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# Expedited teaching certificates

## Conditional teacher certificate

### Overview

The Conditional Teacher Certificate authorizes internationally educated teachers to teach professionally while completing the requirements for an Interim Professional Certificate. It is intended for those whose credentials have been assessed by the Office of the Registrar at Alberta Education and Childcare and who have been deemed eligible. It will allow those who plan to teach while completing the requirements for an Interim Professional Certificate to be employed in a teaching position in Alberta.

### Eligibility

You may be eligible if you have:

- Completed an acceptable teacher preparation program outside Canada
- Met residency requirements with the right to work in Canada
- Had your credentials assessed by Alberta Education and Childcare
- Been identified as requiring additional coursework to meet Interim Professional Certificate requirements
- Proof of legal right to work in Canada

Holders must complete:

- A Bachelor of Education or equivalent coursework in Alberta, as prescribed by the Registrar, while teaching under this certificate

### Teacher preparation program requirements

An acceptable program generally includes:

- A degree from an approved or accredited institution
- A teacher preparation program that includes:
  - Supervised student teaching practicum
  - Teacher pedagogy coursework
  - Program recognition in the jurisdiction where it was completed

Credential acceptance cannot be confirmed in advance, as each application is assessed on a course-by-course basis. More information on specific requirements: [Teacher certification | Alberta.ca](#)

### Application timing

You may apply at any time, but:

- Proof of legal right to work in Canada is required before assessment begins
- Processing begins only once your file is complete
- Credential assessment may take time once all documents are received

### How to apply

Applicants must first apply for an Interim Professional Certificate and then complete the certification process through TWINS (Teacher Workforce Information System).

Application steps include:

- Creating a [TWINS account](#)
- Completing and submitting an Interim Professional Certificate application along with all required supporting documents and paying fees
- Uploading identity documents
- Providing a criminal record check (with vulnerable sector check)

- Completing required pre-certification courses:
  - Teaching Quality Standard
  - Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers and Teacher Leaders
- Submitting course results via email with TWINS reference number
- Tracking application status through TWINS

Once assessment is complete:

- A written assessment is issued by email
- Eligible applicants receive either:
  - Interim Professional Certificate (issued by mail), or
  - Conditional Teacher Certificate (issued by email)

Processing time may take up to 20 business days for incoming documents, and up to 120 business days for credential assessment (once file is complete).

Applicants who have already applied for an Interim Professional Certificate, but who have not yet received a letter of assessment from Alberta Education and Childcare, will automatically have their file reviewed to determine eligibility for a Conditional Teacher Certificate.

Applicants who have applied and received a letter of assessment from Alberta Education and Childcare within the past three years can contact the Office of the Registrar at [teacher.certification@gov.ab.ca](mailto:teacher.certification@gov.ab.ca) and request that their file be reassessed for no additional fee.

## Required documents

- Interim Professional Certificate application (Out-of-Country pathway)
- Identity documents
- Criminal record check with vulnerable sector check
- Credential assessment documentation (submitted through TWINS process)
- Pre-certification course results

## Validity and extensions

The Conditional Teacher Certificate is valid for three years. It may be reissued or extended if:

- The applicant provides proof of progress toward Interim Professional Certificate requirements
- There is a recommendation from an Alberta school authority
- Updated evidence of course completion progress is submitted to the Registrar

## Teaching scope

The Conditional Teacher Certificate is not limited to a subject or grade. It authorizes teaching Kindergarten to Grade 12. Assignments are determined by the employing school authority, and the scope of practice is the same as Interim and Permanent Professional Certificates.

## Pay scale

Teachers in public, separate and francophone school authorities are paid under collective agreements based on education and experience.

- A TEBA–ATA Letter of Understanding confirms Conditional Teacher Certificate holders are paid no less than Category 4 on the salary grid
- Teaching experience is credited as it is accrued
- The Teacher Qualifications Service evaluates credentials for salary placement (separate from Alberta Education and Childcare). For further information visit: [Teacher Qualifications Service | Alberta Teachers' Association](#)

Teachers in charter and independent schools negotiate pay through their individual employment agreements.

## Teaching in other provinces

This certificate authorizes teaching only in Alberta. Other provinces and territories may have other certification standards and requirements that must be confirmed with their respective regulators.

### **Employment considerations**

- Employment decisions are made by school authorities based on local needs
- Coursework or training requirements must align with post-secondary and Registrar requirements
- Applicants should coordinate with their employer when planning work and with the Office of the Registrar for certification pathways
- Proof of progress in completing remaining coursework will be required to determine continued eligibility to hold certification

### **Transition to Interim Professional Certification**

When issued, the Interim Professional Certificate replaces the Conditional Teacher Certificate. An Interim Professional Certificate:

- Is valid for three years
- Authorizes teaching in Alberta-accredited schools
- May be issued once all requirements in the assessment letter are met

A Conditional Teacher Certificate is not required to obtain an Interim Professional Certificate.

### **Letters of authority (transition note)**

The Conditional Teacher Certificate replaces the former letter of authority for internationally educated teachers.

- Individuals previously working under a letter of authority may be reassessed for Conditional Teacher certification
- Applicants with partial completion of Conditional Teacher Certificate requirements may be transitioned based on a review conducted by the Registrar's Office to determine eligibility
- Each application is reviewed individually to determine eligibility to hold teaching authority
- Applicants with questions about obtaining an Interim Conditional Teacher Certificate can email [teacher.certification@gov.ab.ca](mailto:teacher.certification@gov.ab.ca) for information

### **Counting teaching experience**

Teaching under a Conditional Teacher Certificate counts toward the Permanent Professional Certificate requirement:

- Full-time teaching in Alberta-accredited schools counts toward the equivalent of two school years (approximately 400 full-time teaching days) that is required
- Instruction must occur under approved, authorized or prescribed programs under the *Education Act*