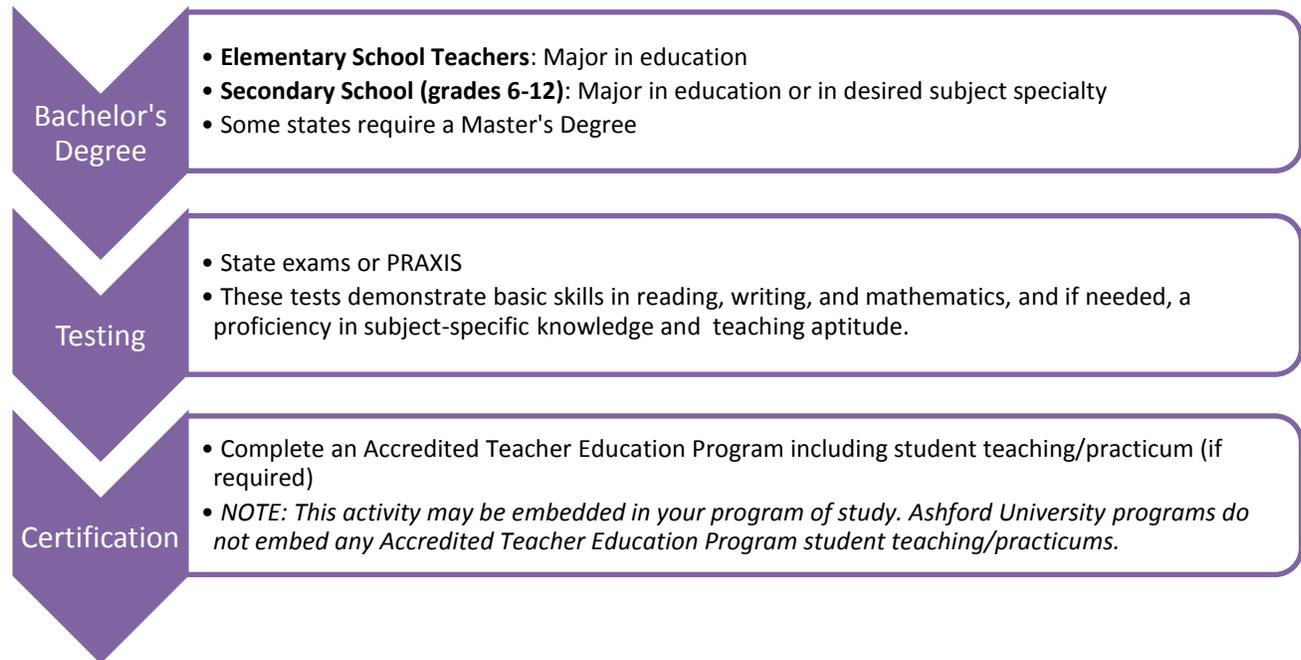


Common Paths to Teacher Certification

The path to teacher certification and licensure can be rather confusing and daunting. To assist you in learning more about the common paths toward teacher certification, please review the various paths below.

STANDARD CERTIFICATION

Standard certification requirements are detailed below. Ashford University does NOT offer standard certification.



ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION

Alternative routes to certification programs may be available for those who haven't completed a traditional college degree in education. School districts are usually interested in alternative candidates because they help to:

- Decrease teacher shortages in crucial subject areas;
- Provide schools with a bank of professionals who bring a wealth of knowledge from other careers that can be applied to the educative process for the students they serve.

Candidates for alternative certification generally must follow a three step process:

Step 1

- Obtain Bachelor's degree
- Pass the Teacher Licensure Assessments required by the particular state.

Step 2

- In order to secure employment as a temporary teacher, a temporary teaching permit must be obtained.
- While teaching in the classroom, these programs often include mentoring and additional course work within a specific time period.

Step 3:

- Candidate must apply for initial certification from the state's Department of Education.