently a high school student/graduate, or a community college student AND you are interested in earning an endorsement in **Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education or Elementary Education?**

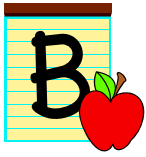
Green River offers an **Associate in Elementary Education Degree**.

Graduates with this degree will be well prepared to transfer into any 4-year University, Elementary Teacher Preparation Program. This degree also fulfills all prerequisite courses for admission to **Central Washington University's Bachelor Degree in Elementary Education, Minor in Science Education** program, which is offered on the Green River campus. For more information see <http://www.projectteach.org/Overview/CWUatGRCC.htm>

If you have already started working toward an **Associate in Arts Degree**, it may not be necessary to switch to the Associate in Elementary Education. With careful planning and the help of your Project TEACH advisor, this degree can also fulfill prerequisite courses needed to enter a university program in **Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education or Elementary Education**. For beginning students and those in their first few quarters of study, the Associate in Elementary Education is the preferable degree.

For additional information see www.projectteach.org and www.teachwashington.org

Information current as of 6/10/08



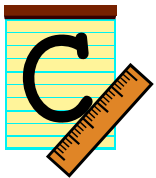
Sec B: Are you currently a high school student/graduate or a community college student AND you are interested in an endorsement in teaching **Grades 5 -12** or **K -12**?

Green River offers several transferable Associate Degrees which prepare students to enter any 4-year University Teacher Preparation Program. You should choose your degree plan based on the endorsement area you are pursuing. Courses must be taken in sequence, so it is important to meet with a Project TEACH advisor early in your college education.

Here are the degree options for Green River students pursuing endorsement in Grades 5 – 12:

- **Associate in Math Education (AM-DTA)**
- **Associate in Biology Education (AS-T)**
- **Associate in Chemistry Education (AS-T)**
- **Associate in Physics Education (AS-T)**
- **Associate in General Science Education (AS-T)**
- **Associate in Arts (AA-DTA)** *for all subjects other than math & science*

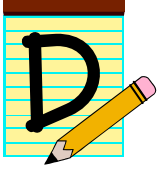
Secondary Science & Math teachers are currently in high demand locally and nationally.



Sec C: Do you have an Associate Degree AND you are interested in earning a Residency Teacher Certificate?

Graduates with an Associate Degree, need to earn a Bachelor Degree from a 4-year University with a Teacher Preparation Program in order to become certified to teach. Find a university that offers teacher preparation in the endorsement area you are seeking. Contact the university's admissions office and request their admissions requirements. Some universities require specific lower level courses which you can take at your local community college if you have not already taken these courses as part of your Associate Degree.

For additional information see www.projectteach.org and www.teachwashington.org



Sec D: Do you have a Bachelor Degree AND you are interested in earning a Residency Teacher Certificate?

Graduates of a Bachelor degree program have three different routes to earning the Residency Certificate:

- **(2nd) Bachelor Degree w/ certification**
- **Master in Teaching w/ certification**
- **Certification only**

The best route for you depends on which courses you have taken as part of your undergraduate degree and how closely your current degree aligns with the endorsement you are seeking. Contact the Admissions or the Education Department at a university which offers your endorsement of interest. After reviewing your transcript the university will be able to advise you of any admissions requirements you are lacking. In some cases, applicants holding degrees may need to take additional courses before being admitted to the university's teacher preparation program.

There are several local University programs offering Bachelor, Master and/or Teacher Certification programs. A current listing can be found on the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction website.

<http://www.k12.wa.us/certification/colleges/EndTablebySubject.PDF>

For additional information see www.projectteach.org and
www.teachwashington.org

Information current as of 6/10/08