

FIELD-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS for GaTAPP

To receive approval to offer NonTraditional paths to Professional teacher certification in eligible fields, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider must ensure candidates meet field-specific requirements.

Birth through Kindergarten Education (ages 0-5)

Elementary Education (grades P-5)

1. Admission Requirements:

- a. Candidates shall have a passing score on the Program Admission Assessment (formerly the Basic Skills Assessment) or a qualifying exemption;
- b. There is no degree or major clearly aligned to the content standards in BIRTH THROUGH KINDERGARTEN or ELEMENTARY EDUCATION; therefore, candidates in these teaching fields must have a passing score on the state-approved content assessment for BIRTH THROUGH KINDERGARTEN or ELEMENTARY EDUCATION at program admission and are subject to additional coursework to meet standards.

2. Additional Program Content Requirements:

- a. Candidates must meet the standards delineated in GaPSC Educator Preparation Rule [505-3-.13 BIRTH THROUGH KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION](#) or GaPSC Educator Preparation Rule [505-3-.14 ELEMENTARY EDUCATION \(P-5\)](#).

Middle Grades Education (grades 4-8)

1. Admission Requirements:

- a. Candidates shall have a passing score on the Program Admission Assessment (formerly the Basic Skills Assessment) or a qualifying exemption;
- b. A bachelor's degree or higher with a major or a concentration in at least one of the following teaching fields: Language Arts, Reading, Mathematics, Science, or Social Science, or a transcript assessment confirming successful completion of fifteen (15) semester hours in upper level coursework (typically junior or senior level courses) in one of the above-mentioned teaching fields; **or**

- c. A passing score on the Georgia state-approved content assessment in the teaching field **if** admitted with a degree in a related field or experience that demonstrates knowledge and skills in the content area.

2. Additional Program Content Requirements:

- a. Prior to completion of the preparation path and recommendation for Professional certification, in addition to meeting all requirements of rule [505-3-.05 GEORGIA TEACHER ACADEMY FOR PREPARATION AND PEDAGOGY \(GaTAPP\)](#) and GaPSC requirements, candidates must pass the appropriate Georgia state-approved content assessment.
- b. Middle Grade completers must demonstrate an understanding of young adolescent development.

Secondary Education (grades 6-12)

1. Admission Requirements:

- a. Candidates shall have a passing score on the Program Admission Assessment (formerly the Basic Skills Assessment) or a qualifying exemption;
- b. A bachelor's degree or higher with a major in the assigned teaching field or successful completion of twenty-one (21) semester hours in upper level coursework (typically junior or senior level courses) in the assigned teaching field;
or
- c. A passing score on the Georgia state-approved content assessment in the teaching field **if** admitted with a degree in a related field or experience that demonstrates knowledge and skills in the content area.

2. Additional Program Content Requirements:

- a. Prior to completion of the preparation path and recommendation for Professional certification, in addition to meeting all requirements of rule [505-3-.05 GEORGIA TEACHER ACADEMY FOR PREPARATION AND PEDAGOGY \(GaTAPP\)](#) and GaPSC requirements, candidates must pass the appropriate Georgia state-approved content assessment.

P-12 Certification Fields Excluding Special Education

1. Admission Requirements:

- a. Candidates shall have a passing score on the Program Admission Assessment (formerly the Basic Skills Assessment) or a qualifying exemption;
- b. A bachelor's degree or higher with a major in the assigned teaching field or successful completion of twenty-one (21) semester hours in upper level coursework (typically junior or senior level courses) in the assigned teaching field;
or
- c. A passing score on the Georgia state-approved content assessment in the teaching field **if** admitted with degree in a related field or experience that demonstrates knowledge and skills in the content area.

2. Additional Program Content Requirements:

- a. Prior to completion of the preparation path and recommendation for Professional certification, in addition to meeting all requirements of rule [505-3-.05 GEORGIA TEACHER ACADEMY FOR PREPARATION AND PEDAGOGY \(GaTAPP\)](#) and GaPSC requirements, candidates must pass the appropriate Georgia state-approved content assessment.

P-12 Special Education Fields

Preparation for Professional certification in Special Education is subject to specific state and federal requirements. There is no related degree that provides the content knowledge required for certification in Special Education. Therefore, additional admission requirements and coursework are required for program completion.

To receive approval to offer NonTraditional paths to certification in Special Education a GaPSC-approved EPP must:

Describe in the approval application how candidates will meet the special education content standards delineated in the appropriate GaPSC Preparation Rules listed below in items (a)-(g) and meet all standards and requirements stated in this rule:

- a. [505-3-.54 SPECIAL EDUCATION ADAPTED CURRICULUM PROGRAM;](#)
- b. [505-3-.55 SPECIAL EDUCATION GENERAL CURRICULUM PROGRAM;](#)
- c. [505-3-.56 SPECIAL EDUCATION GENERAL CURRICULUM ELEMENTARY EDUCATION \(P-5\) PROGRAM;](#)
- d. [505-3-.57 SPECIAL EDUCATION DEAF EDUCATION PROGRAM;](#)

- e. [505-3-.58 SPECIAL EDUCATION PHYSICAL AND HEALTH DISABILITIES PROGRAM;](#)
- f. [505-3-.59 SPECIAL EDUCATION PRESCHOOL \(AGES 3-5\);](#) and
- g. [505-3-.60 SPECIAL EDUCATION VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS PROGRAM](#)

Admit and recommend for certification candidates who meet the following admission and program completion requirements in one of the two Special Education teaching categories, Teacher of Record or Consultative Teacher.

