

Professional Certification

Georgia Certification

Professional certification or licensure is required in Georgia for teachers, administrators, and some support fields. Proof of certification or eligibility for certification must be provided to Carroll County at the time of hire. Acquiring certification is the responsibility of the professional. The Georgia Professional Standards Commission evaluates eligibility for professional certification. If you are a certified educator from another state, and you do not currently meet Georgia requirements for certification, the GAPSC will usually honor your certificate for one year in order that you may meet these requirements. For exceptions to this reciprocity, or further information regarding Georgia professional certification, you may contact the GAPSC at www.GAPSC.com.

Teach for Georgia Alternative Certification Program

If you are a professional with a bachelor's degree in any field from an accredited college or university and are interested in seeking teaching certification, the *West Georgia Regional Alternative Route to Certification Program (ARTCP)* is designed for you! To qualify for the program, candidates must complete the following:

- Hold a baccalaureate degree (or higher) from an accredited college/university
- GPA of 2.5 or higher
- Pass the GACE Basic Skills Assessment and GACE Content Assessment
- Obtain recommendation from a school system for hire
- Receive clearance through positive screening of criminal background check
- Pay all fees involved

For additional information regarding program requirements, contact www.garesa.org.

National Board Teacher Certification

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is the training agency for national teacher certification. In order to qualify for the program, teachers must hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution, have three or more years' experience in the teaching profession, and hold a valid Georgia certificate.

National Board Certified teachers are eligible in Georgia for the following (O.C.G.A. 20-2-212.2):

- 10% increase in state salary when working fulltime in a "needs improvement school as identified by the Georgia Department of Education
- Reimbursement of \$2,000 NBPTS certification fee
- Granted two days of professional leave
- Georgia certification renewed for all clear renewable funds during validity of the educator's NBPTS certificate
- NBPTS certified teachers usually meet Georgia reciprocity requirements for teachers certified in other states

For more information on national teacher certification, please contact the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards at www.nbpts.org, www.GADOE.com, or the following Candidate Subsidy Program Administrator:

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