

# Routes to Becoming a Teacher in Georgia



## Which Route is Best for You?



### Go Back to School - Traditional Pathway to Certification

The minimum degree requirement for all Georgia professional certificates, with the exception of certain Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education fields, is a bachelor's degree. If you do not currently hold a bachelor's degree, you may complete a traditional educator preparation program that also leads to a bachelor's degree. Programs like this are offered at many colleges and universities. [Approved Programs Leading to Certification](#)

### Earn an Advanced Degree Programs

If you already hold a bachelor's degree, you may want to pursue a master's degree while you complete an educator preparation program. Most initial certification programs at this level lead to Master of Arts in Teaching degrees (MAT). It may be possible for you to teach for up to 3 years while you are completing a master's degree program leading to certification. [Approved Programs Leading to Certification](#)



### Complete a Certification-Only Program

These programs allow a future educator to take only the coursework that is needed for certification. These programs are offered by colleges or universities, but do not lead to an additional degree (such as a master's degree). It may be possible for you to teach for up to 3 years while you are completing a certification-only program leading to certification. If you are interested in this option, please look further below at the Alternative Path to certification information. [Approved Programs Leading to Certification](#)

### Transitioning from Military Service to Education

To ease the transition from service member to teacher, the GaPSC offers a Military Support Provisional certificate which will allow eligible individuals to teach for up to three years while completing requirements for professional Georgia certification. Employment is required for issuance. Issuance requirements for the Military Support Provisional Certificate are as follows:

- Be a participant of the Troops to Teachers program by submitting an [application](#)
- Meet minimum degree requirement for certification field sought
- Complete the GACE Educator Ethics assessment
- Become employed as a Georgia educator and have the certificate requested by a Georgia Local Unit of Administration (LUA)
- Submit DD-214 form confirming honorable military service



### Georgia Teacher Academy for Preparation and Pedagogy (GaTAPP)

GaTAPP is Georgia's only alternative route to initial teacher certification. Designed for those who have earned a bachelor's degree or higher but have not yet completed a teacher preparation program, these programs can be a good fit for career-changers as well as recent graduates from bachelor's degree programs.

GaTAPP Candidates meet the following requirements:

Candidates have a major or its equivalent in the teaching field or a passing score on the GACE content assessment;  
Candidates are employed by a regionally accredited local unit of administration or an approved charter school, accepted into a GaPSC approved Educator Preparation Program with an intense induction component, and hold a Georgia Provisional certificate or Permit; and  
Candidates have intense and on-going coaching and support throughout the program.

[Approved GaTAPP Providers](#)

