

Special Education Alternative Certification Renewal Requirements

<p><i>Renewal Requirements for Special Education Alternative Certification <u>ARSD 24:28:17</u></i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All applicants renewing a Teacher Certificate must complete the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requirement 1: An approved suicide awareness and prevention training with each renewal application. ○ Requirement 2: The employing district/school must submit the Special Education Alternative Certification District Renewal Recommendation form ○ Requirement 3: Submit documented evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the Special Education Alternative Certificate. • The certificate is valid for one year. It may be renewed two times to give applicants time to meet the coursework requirements. • Requirements for a Special Education Alternative Certificate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Complete a minimum of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution of higher education with a grade of C or higher in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Six-credit year-long special education practicum ▪ Nine credits of coursework in the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special education law; • special education assessment; and • special education-related course ▪ Pass the state-designated pedagogy test ▪ Pass the state-designated content test
<p><i>Invalid Certificate</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewal Requirements for an Invalid Alternative Certificate: If an applicant has a special education alternative certificate that is not renewed by October 1st and working as a special education teacher, the applicant must renew their certificate and the school year will be counted as one year, for the purpose, of meeting the course requirements. <p><i>The alternative certification holder will be considered non-certified until the certificate is valid.</i></p>
<p><i>Transition to an Educator Certificate</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of Alternative Certification Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Once all Special Education Alternative Certification requirements have been met, applicants should complete the Transition from Alternative Certification application. ○ The district must complete Form AC8 (Recommendation to Transition to Professional).
<p><i>Certificate Extension for Active Military Duty</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A certified educator called to active military duty while the certificate is valid may have the certificate re-issued with extended dates with no additional fees.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A copy of military orders verifying the start and end dates of the active duty period is required to obtain the extension.
<i>Hardship Modification</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For good cause, the expiration date of the certificate may be extended, without penalty, for a period of one year. The applicant must provide satisfactory evidence the educator made a good faith effort to meet the renewal requirements. Examples of good cause include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Serious illness; ○ Loss of income; or ○ Death or serious illness of a family member.
<i>Transcribed Credit</i>	<p>Submission of OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS:</p> <p><i>Applicant may:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mail official/original transcripts printed by the university. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Transcripts may NOT be submitted as a pdf or attached to an email</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>University may:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Submit electronic transcript directly to SD DOE ○ Mail official/original paper transcripts