



Requirements for the Standard Professional PreK-12 Physical Education Certificate

Certificate Information

The holder of this certificate is authorized to teach Physical Education in grades PreK-12. Additional approved areas and endorsements may not be added to this certificate EXCEPT for the SEI, full ESL, or the full Bilingual endorsement. The Standard certificate is valid for 12 years and maybe renewed.

Administrative Requirement Checklist

In order for our office to complete a Substantive review the following Administrative requirements must be submitted as described, if not, the processing of your application could be delayed. Application fees are non-refundable.

- Application & Fee:** Complete the [Application for Certification](#) and submit the appropriate fee.
- IVP Fingerprint Card:** Submit a photocopy of your valid [Arizona Department of Public Safety](#) Identity Verified Prints (IVP) fingerprint card, (not the paper copy of your prints), with your application.
- Official Transcripts:** Request that your university/college submit official transcripts documenting a Bachelor's degree or more advanced degree directly to certification@azed.gov, or by mail to Arizona Department of Education –Certification Unit, P.O. Box 6490, Phoenix, AZ 85005.
 - *Note:* Transcripts submitted by the applicant via the online portal or by email are not considered official. If you completed coursework or degree(s) from an institution outside the United States a course-by-course evaluation from a Department-approved agency is required. Please see the [Foreign Credential Evaluation Agencies Information](#) list for instructions.

--One of the following--

- Exams:** Copy of your passing AEPA/NEA exam results or appropriate documentation that you qualify for an exam waiver. (See Exam Requirements). If you are using teaching experience, please have your HR complete the [Verification of PreK-12 Teaching Experience](#) form and submitted by the HR Department to certification@azed.gov.

--OR--

- **Out-of-State Certificate/License:** Submit a photocopy of your out-of-state certificate/license with your application.

Substantive Requirement Review - Coursework

Option A, B, or C

Option A: Teacher Preparation Program:

- Completion of a teacher preparation program in PreK-12 Physical Education from a Board-approved educator preparation program or an accredited institution offering substantially similar training, addressing the topics listed below and any others as required by law: Elementary, secondary and adaptive physical education methods; Foundational coursework in the areas of Growth and Motor Development, Movement Activities; Lifelong Physical Fitness; Instructional design and lesson planning, including modifications, and accommodations; The learning environment, including classroom management; Assessing, monitoring and reporting progress; Professional responsibility and ethical conduct and; Twelve weeks of capstone experience as described in R7-2-604 in grades Pre-K-12 physical education, serving students in elementary and secondary physical education, which may be completed during the valid period of a teaching intern or student teaching intern certificate.



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- *Required Documentation:* Official transcripts or an Arizona Institutional Recommendation (IR) documenting completion of the teacher preparation program.
- Completion of the United States and Arizona Constitution coursework from an accredited institution or the Constitution of the United States and Arizona exam, AZ033. (This is an allowable 3-year deficiency. *)
 - *Required Documentation:* Official transcripts submitted to Certification@azed.gov from your institution or a photocopy of the official AEP/NES score report.

Option B: Teaching Experience and Coursework/Training. Both B-1 & B-2 are required.

- **B-1 – Teaching Experience:** Two (2) years of full-time teaching experience in PreK-12 Physical Education.
 - *Required Documentation:* A [Verification of Teaching Experience](#) form, completed and signed by the school Superintendent or Personnel/HR director, verifying completion of the required teaching experience.

-AND-

- **B-2 - Coursework:** Completion of Board approved or accredited coursework or trainings which teach the knowledge and skills described in Arizona Administrative Code R7-2-602 and address the following topics:
 - Elementary physical education methods
 - Secondary physical education methods
 - Adaptive physical education methods
 - Foundational coursework in the areas of growth and motor development, movement activities, and lifelong physical fitness
 - Instructional design and lesson planning, including modifications, and accommodations
 - The learning environment, including classroom management
 - Assessing, monitoring, and reporting progress
 - Professional responsibility and ethical conduct (This is an allowable 3-year deficiency. *)
 - *Required Documentation:* Official transcripts submitted to certificaiton@azed.gov from your institution.
 - Completion of the United States and Arizona Constitution coursework from an accredited institution or the Constitution of the United States and Arizona exam, AZ033. (This is an allowable 3-year deficiency. *)
 - *Required Documentation:* Official transcripts submitted to Certification@azed.gov from your institution or a photocopy of the official NES or AEP/NES score report.

Option C: Out-of-State Certification: The applicant holds a valid, comparable PreK-12 Physical Education certificate from another state and is in good standing with that other state. Applicants who qualify under this option are not required to meet the exam requirements listed under Substantive Requirement Review – Exams.

