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# Expedited teaching certificates

## Developmental teacher certificate

### Overview

The Developmental Teacher Certificate allows eligible students in the final year of an Alberta Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) program to work as teachers while completing their degree. It is intended for individuals who plan to teach and have secured or are seeking employment in a teaching role.

### Eligibility

You may apply if you:

- Are enrolled in the final year of an Alberta B.Ed. program (fourth year of a four-year degree or second year of a two-year after-degree program)
- Have completed at minimum all required teaching practicums except the final student teaching practicum
- Are intending to pursue a teaching career and seeking teaching employment before graduation

You are considered in your final year when you have completed:

- 90 of 120 credits (four-year program), or
- 30 of 60 credits (after-degree program)

### If you do not complete your B.Ed.

You are not eligible to continue teaching under the certificate if you leave the program. You must notify Alberta Education and Childcare at [teacher.certification@gov.ab.ca](mailto:teacher.certification@gov.ab.ca).

Extension requirements include:

- Continued enrolment in final year
- Employer recommendation (if applicable)
- Evidence of academic progress
- Updated transcript and Dean of Education's confirmation of enrolment

### Application timing

You may apply upon entering the final year of your B.Ed. program. Applications can be submitted anytime during the final year if eligibility is met. The certificate is valid for one year from issuance, so timing should be planned accordingly.

### How to apply

Applicants must first apply for an Interim Professional Certificate, then apply for a Developmental Teacher Certificate through TWINS (Teacher Workforce Information System).

Application steps include:

- Creating a [TWINS account](#)
- Completing and submitting an Interim Professional Certificate application and paying fees
- Uploading identity documents
- Providing criminal record check (with vulnerable sector check)
- Requesting documents from your university:
  - Dean of Education's written confirmation of enrolment (sent directly)
  - Official transcript (sent directly)
- Completing required pre-certification courses on:
  - Teaching Quality Standard
  - Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers and Teacher Leaders
- Submitting course results and tracking status in TWINS

Processing time may take up to 20 business days once all documents are received.

## Required documents

- Interim Professional Certificate application
- Dean of Education confirmation of enrolment (sent directly)
- Official transcript confirming final-year status and practicum completion status
- Criminal record check with vulnerable sector check
- Pre-certification course completion results

## Validity and extensions

A Developmental Teacher Certificate is valid for one year from the date it is issued, with the possibility of one 120-day reissuance or extension, provided that there is a recommendation from an employing school authority.

## Teaching scope

The Developmental Teacher Certificate is not limited to a subject or grade. It authorizes teaching Kindergarten to Grade 12 under the *Education Act*. 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 according to collective agreements based on education and experience.

- A TEBA–ATA Letter of Understanding confirms that Developmental 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 have separate certification requirements that must be confirmed with their respective regulators.

## Practicum considerations

There may be circumstances where an individual with a Developmental Teacher Certificate is on a practicum.

- Practicums must follow post-secondary program requirements
- School authorities determine staffing based on local needs and will require coordination with post-secondary institutions regarding final practicum arrangements, while employed as a teacher
- Students should consult both their post-secondary institution and potential employer for guidance on employment while completing their studies