

# Teacher qualifications and licensing guide

**The following provides an overview of the qualifications and licenses required for all teacher positions at Denver Public Schools:**

## Teachers (Elementary)

- Valid CDE license or proof of a CDE license application (i.e., receipt from CDE), and proof of one of the following:
  - Passing either the [Colorado PLACE](#) or [Praxis II](#) exam in Elementary (*CDE will accept some out-of-state elementary content exams in lieu of PLACE or Praxis*)
  - National Board Certification in Elementary Education
  - For incoming elementary teachers with at least one year of prior elementary experience and who held a teaching license on (or before) July 1, 2006: At least 100 points under [CDE's Highly Objective Uniform State Standard of Evaluation \(HOUSSE\)](#)

## Teachers (Secondary)

- Valid CDE license or proof of a CDE license application (i.e., receipt from CDE), and proof of one of the following:
  - Passing either the [Colorado PLACE](#) or [Praxis II](#) exam in the teaching subject area (*must be a PLACE or Praxis exam [accepted by the CDE](#)*)
  - Endorsement to your CDE license in the teaching subject area
  - Proof of bachelor's degree (or higher) in the teaching subject area
  - Copy of official transcript(s) indicating at least 24 semester hours in the teaching subject area from an accredited college or university
  - National Board Certification in the teaching subject area

## Teachers (Special Education)

- Valid CDE license or proof of a CDE license application (i.e., receipt from CDE) and proof of the following: Special education endorsement for the specific position program area
  - If teaching at the elementary level, the individual must also be elementary-qualified (*see above for specific elementary qualifications*)

# Teacher qualifications and licensing guide (continued)

- If teaching at the secondary level, the individual must be subject-area qualified if he/she is the sole provider of teaching content in a No Child Left Behind (NCLB) subject area (i.e., art, English, foreign language, math, music, science, and social studies) (*see above for specific secondary qualifications*)
  - *Note: If the teacher is the sole provider for multiple subject areas at the secondary level, the teacher may need either elementary qualifications or multi-subject area qualifications (this will be determined by Denver Public Schools' NCLB team).*

## Teachers (ELA-S)

- Proof of passing the SLP Exam administered by Berlitz Languages, Inc.
  - **Please note:** Each full test attempt costs \$150. Once hired, you may submit a ProComp reimbursement request to Payment Services in the amount of \$150 for successfully passing all three portions of the SLP exam. Please visit our [ELA department's website](#) for more information about the exam and reimbursement process.

### *Note for all teacher positions:*

- *Out-of-state licenses are not authorized in Colorado; therefore relocating candidates must be issued a valid Colorado license prior to working for Denver Public Schools. Please visit the CDE website at [www.cde.state.co.us](http://www.cde.state.co.us) for complete information.*
- *If a position is offered with Denver Public Schools, the above qualifications will be verified by our NCLB team.*

**Questions?** Contact HR Connect at [Connect\\_HumanResources@dpsk12.org](mailto:Connect_HumanResources@dpsk12.org) or 720.423.3900

**Questions on how initial teacher salaries are determined?** Consult our [salary-setting guide](#)