

Initial Teaching Certification Programs

(This disclosure applies to the Bachelor of Science in Education and Bachelor of Art in Music with Teacher Certification programs)

The initial teaching certification programs at Georgia Southwestern State University (GSW) are designed to prepare students for certification in the state of Georgia and are approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC), 200 Piedmont Avenue SE, Suite 1716, West Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334-9032. Successful completion of one of GSW’s programs plus passing scores on related GaPSC-approved Content Pedagogy and GACE Content Assessments leads to eligibility for a Level 4 induction certification.

Effective July 1, 2024, federal regulation requires institutions of higher education to make a determination whether a Title IV eligible academic program that leads to professional licensure or certification meets the educational requirements for licensure/certification in the U.S. State where the institution is located and the U.S. States where “distance education” students are located at the time of initial enrollment in the program, as well as U.S. States where the program is advertised as meeting such requirements, and if applicable, the U.S. State where students attest they intend to be licensed/certified.

Generally, the educational requirements are met when a student earns a degree from an accredited institution and passes associated tests or assessments. However, most jurisdictions require applicants already possess a license or certificate from the state where they completed their degree to be eligible. Additional conditions must often be met (*e.g.*, a minimum GPA or specific professional development), and applications may require minimum scores on licensure exams, background checks, etc. Each state board, agency, or department has the ultimate authority and discretion to determine whether professional licensure or certification will be issued.

The table below indicates, for each state or territory, whether GSW's programs meet or do not meet the educational requirements for initial licensure or whether GSW has been unable to determine if the programs meet the state requirements. This disclosure does not provide any guarantee that any particular state entity will approve or deny application. Please review the table below closely to determine if the programs meet the educational requirements in the state in which you reside or intend to seek licensure.

U.S. State or Territory	Regulatory Body	Contact	Website URL	Meets educational requirements
Alabama	Alabama State Department of Education	(334) 694-4900	https://www.alabamaachieves.org/teacher-center/teacher-certification/	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.
Alaska	Alaska Department of Education & Early Development - Teacher Certification Office	(907) 465-2831	https://education.alaska.gov/Teacher Certification	Yes – for the initial provisional 2-year certificate.
Arizona	Arizona Department of Education	(602) 542-4367	https://www.azed.gov/educator-certification/	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.
Arkansas	Arkansas Department of Education	(501) 682-4342	https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Offices/educator-effectiveness/become-an-arkansas-teacher	yes – for a provisional license.

U.S. State or Territory	Regulatory Body	Contact	Website URL	Meets educational requirements
California	California Commission on Teacher Credentialing	(916)-319-0800	https://www.ctc.ca.gov/	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.
Colorado	Colorado Department of Education Licensing Office	(303) 866-6600	https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof	Yes – must hold or qualify to hold a certificate in Georgia
Connecticut	Connecticut State Department of Education Bureau of Certification	(860) 713-6969	https://portal.ct.gov/sdecertification?language=en_US	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.
Delaware	Delaware Department of Education	(302) 735-4000	https://www.doe.k12.de.us/certification	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.
District of Columbia	District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education	(202) 727-6436	https://osse.dc.gov/ed-credentials	Yes
Florida	Florida Department of Education	(800) 445-6739	www.fldoe.org/teaching/certification	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.
Georgia	Georgia Professional Standards Commission	(404) 232-2500	https://www.gapsc.com/	Yes
Hawaii	Hawaii Teacher Standards Board	(808) 586-2600	https://hawaiiteacherstandardsboard.org/	Yes – for a provisional license
Idaho	Idaho State Department of Education	(208) 332-6800	https://www.sde.idaho.gov/cert-psc/cert/	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.
Illinois	Illinois State Board of Education	Springfield: (217) 782-4321 Chicago: (312) 814-2220	https://www.isbe.net/educatorlicense	Yes – applicant must have specific coursework addressing methods for teaching exceptional children, reading methods, content area reading, and methods of teaching English learners.
Indiana	Indiana Department of Education Office of Educator Licensing	(317) 232-9010	https://www.in.gov/doe/educators/educator-licensing/	No – unable to determine
Iowa	Iowa Board of Educational Examiners	(515) 281-5294	https://educate.iowa.gov/educator-licensure	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.

