

# Program of Alternative Certification for Educators

The Program of Alternative Certification for Educators (PACE) was established to enable degreed individuals, who otherwise do not meet certification requirements, to gain employment in the public schools in a critical need subject area teaching position and/or in a critical geographic area where teacher shortages exist, as determined annually by the State Board of Education.

PACE requires a three year commitment to the content area and grade level for which you are admitted. Candidates may be evaluated for K-12, middle level, or secondary certification. Individuals who participate in PACE in one of the middle level areas may be required to complete different graduate course requirements.

## Eligibility Requirements

- An [earned bachelor's degree or above](#) from a regionally accredited college with a major in a South Carolina certification area. Participants can be evaluated for a major equivalent if they have thirty or more semester hours earned in content area coursework, twenty-one of which were earned at the junior or senior level or above; or twenty-four or more semester hours earned in content area coursework at the graduate level. Participants teaching in [subjects](#) designated as critical need by the State Board of Education can teach in any district in the state. Participants teaching in subjects that have not been designated as critical need must teach in a [district](#) that has been designated as critical need.
- A passing score on the appropriate [Praxis II subject area examination\(s\)](#). Please review this link for [changes in Praxis test requirements for PACE](#) related to Special Education - ED, French, and Library Media.

## Critical Subjects and Districts

Effective July 1, 2007, the geographical critical district list has been dissolved. This change allows PACE applicants who meet all admission criteria in one of the approved PACE subject areas to seek employment in any South Carolina public school district. Additional certification areas have been added to the list of PACE approved subjects.

- [2007-2008](#)
- [2006-2007](#)
- [2005-2006](#)
- [2004-2005](#)
- [2003-2004](#)
- [2002-2003](#)

## Subjects

### 2007-2008

agriculture

art

business education

dance

emotionally disabled

This is the only special education area that is part of the alternative certification program in any district in South Carolina.

English (secondary)

family and consumer sciences

foreign languages

Spanish, French, German, Latin

health

history (secondary)

industrial technology

mathematics (secondary)

media specialist

library science

middle level areas

language arts, mathematics, science, social studies

music

physical education

secondary science

biology, chemistry, physics

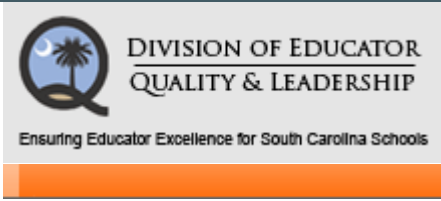
social studies (secondary)

theatre

## PACE Process for Certification

Teacher	SDE	School District	Outcome
<b>Application Process</b>			
Submits complete application, official transcript, FBI card; pays fee	Evaluates transcript		If the teacher has an appropriate degree, he or she receives a letter stating area(s) of qualification
Submits passing scores on the Praxis subject area examination(s) and verification of prior work experience	Evaluates work experience and scores		If the teacher has the appropriate scores and prior work experience, he or she receives a statement of eligibility.
Submits an application to a South Carolina public school district		Hires teacher in critical area  Submits Confirmation of Employment form	The teacher enrolls in and successfully completes the next available preservice seminar.
<b>Training Process</b>			
<b>Prior to Year one:</b>  Completes preservice institute.	Receives recommendation from program provider	Sends year one "Confirmation of Employment" form.	The teacher receives an alternative route certificate.
<b>Year one:</b>  Works with his or her evaluation team to determine graduate courses to be completed from the approved list and continue training program.  Completes successfully the ADEPT induction process			

<p><b>Year two:</b>          Completes in-service seminars          Begins working toward completion of graduate-level courses          Completes successfully the ADEPT formal evaluation process</p>	<p>Receives recommendation from program provider</p>	<p>Sends second-year Confirmation of Employment form</p>	<p>The teacher receives a second critical need certificate.</p>
<p><b>Year three:</b>          Completes training program and submits official transcript reflecting completion of three graduate-level courses          Completes successfully the ADEPT formal evaluation process</p>	<p>Receives final recommendation from program provider</p>	<p>Sends final Confirmation of Employment form</p>	<p>The teacher receives a third critical need certificate.</p>
<p><b>End of year three:</b>          Earns passing score on the PLT exam and applies for professional certificate</p>			<p>The teacher receives a professional certificate.</p>



## PACE - Alternative Cert.

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- [SC District Map](#)

## Contact Information

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