

GENERAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

Name of Certificate	Certificate will be referred to as Educator Certification - Alternative Certification.
Certificate Type	Alternative Certification – An alternative process of completing teacher or administrator certification requirements while simultaneously employed as a teacher or administrator in a public or Department-accredited school.
Preparation Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Education Alternative Preparation (not completed) • Teacher (Secondary or K-12)
Duration and Expiration of Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-year Certificate which can be renewed two times • Certificates expire June 30th
Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$25 Initial Educator Certificate (1-year Certificate) • \$25 1-year Renewal
Certificate Holder Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have a valid Alternative Preliminary Certificate • Hold a minimum of a bachelor’s degree or higher; and • Receives an offer of employment from a public or Department-accredited school.
Scope of Certificate	A general education alternative teaching certificate holder may not teach grades or content areas beyond the endorsements listed on the certificate.
Authorization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An applicant for a general education alternative certificate <u>may</u> teach in the following areas once the endorsement requirements are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grades 5-8 elementary teacher; ▪ Secondary teacher; or ▪ K-12 teacher. • An applicant for a general education alternative certificate <u>may not</u> teach in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Early childhood education; ▪ K-4 self-contained or subject specific; ▪ Early childhood special education; or ▪ K-12 special education.

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<p><i>Employer Requirements</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Verify the applicant has a valid alternative preliminary certificate; ○ Provide mentorship and orientation; and ○ Recommend the applicant for certification. • Beginning July 1, 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Verify the applicant has a valid alternative preliminary certificate; ○ Document the school attempted but was unable to hire a certified teacher prior to hiring an applicant with an alternative certificate; ○ Offer a state-approved mentoring program; ○ Provide the applicant with information about the SD Code of Professional Ethics for Teachers; ○ Train the applicant on the school teacher evaluation system; and ○ Recommend the alternative certification teacher for renewal based on documented performance and progress.
<p><i>Requirements to Obtain a Professional Teaching Certificate</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Complete 6 credits in pedagogy with a grade of C or higher; ○ Complete 3 credits in SD Indian studies; ○ Complete 3 credits in human relations, adolescent psychology, classroom management, student assessment, or differentiated instruction; ○ Pass the state-designated pedagogy test; ○ Adhere to the SD Code of Professional Ethics for Teachers; and ○ Receive signoff from the employing school/district. • Beginning July 1, 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Complete a minimum of 15 transcribed credits with a C or higher in the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Classroom management; ▪ Teaching methods; ▪ Student assessment; ▪ Differentiated instruction; ▪ Adolescent psychology; and ▪ South Dakota Indian studies. ○ Pass the state-designated pedagogy test; ○ Adhere to the SD Code of Professional Ethics for Teachers; and ○ Receive signoff from the employing school/district.

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<i>Renewal Requirements</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit documented evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements to complete alternative certification;• Submit a recommendation for renewal from the employing school/district; and• Complete one hour of Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training is required by state statute.
<i>Maximum Length of Certificate</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The applicant has three years to complete the general education alternative teaching certificate. The general education alternative certificate is invalid following the expiration date of the third year.• After alternative certification requirements are met the Alternative Certification Preparation will be updated from not complete to complete.