



Supplementary Certification Pathway

Fact Sheet

Pathway for ESOL Teachers to Obtain Content Area Supplementary Certification

Under Commissioner's Regulation Part 154, ESOL teachers play a more important role in the schools in order to support ELLs. They will work with content area teachers to ensure instruction meets the needs of ELLs and that ELLs are accessing the core curriculum with appropriate scaffolds. A teacher who is dually certified in ESOL and a content area may teach Integrated English as a New Language.

English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) certified teachers may obtain a supplementary certificate to work in a district where a shortage exists for that content area. A candidate who has:

- a valid New York State teaching certificate
- twelve semester hours in the content area
- has passed the appropriate content area test

may apply for a supplementary certificate in that content area. This supplementary certificate is valid for three years.

The candidate must be enrolled in study at an institution of higher education (IHE) leading to an initial or professional certificate in the title sought and complete all requirements for the initial or professional certificate within the life of the supplementary certificate. The supplementary certificate cannot be renewed or be applied for again.

The candidate must have a commitment of employment in the area of the supplementary certificate from the superintendent of the employing school district. The superintendent will attest to the Department that the candidate will be enrolled in an IHE, that there is a demonstrated shortage in the certificate area and ensure that there will be appropriate support for the candidate in this position. Such support must include verified mentoring and coaching by a certified teacher in the content area, as well as assistance with curriculum and planning and appropriate professional development.

For example: An ESOL certified teacher who would like a supplementary certificate in English Language Arts may apply for one if:

- 1) there is a need in his/her district, and

- 2) s/he has 12 credits in English, and
- 3) s/he has achieved a satisfactory level of performance on the English Content Specialty test.

The supplementary certificate is available is all classroom teaching titles however there are different requirements for different certificates. For these requirements, please see <http://eservices.nysed.gov/teach/certhelp/CertRequirementHelp.do> for the exact requirements.