



Educator Preparation Providers (EPP) determine what candidates will need to do to meet program and graduation requirements. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) will accept your professional determination for licensure recommendations under this unprecedented set of circumstances. Maximum flexibility will be given to ensure candidates are eligible for employment for the 2020-2021 school year.

Traditional Educator Preparation Programs

Upon recommendation for licensure, If an applicant has:

1. Graduated, completed student teaching, met all testing requirements: a standard licensed may be issued.
2. Graduated, not completed student teaching, met all testing requirements: a provisional license may be issued.
3. Graduated, completed student teaching, missing testing requirements: a letter of employment eligibility for the Emergency Teaching Permit (ETP) or provisional license may be issued. ETPs are not available for Special Education. Instead, Special Education will be able to serve as a Long-Term Substitute (LTS)

Alternative Preparation Programs

1. Missing testing requirements = conditional admission per EPP requirements, with timeline for testing: ETP if Arkansas Qualified Teacher (AQT). If not, LTS upon employment in an Arkansas district.
2. MAT Special Education: Upon Employment, LTS until requirements are met.

Additional Licensure Plans (ALPs) and Administrator Licensure Completion Plan (ALCPs)

These will be approved or denied on a case-by-case basis. Current documentation process still applies. Email David.Baca@arkansas.gov for any questions regarding this process.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **What will a candidate have to present to a hiring Arkansas district?** DESE will give letters of employment eligibility for the ETP upon recommendation from EPPs. Letters of eligibility can be submitted to an Arkansas school district, reciprocal state, or country upon graduation. Individual states and/or countries will determine their requirements for licensure.
- **When schools resume, should interns go back into the public schools?** EPP decision
- **What happens if a graduate has not taken the Foundation of Reading exam?** If a traditional graduate is lacking only the foundations of reading exam, a one year provisional license is available upon recommendation from EPP.
- **Where can I receive a background check?** Arkansas Department of Education or local education service cooperatives (call regarding working hours). Out of state candidates who are lacking background checks, may request a fingerprinting card be mailed to them by contacting clara.toney@arkansas.gov.
- **Do I need to receive approval from DESE for temporary changes to the program?** Program changes will not need to be approved by DESE unless they are permanent changes.
- **Does the flexibility also apply to endorsement programs?** Those enrolled in endorsement programs have a first-time license and can go on an Additional Licensure Plan (ALP) or Administrator Licensure Completion Plan (ALCP) if needed.

Contacts

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