



Requirements for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Birth – Grade 12 Endorsement

Arizona Department of Education – Certification Unit

General Information

The Deaf/Hard of Hearing endorsement may be added to a prerequisite Standard Professional teaching certificate to authorize the holder to teach students who are deaf or hard of hearing in birth-grade 12.

Administrative Requirement Checklist

The following items must be submitted for the ADE Certification Unit to complete a substantive review of your application. Fees are non-refundable.

- Prerequisite Certificate.** You hold a valid Arizona Standard Professional Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle Grades, Secondary, Mild/Moderate Disabilities, Moderate/Severe Disabilities, Early Childhood Special Education, Specialized Special Education, Cross-Categorical Special Education, or Visually Impaired teaching certificate.
- Application & Fee.** A completed online or paper [Application for Certification](#) and the appropriate fee.
- IVP Fingerprint Card.** A photocopy of your valid [Arizona Department of Public Safety](#) Identity Verified Prints (IVP) fingerprint card, (plastic card, not the paper copy of your prints).

➤ **Out-of-State Certificate holders.** If you hold a valid, comparable Deaf/Hard of Hearing certificate or endorsement from another state, submit a photocopy of the certificate with the above items. The additional documents listed below are not required for applicants who qualify under reciprocity rules with a comparable out-of-state certificate.

- Teaching Experience.** Verification of three years of full-time teaching experience. Please forward the [Verification of PreK-12 Teaching Experience](#) form to your school/district human resources office with a request to verify your experience.
- Official transcripts.** Official transcripts documenting the required coursework. Electronic official transcript must be sent directly by the college or university to certification@azed.gov. Paper official transcripts must be original and mailed to Arizona Department of Education – Certification Unit, P.O. Box 6490, Phoenix, AZ 85005.
- Verification Letter.** A letter from a college or university department chair or designee verifying completion of 90 clock hours of practicum in a deaf/hard of hearing classroom.
- American Sign Language (ASL) Learning Experience.** Appropriate documentation to meet the ASL learning experience requirement. **Note:** Applicants who are using the Gallaudet University American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI) exam administered through ETS to meet this requirement must have their scores reported by ETS to the Arizona Department of Education (8517) and submit a copy of the score report.
- Name Change Information** (If applicable). If the name on your official transcript does not match your current name, please provide a photocopy of legal documentation of your name change (e.g., marriage certificate, court record).

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1. **Prerequisite Certificate.** A valid Arizona Standard Professional Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle Grades, Secondary, Mild/Moderate Disabilities, Moderate/Severe Disabilities, Early Childhood Special Education, Specialized Special Education, Cross-Categorical Special Education, or Visually Impaired teaching certificate.
2. **Option A or B**



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Option A: Teaching Experience, Coursework, Practicum, and ASL. All the following (A-1 through A-5) are required:

A-1: Teaching Experience. Verification of three years full-time teaching experience in PreK-Grade 12. Please forward the [Verification of PreK-12 Teaching Experience](#) to your district or school human resources office.

A-2: Special Education Courses. Official transcripts documenting six (6) semester hours of special education courses to include all of the following:

- Special education law and individualized education program planning;
- Behavior management for students with disabilities
- The use of instructional and assistive technologies in the classroom.

A-3: Deaf/Hard of Hearing Education Courses. Official transcripts documenting fifteen (15) semester hours of courses in deaf/hard of hearing education that adhere to a guidance document approved by the Board and include all of the following:

- Methods for facilitating language acquisition and literacy development in children who are deaf or hard of hearing;
- Auditory skill development for students who are deaf or hard of hearing;
- Assessment of students who are deaf or hard of hearing;
- Principles of audiology;
- Social and cultural foundations and family involvement for students who are deaf/hard of hearing;
- Early intervention and parental involvement to enhance the early language skills of students who are deaf or hard of hearing ;
- Methods for teaching students who are deaf or hard of hearing with multiple disabilities, including deaf-blindness.

A-4: Practicum. Completion of 90 clock hours of supervised practicum in teaching students who are deaf/hard of hearing, which may be included in the courses listed in Requirement A-2 and A-3. Please submit a letter from a college or university department chair or designee verifying the required practicum hours.

A-5: American Sign Language (ASL). Verification of American Sign Language experience documented with one of the following.

- A passing score of Level 4 on the [American Sign Language Proficiency Interview \(ASLPI\)](#) developed by Gallaudet University. Submit a copy of the exam score report. Scores must be reported by ETS to the Arizona Department of Education (8517)*;

-OR-

- A passing score of “Advanced” on the Sign Language Proficiency Interview: American Sign Language (SLPI: ASL) exam developed by the Rochester Institute of Technology. Submit the official score report.*;

-OR-

- A letter from a department chair or designee at an accredited college or university verifying proficiency in American Sign Language from;

-OR-

- Official transcripts documenting completion of six semester hours of courses in American Sign Language.



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** Note: Applicants who meet the ASL requirement by passing an ASL proficiency exam and meet all other requirements will qualify for a Deaf/Hard of Hearing endorsement with an ASL designation.*

Option B. Out-of-State Deaf/Hard of Hearing Certificate or Endorsement.

B-1: The applicant holds a valid, comparable Deaf/Hard of Hearing certificate or endorsement from another state and is in good standing in that other state. Submit a copy of the certificate.

B-2: A valid Arizona Department of Public Safety Identity Verified Prints (IVP) fingerprint clearance card.



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Board-approved Guidance for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Education Courses

The outline below was approved by the Arizona Board of Education to provide the content that should be included in the deaf/hard of hearing education courses described in Requirement # 6.

- A. Methods for facilitating language acquisition and literacy development in children who are deaf or hard of hearing. This requirement includes:
 - 1. Methods for facilitating spoken acquisition;
 - 2. Methods for facilitating sign language acquisition;
 - 3. Methods for facilitating literacy acquisition;
 - 4. American Sign Language to English bilingual methods.
- B. Auditory skill development for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. This requirement includes methods for assessing and developing auditory skills.
- C. Assessment of students who are deaf or hard of hearing. This requirement includes:
 - 1. Assessment of spoken language acquisition;
 - 2. Assessment of American Sign Language acquisition;
 - 3. Assessment of literacy acquisition.
- D. Principles of audiology. This requirement includes:
 - 1. Anatomy and physiology of the hearing mechanism;
 - 2. Educational implication of various types and levels of hearing loss;
 - 3. The use of personal hearing instruments and hearing and assistive technologies.
- E. Social and cultural foundations and family involvement for students who are deaf/hard of hearing. This requirement includes deaf culture.
- F. Early intervention and parental involvement to enhance the early language skills of students who are deaf or hard of hearing. This requirement includes:
 - 1. Factors that impact the development of children who are deaf or hard of hearing;
 - 2. Early identification and intervention;
 - 3. Parental involvement;
 - 4. Educational environments.
- G. Methods for teaching students who are deaf or hard of hearing with multiple disabilities, including deaf-blindness.

Pursuant to section 41-1093.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, an agency shall limit all occupational regulations to regulations that are demonstrated to be necessary to specifically fulfill a public health, safety or welfare concern. Pursuant to sections 41-1093.02 and 41-1093.03, Arizona Revised Statutes, you have the right to petition this agency to repeal or modify the occupational regulation or bring an action in a court of general jurisdiction to challenge the occupational regulation and to ensure compliance with section 41-1093.01, Arizona Revised Statutes.