



**south dakota**  
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## **Alternative Certification – Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q. Can I apply for the alternative certification upon graduation from my university**

A. No. You must wait two years before you would be eligible to apply for the Alternative Route to Certification Program.

**Q. My non-teaching bachelors degree is from a university outside of the United States. How do I become eligible for the Alternative Route to Certification Program?**

A. A foreign credential evaluation company must review evaluate and translate your transcript into English. Once this has been done, you may begin the application process.

**Q. How many years is an alternative teaching certificate good for?**

A. Alternative teaching certificates are good for three-years, after which time, you will need to have your certificate renewed.

**Q. Who pays for the expenses I incur during my time in the Alternative Route to Certification Program?**

A. All costs related to the college and university credits required and the state licensure exam are the Alternative Route to Certification Program candidate's responsibility.

**Q. Do I need to complete the South Dakota Indian Studies course and a human relations course?**

A. Yes. In addition to the six credits of pedagogy course work, all teachers must complete the three-credit Indian Studies course and a three-credit human relations course.