U.S. State or Territory	Regulatory Body	Contact	Website URL	Meets educational requirements
Kansas	Kansas State Department of Education	(785) 296-2288	https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Teacher-Licensure-TL	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.
Kentucky	Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board	(502) 564-4606	http://www.epsb.ky.gov/course/view.php?id=3	No
Louisiana	Louisiana Department of Education	(877) 453-2721	www.teachlouisiana.net	Yes – for a 3-year Out-of-State (OS) certificate.
Maine	Maine Department of Education	(207) 624-6600	https://www.maine.gov/doe/cert	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.
Maryland	Maryland State Department of Education	(410) 767-0100	https://marylandpublicschools.org/about/pages/dee/certification/index.aspx	Yes
Massachusetts	Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education - Office of Educator Licensure	(781) 338-3000	http://www.doe.mass.edu/licensure/	Yes
Michigan	Michigan Department of Education	(833) 633-5788	https://www.michigan.gov/mde/Services/ed-serv/ed-cert	Yes
Minnesota	Minnesota Professional Education Licensing and Standards Board	(651) 539-4200	https://mn.gov/pelsb/aspiring-educators/	No – unable to determine
Mississippi	Mississippi Department of Education	(601) 359-3483	https://www.mdek12.org/OEL	Yes
Missouri	Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education	(573) 751-0051	https://dese.mo.gov/educator-quality/certification	No
Montana	Montana Office of Public Instruction	(406) 444-3150	https://opi.mt.gov/Educators/Licensure/Educator-Licensure	Yes – must complete the free online course “An Introduction to Indian Education for All in Montana.”
Nebraska	Nebraska Department of Education	(402) 471-2295	https://www.education.ne.gov/tcert/	No
Nevada	State of Nevada Department of Education	Carson City: (775) 687-9115 Las Vegas: (702) 486-6458	https://doe.nv.gov/Educator_Licensure/	No

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New Hampshire	New Hampshire Department of Education Bureau of Credentialing	(603) 271-3494	https://www.education.nh.gov/who-we-are/division-of-educator-support-and-higher-education/bureau-of-credentialing	No – unable to determine
New Jersey	State of New Jersey Department of Education	(609) 292-2070	https://www.nj.gov/education/certification/	No
New Mexico	New Mexico Public Education Department	(505) 827-5800 Option 1 or 2	https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/licensure/	Yes
New York	New York State Department of Education Office of Teaching Initiatives	(518) 474-3901	http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/	No – unable to determine
North Carolina	North Carolina Department of Public Instruction	(919) 716-1800	https://www.dpi.nc.gov/educators/educators-licensure	Yes
North Dakota	North Dakota Education Standards and Practices Board	(701) 328-9641	https://www.nd.gov/espb/licensure	No
Ohio	Ohio Department of Education	(877) 644-6338	https://sboe.ohio.gov/educator-licensure	No
Oklahoma	Oklahoma State Department of Education	(405) 521-3337	https://sde.ok.gov/teacher-certification	No – unable to determine
Oregon	Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission	by appointment only; see URL link	https://www.oregon.gov/tspc/LIC/Pages/default.aspx	No
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Department of Education	(717) 787-3356	https://www.education.pa.gov/Educators/Certification/Pages/default.aspx	Yes – applicants must have a minimum GPA.
Rhode Island	Rhode Island Department of Education	(401) 222-4600	https://ride.ri.gov/teachers-administrators/educator-certification	Yes
South Carolina	South Carolina Department of Education	(803) 734-8500	https://ed.sc.gov/educators/certification/	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.
South Dakota	South Dakota Department of Education	(605) 773-3134	https://doe.sd.gov/certification/	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.
Tennessee	Tennessee State Board of Education	(615) 741-5158	https://www.tn.gov/education/educators/licensing.html	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.

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Texas	Texas Education Agency	(512) 936-8400 Option 2	https://tea.texas.gov/texas-educators/certification	No
Utah	Utah State Board of Education	(801) 538-7740	https://schools.utah.gov/licensing	Yes – must hold an existing certificate/license.
Vermont	Vermont Agency of Education	(802) 828-3440	https://education.vermont.gov/educator-licensure	Yes
Virginia	Virginia Department of Education	(804) 786-2302	https://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching-learning-assessment/teaching-in-virginia/licensure	Yes – additional training modules required.
Washington	Washington State Professional Educator Standards Board	(360) 725-6275	https://www.pesb.wa.gov/	Yes
West Virginia	West Virginia Department of Education	(304) 558-7010	https://wvde.us/certification/certification-info/	Yes
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction	(800) 266-1027	https://dpi.wi.gov/licensing	No
Wyoming	Wyoming Professional Teaching Standards Board	(307) 777-7291	https://wyomingptsb.com/licensure/becoming-licensed/	Yes – must be eligible for a certificate in Georgia.
American Samoa	American Samoa Department of Education	(684) 633-5237 or 5238	https://www.amsamoadoe.com/	No – unable to determine
Guam	Guam Commission for Educator Licensure	(671) 735-2554	https://gcec.guam.gov/	Yes – for a 3-year non-renewable initial certificate.
Federated States of Micronesia	FSM Department of Education	(691) 320 2609	https://www.national.doe.fm/teacher-certification/	No – unable to determine
Marshall Islands	Republic of Marshal Islands Ministry of Education	(692) 625-5262 (692) 625-5261	https://pss.edu.mh/	No – unable to determine
Northern Mariana Islands	CNMI State Board of Education	(670) 237-3061	https://www.cnmipss.org/state-boe-certification	No – unable to determine
Palau	Palau Ministry of Education	(680) 488-6425	http://moe.epsolutions.pw/	No – unable to determine
Puerto Rico	Puerto Rico Department of Education	(787) 759-2000	https://de.pr.gov/	No – unable to determine

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US Virgin Islands	Virgin Islands Board of Education	St Croix: (340) 772-4144 St Thomas: (340) 774-4546	https://myviboe.com/	Yes

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