Special Education Teacher of Record

1. Admission Requirements:

- a. Candidates shall have a passing score on the Program Admission Assessment (formerly the Basic Skills Assessment) or a qualifying exemption;
- b. Hold a bachelor's degree or higher with a major or its equivalent in Language Arts, Reading, Mathematics, Science, or Social Science. The equivalent of a major is twenty-one (21) semester hours in upper level coursework for Secondary Education and fifteen (15) semester hours in upper level coursework for Middle Grades. Upper level courses typically are junior or senior year level courses; **or**
- c. Have a passing score on the Georgia state-approved content assessment in Language Arts, Reading, Mathematics, Science, or Social Science; **and**
- d. Have a passing score on the appropriate Georgia state-approved Special Education General Curriculum or Special Education Adaptive content assessment (or any other of the appropriate Special Education areas of need) listed above (a)-(g).

Special Education Consultative Teacher

1. Admission Requirements:

- a. Candidates shall have a passing score on the Program Admission Assessment (formerly the Basic Skills Assessment) or a qualifying exemption; and
- b. Hold a bachelor's degree or higher with a concentration in Language Arts, Reading, Mathematics, Science, or Social Science. A concentration is fifteen (15) semester hours of coursework. The entry criteria meet program standards, not Highly Qualified requirements, as this role is consultative only.

2. Additional Program Content Requirements:

- a. Develop learning segments based on the Georgia state-approved P-12 performance standards in an academic content area(s) of concentration and implement those plans in the classroom. The frequency and duration of the classroom instruction is determined by the Candidate Support Team.
- b. Have a passing score on the appropriate Georgia state-approved Special Education General Curriculum or Special Education Adaptive content assessment (or any other of the appropriate Special Education areas of need) listed above (a) – (g).

Career, Technical and Agricultural Education Fields (grades 6-12)

1. Admission Requirements:

- a. Hold a high school diploma or GED, or an associate's degree or higher in the teaching field for which the individual is seeking the Professional teaching certification as delineated in certification rule [505-2-.90 CAREER AND TECHNICAL SPECIALIZATIONS](#), or [505-2-.87 HEALTHCARE SCIENCE](#) fields;

2. Additional Program Content Requirements:

- a. Have a passing score on the Program Admission Assessment (formerly the Basic Skills Assessment) or a qualifying exemption. Candidates seeking Career and Technical Specializations certification must pass the Program Admission Assessment within three (3) years of program admission or prior to program completion, whichever occurs first.

3. Field-Specific Requirements:

- a. CTAE candidates who enter with a high school diploma or GED must complete both the associate's degree and the GaTAPP program for completion and recommendation for the Professional teaching certificate. The GaTAPP program must be completed during the one- to three-year timeframe; an additional year is provided in order to complete the associate's degree as needed.

Elementary Education Certification-Only Through GaTAPP (grades P-5)

1. Admission Requirements:

- a. GaTapp Providers must admit candidates who:
 - i. Have a valid Induction, Professional, Lead Professional or Advanced Professional Georgia teaching certificate;
 - ii. Are eligible for Non-Renewable Professional teaching certification in the field of Elementary Education;
 - iii. Are employed by a regionally accredited local unit of administration (school district or private school), a charter school approved by the Georgia State Charter School Commission, or a charter school approved by the Georgia Department of Education as full time teachers or as part time teachers who teach at least half day in a P-5 classroom;
 - iv. Have passed the Georgia state-approved content assessment for Elementary Education at the Induction level;
 - v. Have an Individualized Induction Plan (IIP)/ Professional Learning Plan; and
 - vi. Have an individualized program of study based on the needs of the candidate with respect to content knowledge, pedagogical skills, readiness to teach students in grades P-5, and prior experience.

2. Program Completion Requirements:

- a. Prior to program completion and through the use of performance-based assessments, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider must ensure candidates meet the following field-specific requirements:
 - i. Demonstrate proficiency in the twelve (12) dispositions, twenty-four (24) competencies, and pedagogical content standards delineated in this rule;
 - ii. Demonstrate knowledge, skills, and dispositions in unpacking state and/or national standards for the purpose of teaching all students in grades P-5;
 - iii. Demonstrate the effective use of technology in a P-5 setting;
 - iv. Complete prescribed Individual Induction Plan (IIP)/Professional Learning Plan;
 - v. Meet individual requirements resulting from the analysis of candidate assessment data;
 - vi. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to model ethical practices of the education profession;

- vii. Demonstrate an understanding of P-5 growth and development;
- viii. Demonstrate the development of family and community relationships; and
- ix. Demonstrate an understanding of content knowledge, methods, and resources in academic disciplines: language and literacy; mathematics, science, social studies, the arts-music, creative movement, dance, drama, visual arts; physical activity, physical education, health, and safety.