- Completion of the United States and Arizona Constitution coursework from an accredited institution or the Constitution of the United States and Arizona exam, AZ033. (This is an allowable 3-year deficiency. *)
 - *Required Documentation:* Official transcripts submitted to Certification@azed.gov from your institution or a photocopy of the official NES or AEP/NES score report

***Allowable Deficiencies:**

- If you otherwise qualify but are deficient in the **Ethics** requirement, you have three years from the issuance of the certificate to fulfill these requirements. If you are unable to fulfill one or more of these requirements within the allowable timeframe, the certificate will be placed on a non-disciplinary suspension until the deficiency is corrected.
- If you otherwise qualify but are deficient in the **United States and/or Arizona Constitution** requirements you have 1 or 3 years from the issuance of the certificate to fulfill these requirements. If you are unable to fulfill one or more of these requirements within the allowable timeframe, the certificate will be placed on a non-disciplinary suspension until the deficiency is corrected.



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Substantive Requirement Review - Exams

Professional Knowledge Exam Requirement. One of the following (Option A, B, C, or D):

- **Option A - Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment (AEPA/NES):** A passing score on the AEPA/NES Assessment of Professional Knowledge-Elementary (NT051) or Assessment of Professional Knowledge-Secondary (NT052) exam.
 - *Required Documentation:* Submit a photocopy of the official NES or AEPA score report.
- **Option B - Out-of-State Exam:** Passing score on a substantially similar professional knowledge exam from another state.
 - *Required Documentation:* Submit an official score report and have reporting state complete and submit a [Verification of Out of State Exams](#). (If you took a Praxis exam, request that your scores be reported to the state of Arizona 8517, in place of the Verification of Out of State Exam form.)
- **Option C - NBPTS:** A valid comparable certificate from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).
 - *Required Documentation:* Submit a photocopy of the NBPTS certificate.
- **Option D - Teaching Experience:** Verification of three years of full-time teaching experience in any state, including Arizona, in grades PreK-12. Experience teaching in a foreign school and substitute experiences does not meet this requirement.
 - *Required Documentation:* A [Verification of PreK – 12 Teaching Experience](#) form, completed, signed, and submitted by the District Superintendent or Personnel/HR Director, to certification@azed.gov, verifying the required teaching experience.

-AND-

Subject Knowledge Exam Requirement. One of the following (Option A, B, C, D, E, F, G)

- **Option A - Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment (AEPA/NES):** A passing score on the NES Subject Knowledge: Physical Education (NT 506) exam.
 - *Required Documentation:* Submit a photocopy of the passing score report.
- **Option B - Out-of-State Exam:** A passing score on a substantially similar Subject Knowledge Art examination from another state or agency.
 - *Required Documentation:* Submit an official score report and have the reporting state complete and submit a [Verification of Out of State Exam](#) form. (If you took a Praxis exam, you may request that your scores be reported to the state of Arizona 8517, in place of the Verification of out of State Exam form.)
- **Option C - NBPTS:** A valid comparable certificate from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.
 - *Required Documentation:* Submit a photocopy of the NBPTS certificate.
- **Option D - Degree in the Subject:** A Bachelor's, Master's, or Doctorate degree from an accredited institution in Art.
 - *Required Documentation:* Official transcripts documenting the degree submitted to certification@azed.gov from your institution.
- **Option E - Teaching Experience:** Verification of three years of full-time experience teaching Physical Education, PreK-12 in any state, including Arizona. Note: Experience teaching in a foreign school or substitute teaching experience does not meet this requirement.
 - *Required Documentation:* A [Verification of PreK-12 Teaching Experience](#) form, completed and signed by the District Superintendent or Personnel/HR Director verifying the required teaching experience.
- **Option F - Post-Secondary Teaching:** Experience teaching courses relevant to Art for the last two consecutive years and a total of at least three years, at one or more regionally or nationally accredited postsecondary institutions.



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- *Required Documentation:* A letter(s) on official letterhead from the college or university Department Chair, Dean, or Personnel Director, verifying postsecondary teaching experience for the specified durations.
- **Option G - Work Experience:** Demonstration of expertise in Physical Education through five years of relevant work experience.
 - **Required Documentation.** One of the following:
 - A letter, on official letterhead, from a superintendent or personnel director verifying that the applicant demonstrates knowledge or skill in the subject area that is comparable to holding a bachelor's degree, master's degree, or doctoral degree in that subject area through five years of work experience, as identified in a resume; **or**
 - A letter, on official letterhead, from a public or private school superintendent or personnel director in this state or in another state, verifying that the applicant has five years of experience teaching the most advanced Arizona academic standards, or comparable out-of-state standards, in the subject area sought; **or**
 - If an applicant is unable to obtain a letter from a superintendent or personnel director described above, the applicant may submit a letter (on official company letterhead) from a current or former supervisor detailing their work experience. The Department will review the letter to determine if the applicant has five years of work experience that demonstrates knowledge and skills in the requested subject area that is comparable to holding a bachelor's degree, masters degree, or doctoral degree in that subject area.