

R7-2-607. General Certification Provisions

- A. The evaluation to determine qualification for certification shall not begin until an institutional recommendation or application for certification and official transcripts, and the appropriate fees have been received by the Department. Course descriptions, verification of employment, and other documents may also be required for the evaluation.
- B. The effective date of a new certificate shall be the date the evaluation is completed by the Department. The effective date of a renewed certificate shall be the date the evaluation for renewal is completed by the Department.
- C. All one-year certificates shall expire one year from the date of issuance. All certificates issued for more than one year shall expire on the date of issuance in the year of expiration.
- D. If an applicant has not met all the requirements for the certificate or endorsement at the time of evaluation, the applicant shall have a maximum of 60 days to complete those requirements and request re-evaluation.
- E. Only those degrees awarded by an accredited institution shall be considered to satisfy the requirements for certification.
- F. Professional preparation programs, courses, practica, and examinations required for certification shall be taken at an accredited institution or a Board-approved teacher preparation program.
- G. Only those courses in which the applicant received a passing grade or credit shall be considered to satisfy the requirements for certification.
- H. All certificates issued by the Board before the effective date of this Article are considered to have been issued in conformance with these rules.
- I. The Board shall issue a comparable Arizona certificate, if one has been established by R7-2-608, R7-2-609, R7-2-610, R7-2-611, R7-2-612, or R7-2-613, and shall waive the requirements for passing the comparable professional knowledge, subject knowledge, and performance portions of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment, to an applicant who holds current comparable certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

- J. Teachers in grades ~~seven through 12~~ six through 12 whose primary assignment is in an academic subject required pursuant to R7-2-301, R7-2-302, R7-302.01 and R7-302.02 shall demonstrate proficiency by passing the appropriate subject area portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment. The subject areas of demonstrated proficiency shall be specified on the certificate. If a proficiency assessment is not offered in a subject area, an approved area shall consist of a minimum of 24 semester hours of courses in the subject.
- K. If a language assessment is not offered through the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment, a passing score on a nationally accredited test of a foreign language approved by the Board may demonstrate proficiency of that foreign language in lieu of the 24 semester hours of courses in that subject.
- L. A teacher's language proficiency in a Native American language shall be verified by a person, persons, or entity designated by the appropriate tribe in lieu of the 24 semester hours of courses in that subject.
- M. Teachers of homebound students shall hold the same certificate that is required of a classroom teacher.
- N. Fingerprint clearance cards shall be issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
- O. A person who surrenders their teaching certificate for any reason shall not submit an application for certification with the Board for a period of five years. A person re-applying after the five-year ban must apply under the current rules at the time of re-application.

R7-2-610. Secondary Teaching Certificates

- A. Except as noted, all certificates are subject to the general certification provisions in R7-2-607 and the renewal requirements in R7-2-619.
- B. Provisional Secondary Certificate - ~~grades seven through 12~~ grades six through 12
1. The certificate is valid for three years and is not renewable but may be extended as set forth in R7-2-606(H) or (I).
 2. The requirements are:
 - a. A bachelor's degree,
 - b. One of the following:

- i. Completion of a teacher preparation program in secondary education from an accredited institution or a Board-approved teacher preparation program, described in R7-2-604; or
 - ii. Thirty semester hours of education courses which teach the knowledge and skills described in R7-2-602, including at least eight semester hours of practicum in grades ~~seven through~~ six through 12. Two years of verified teaching experience in grades ~~seven through~~ postsecondary six through postsecondary may substitute for the eight semester hours of practicum; or
 - iii. A valid secondary certificate from another state.
- c. A passing score on one or more subject knowledge portions of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment;
 - d. A passing score on the professional knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment; and
 - e. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

C. Standard Secondary Certificate - grades ~~seven through 12~~ six through 12

- 1. The certificate is valid for six years.
- 2. The requirements are:
 - a. A provisional secondary certificate;
 - b. A passing score on the performance portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment. If a performance portion of the Proficiency Assessment has not been adopted by the Board, two years of verified full-time teaching experience may be used to fulfill this requirement; and
 - c. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
- 1. Specialized Secondary Certificate – Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics – grades seven through 12
- 2. The certificate is valid for six years.
- 3. The requirements are:
 - a. A bachelor's degree;

- b. Completion of training in structured English immersion as prescribed by the Arizona State Board of Education;
- c. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
- d. One of the following options:
 - i. Option A – Postsecondary teaching experience – science, technology, engineering or mathematics
 - (1) Have taught science, technology, engineering or mathematics courses for the last two consecutive years, and for a total of at least three years, at one or more regionally or nationally accredited public or private postsecondary institutions, to be demonstrated by providing written proof of employment from each applicable qualifying postsecondary institution, including specific durations of employment and the nature of the teaching assignment; and
 - (2) A baccalaureate degree, a master's degree or a doctoral degree in an academic subject that is specific to science, technology, engineering or mathematics or a passing score the professional knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment.
 - ii. Option B – Work experience – science, technology, engineering or mathematics:
 - (1) Have ten or more years of work experience in science, technology, engineering or mathematics, to be demonstrated by providing written proof of employment from each applicable employer, including specific durations of employment and the nature of the assignment; and
 - (2) Demonstrate adequate subject matter knowledge through either:
 - a) A baccalaureate degree, a master's degree or a doctoral degree in an academic subject that is specific to science, technology, engineering or mathematics;
 - b) Twenty-four hours of relevant coursework in an academic subject that is specific to science, technology, engineering or mathematics; or

- c) A passing score the professional knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment.