



CERRITOS COLLEGE

TEACHING PREPARATION

Career Guide

The State of California offers several permits and credentials to students interested in teaching. The following are recommendations and a guide for Cerritos College students considering the teaching profession based on current state requirements and most commonly followed pathways. For alternative pathways and questions, please consult with a Counselor.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Students interested in teaching in early childhood programs can complete certificates, permits, an A.A. Degree and/or AS-T degree. Students can prepare for the workforce and/or transfer to the institution of their choice for a Bachelor's Degree and Pk-3 Early Childhood Education Specialist Instruction Credential.

Early Childhood Educators teach children 0-8 years of age in child care centers, preschools, public schools, community programs, and family child care homes. They design effective learning environments and experiences to fully develop children's strengths, interests, autonomy, and social skills. While drawing upon child development theory and research, early childhood educators implement effective pedagogy to nurture the physical, emotional, intellectual, and social growth of each child within the context of their families and communities.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Each employer has their own requirements that regulate training, ranging from community college courses, a specific permit level, a college degree in Child Development or Early Childhood Education, and/or a teaching credential.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

The Child Development Permit(s) are designed to authorize service in the care, development, and instruction of children in a publicly funded child care and development program. It verifies that you have fulfilled the requirements established by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) in the State of California. A permit is required to be eligible for child care and development teaching or administration positions funded by California Department of Education/Child Development Division, Head Start and State Preschool Programs. Compensation varies by permit level, educational level, and agency.

PK-3 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION SPECIALIST INSTRUCTION CREDENTIAL

The credential authorizes the holder to teach all subjects in a self-contained general education classroom setting and to team teach or to regroup students across classrooms, in preschool through 3rd grade. The PK-3 ECE credential is intended to meet the unprecedented need for qualified ECE teachers who have the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to provide developmentally appropriate learning for all young children. The PK-3 ECE Credential provides a bridge and accelerated pathway for current Multiple Subject Credential holders as well as Child Development Teacher Permit holders with a BA degree to earn the credential and begin serving in Transitional Kindergarten settings.

PREKINDERGARTEN-3RD GRADE PATHWAY

- [Early Childhood Education AS-T](#)
- Transfer as an Early Childhood Development, or Family Studies, or Child and Adolescent Studies Major
- Bachelor's Degree and PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction Credential
- **Demonstration of Subject Matter Competence.** The approved PK-3 Early Childhood Education Specialist Instruction credential preparation program sponsor determines that each candidate meets the subject matter requirement prior to being given daily whole class instructional responsibilities in a preschool through third grade setting. Candidates may meet the subject matter competence requirement through one of the following two options:
 - a) Possession of a baccalaureate degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution of higher education with a degree major in Child Development, Child and Adolescent Development, Human Development, Early Childhood Education, Child and Family Studies, Early Childhood Studies, Human Development and Family Science, Family Science, or Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies.
 - b) Completion of 24 semester units or the equivalent quarter units of non-remedial, degree- applicable coursework at a regionally accredited institution of higher education in early childhood education and/or child development. (This option is recommended to be completed at Cerritos College for non-Child Development majors who are interested in enrolling in a PK-3 Credential program in the future.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Students interested in teaching all subjects in a self-contained classroom in grades K-12 can complete the Elementary Teacher Education AA-T, a Liberal Arts and Sciences A.A., certificates, &/or transfer requirements to an identified institution of their choice for a Bachelor's Degree and Teaching Credential Program. The elementary education pathway is the first step in preparing students for employment across primary, secondary, bilingual, and special education.

COLLEGE MAJORS FOR ELEMENTARY TEACHING

Elementary teachers teach many subjects, for example Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Science, Visual and Performing Arts and Physical Education. There are many possible majors, but it is best to major in a subject that will encompass all of these areas, such as Elementary Teacher Education (AA-T) and transfer as a Liberal Studies major.

MULTIPLE SUBJECT TEACHING CREDENTIAL

The Multiple Subject Teaching Credential authorizes the holder to teach all subjects in a self-contained classroom, such as the classrooms in most elementary schools, in grades preschool, K-12, or in classes organized primarily for adults. At most universities, the Liberal Studies pathway incorporates subject matter content included in the California Content Standards for elementary school instruction. Students who major in Liberal Studies and complete the required coursework do not need to take the CSET exam to earn their Multiple Subject Credential.

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN (TK)-KINDERGARTEN PATHWAY

- [Elementary Teacher Education AA-T](#) (other A.A. degrees are applicable: Ex. Liberal Arts & Sciences, Early Childhood Education AS-T, etc.)
- Transfer as a Liberal Studies Major
- 24 units of Early Childhood Education/Childhood Development (Ex. Early Childhood AS-T)
- EDEL 100 – 10 hours observation in approved public K-8 general education classroom, or CDEC 164 practicum course
- Satisfy CBEST, CSET, RICA requirements (*If applicable*)
- Bachelor's Degree and Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, or PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction

ELEMENTARY PATHWAY (K-6)

Credential

- Elementary Teacher Education AA-T (other A.A. degrees are applicable: Ex. Liberal Arts & Sciences, Early Childhood Education AS-T, etc.)
- Transfer as a Liberal Studies Major
- EDEL 100 – 10 hours observation in approved public K-8 general education classroom
- Satisfy CBEST, CSET, RICA requirements (*If applicable*)
- Bachelor's Degree and Multiple Subject Credential required

SECONDARY EDUCATION (MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL)

Students interested in teaching a single subject in a self-contained classroom in grades 7-12 can complete an AA-T/AS-T, A.A., certificates, &/or transfer requirements to an identified institution of their choice for a Bachelor's Degree and Teaching Credential Program. Students can prepare for a credential program by completing coursework that would verify subject matter competence.

COLLEGE MAJORS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL TEACHING

It is recommended that the major a student selects should reflect the subject area the student plans to teach. For example, students who are interested in teaching Mathematics should major in Mathematics. At most universities, these degree programs qualify as subject matter preparation programs. If not, students must pass the appropriate CSET to demonstrate subject matter competence.

SINGLE SUBJECT TEACHING CREDENTIAL

The Single Subject Teaching credential authorizes a person to teach in a classroom where only one subject is taught, such as English or Mathematics, in departmentalized high schools and middle schools. Students interested in teaching at the middle school or high school level must obtain a bachelor's degree and a Single Subject Teaching Credential.

SINGLE SUBJECTS INCLUDE:

Agriculture	Mathematics
Art	Music
Biological Sciences (Specialized)	Physical Education
Business	Physics (Specialized)
Chemistry (Specialized)	Science: Biological Sciences
Dance	Science: Chemistry
English	Science: Geosciences
Foundational-Level General Science	Science: Physics
Foundational-Level Mathematics	Social Science
Geosciences (Specialized)	Theater
Health Science	World Language: English Language Development
Home Economics	World Languages-Languages other than English
Industrial and Technology Education	

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL PATHWAY (7-12)

- Major in specific subject ([Consider completion of A.A., AS-T, AA-T](#))
- Transfer into specified Major (Ex. Mathematics, Biology, etc.)
- EDEL 105 – 10 hours observation in approved middle school/high school program
- Satisfy CBEST and CSET (*If applicable*)
- Bachelor's Degree and Single Subject Credential required

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Students interested in teaching individuals who have a learning, mental, emotional, or physical disability in grades K-12 (and adults) can complete an AA-T/AS-T, A.A., certificate, &/or transfer requirements to an identified institution of their choice for a Bachelor's Degree and Teaching Credential Program. Students interested in adapting general education

lessons and teaching various subjects to students with mild to moderate disabilities will pursue the Education Specialist Instruction Credential.

EDUCATION SPECIALIST TEACHING CREDENTIAL

This Education Specialist Instruction Credential authorizes a person to teach in the disability area of specialization listed on the credential in a variety of settings including elementary, middle school, and high schools.

Mild to Moderate Support Needs (MMSN)	Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH)
Extensive Support Needs (ESN)	Visual Impairments (VI)
Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)	

SPECIAL EDUCATION PATHWAY (K-12)

- [Elementary Teacher Education AA-T](#) (other A.A. degrees are applicable: Ex. Liberal Arts & Sciences, Early Childhood Education AS-T, etc.)
- Transfer as a Liberal Studies Major or other specified Major (Ex. English, Spanish, etc.)
- Recommended to complete CDSE 150 & CDSE 152
- Satisfy CBEST, CSET, RICA requirements (*If applicable*)
- Bachelor's Degree and Education Specialist Credential required

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION (COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY)

Students interested in teaching at a University or CA Community College must meet [minimum qualifications](#), which may be inclusive of the following: professional degree, graduate degree, credential, specific coursework, and or work experience. Qualifications may vary by state, district, and department.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY PATHWAY

- Bachelor's Degree in specified Major
- Graduate or Professional Degree in the subject area you plan to teach

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

Students interested in providing technical and/or vocational training to individuals for employment in current or emerging Occupations. Such programs are focused on training individuals in high demand skills needed to gain employment, cross-train for different positions, or retrain for a new career.

