



Alternative Early Childhood and Elementary Program

The Alternative Early Childhood and Elementary Program is for the areas of **Early Childhood** and **Elementary Education**.

This program is **not** for special education or secondary/PK-12 teaching areas.

This program can only be completed **in cooperation with an accredited Oklahoma school district**. Once started, it requires **three full school years** of mentorship/instructional coaching provided by the employing school district.

»» Eligibility

To be eligible for the program, applicants must meet one of the requirements below (Option A or B).

Option A	
<p>Bachelor’s degree <u>and</u> two years or more of experience in a classroom at an accredited school in the area requested (e.g. as a paraprofessional)</p>	<p><i>Experience Definitions:</i> Early Childhood - Pre-K through 3rd grade Elementary Education - 1st through 8th grade (excluding 7th/8th grade math)</p>
Option B	
<p style="text-align: center;">Terminal degree (e.g. PhD, EdD, MD, DO, JD, DVM, MFA, MLIS)</p>	<p>No experience required</p>



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»» Program Requirements

During Provisional Certification – Year One	
Reading Training	No cost – provided on OSDE Connect
6 Hours of Professional Education College Courses	Classroom Management
	Reading Instruction
One Year Mentorship/Instructional Coaching	Topics: classroom management and reading instruction; provided by the school district
During Provisional Certification – Year Two	
Subject Area Test	In the certificate area (Early Childhood or Elementary Ed.)
6 Hours of Professional Education College Courses	Child Development
	Math Instruction
One Year Mentorship/Instructional Coaching	Topics: child development and math instruction; provided by the school district
During Provisional Certification – Year Three	
Reading Test	Foundations of Reading (FOR) assessment
Professional Education Assessment	APK (formerly the PPAT and OPTE)
6 Hours of Professional Education College Courses	Any professional education coursework from an educator preparation program (EPP) in the certificate area (Early Childhood or Elementary Ed.)
One Year Mentorship/Instructional Coaching	Topics determined by and provided by the school district



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»» Process Overview

1. Complete eligibility Option A or B as listed on page 1
2. Your employing school district must submit an online request for the Year One certificate. They will upload the D2 Form and your official transcripts.
3. Apply for the first one-year provisional certificate
 - a. Complete a certification or dual background check (if not currently certified in Oklahoma)
 - b. Submit online application (\$50 fee)
4. Complete Year One requirements as listed on page 2
5. Your employing school district must submit an online request for the Year Two certificate. They will upload your updated official transcripts.
6. Apply to renew for the second one-year provisional certificate
 - a. Submit online application (no fee) and upload reading training completion certificate
7. Complete Year Two requirements as listed on page 2
8. Your employing school district must submit an online request for the Year Three certificate. They will upload your updated official transcripts.
9. Apply to renew for the third, and final, one-year provisional certificate
 - a. Submit online application (no fee)
10. Complete Year Three requirements as listed on page 2
11. Your employing school district must submit an online request for the standard certificate. They will upload your updated official transcripts.
12. Apply for standard certificate
 - a. Submit online application (\$50 fee)