

# TEACHING CREDENTIAL PATHWAYS

## Types of teaching credentials

### MULTIPLE SUBJECT

Teach all subjects TK to 6 (elementary)

### SINGLE SUBJECT

Teach a single subject in grades 7 - 12

### ED SPECIALIST

Teach students who qualify for Special Education

## Requirements

### EDUCATION

Bachelor's or higher degree

Must be from a [regionally-accredited](#) college or university

### BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENT (BSR) & SUBJECT MATTER COMPETENCE

Most common method: Pass the CBEST (BSR). Depending on the program, must pass appropriate CSETs

Not all credential programs require you complete these prior to admissions, but you must pass them before your official student teaching/internship begins

### CLEARANCE

Certificate of Clearance or 30-day Sub Permit

Apply to the [CA Commission on Teacher Credentialing \(CTC\)](#); this is required for you to be in a classroom

### CREDENTIAL PROGRAM

Typically one to two years in length. Coursework is designed to help you develop teaching practices, understand educational theory, and gain real experience in the field (practicum and student teaching). The two most common types of programs are "traditional" and Internship.

#### "TRADITIONAL"

\*Unpaid--gradual learning and assumption of teaching responsibilities

\*Gain experience through student teaching placements in the classroom of Mentor Teachers

#### INTERNSHIP

\*Paid--work in your own classroom(s)

\*Support comes from an assigned district/school mentor

\*Must become Intern-eligible as determined by the requirements of the credentialing institution

#### RESIDENCY

Less common: Candidate gradually moves from assistant teaching to becoming a fully-paid classroom teacher over the course of the program. Stipends may be available, depending on program. Programs range in length from 2-3 years.

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

*These requirements should typically be fulfilled during the course of your credential program.*

\*Teacher Performance Assessment (TPA) - portfolio to demonstrate knowledge, skills, and abilities required of a beginning teacher  
(*NOT required for Ed Specialist Credential*)

\*RICA - examination that tests competence in the teaching of reading (*NOT required for Single Subject Credential*)

\*US Constitution - course or exam covering provisions of the US Constitution.

\*CSET - as appropriate to your subject area(s), if you have not taken them.