CAREER TECHNICAL INDUSTRY SECTORS INCLUDE:

Agriculture and Natural Resources Arts, Media, and Entertainment	Engineering and Architecture
Building and Construction Trades	Fashion and Interior Design
Business and Finance	Health Science and Medical Technology
Education, Child Development, and Family Services	Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation
Information and Communication Technologies	Marketing, Sales, and Service
Manufacturing and Product Development	Public Services
Energy, Environment, and Utilities	Transportation

PRELIMINARY DESIGNATED SUBJECTS CTE CREDENTIAL

Individuals must satisfy all of the following requirements:

1. High school diploma or diploma based on passage of the GED Test or foreign equivalent of a high school diploma. Graduation from an accredited college or university is also accepted.
2. Three years of work experience directly related to each industry sector to be named on the credential. One year equals a minimum of 1000 clock hours per calendar year. The experience may be full-time or part-time, paid or unpaid.
 - a. At least one year of the work experience must be within the last five years or two years within the last ten years immediately preceding the issuance of the preliminary credential.
 - b. For purposes of meeting the recency requirement, any of the following or a combination of the following may be cumulated to total 1000 clock hours: work experience, college- level related coursework, non-college related coursework, occupational internship, or vocational teaching experience.
3. Completion of forty-eight (48) semester units of postsecondary vocational training related to the industry sector(s) named on the credential may be substituted for a maximum of two of the three years of required work experience. The course work must be verified by official transcript and may be made on a pro rata basis up to the two-year maximum.
 - a. Additionally, one of the following may be used as one year of work experience toward meeting the three years of required experience:
 - i. Possession of an advanced industry certificate related to the industry sector to be named on the preliminary credential, as determined by a Commission-approved CTE program sponsor.
 - ii. One year of full- time general education teaching experience providing instructional services in preschool or grades K-12 earned in a public or private school of equivalent status.
4. CTE candidates must successfully fulfill the requirements within 3 years to obtain a Clear Designated Subjects CTE Credential

CTE PATHWAY (K-12)

- Complete AA degree in specified Major
- Bachelor's Degree (or higher)
- Single Subject Credential required

CTE PATHWAY (POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION)

- Major in subject you plan to teach at Community College
- A.A. Degree & 6 years of Work Experience, or Bachelor's Degree & 2 years of Work Experience

TEACHER TRAC (TEACHER TRAINING ACADEMY)

Cerritos College is fortunate to have a long-standing national award-winning teacher preparation program that serves students interested in teaching early childhood education, elementary education, secondary or career technical education (CTE). Complete the [Teacher TRAC Application](#) here.

COMMONLY USED RESOURCES

- Cerritos College Teacher TRAC website
<https://www.cerritos.edu/teachertrac/>
- Cerritos College Child Development website
<https://www.cerritos.edu/child-development/>

- Child Development Permit Matrix
<https://www.cerritos.edu/child-development/child-development-permit-matri.htm>
- CBEST Information
www.cbest.nesinc.com
- CSET Information
www.cset.nesinc.com
- California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
www.ctc.ca.gov
- Los Angeles County Office of Education
<https://www.lacoe.edu/Home/Credential-Programs>

IMPORTANT EXAMS

- **CBEST**
California Basic Educational Skills Test verifies proficiency in Reading, Mathematics, and Writing. All credential candidates must successfully complete the CBEST, or demonstrate proficiency through coursework and/or Advanced Placement Examination.
- **CSET**
California Subject Examination for Teachers can be met two ways (1) take and pass the CSET exam or (2) obtain a CSET waiver by completing a Bachelor's Degree that includes a commission approved subject matter waiver program.
- **RICA**
Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) is a test required for two groups of California Teaching Credential candidates: those seeking a clear Multiple Subject Teaching Credential to teach Elementary School, and those seeking an Education Specialist Teaching Credential. Students are required to pass the RICA prior to being recommended for a Preliminary Teaching Credential.