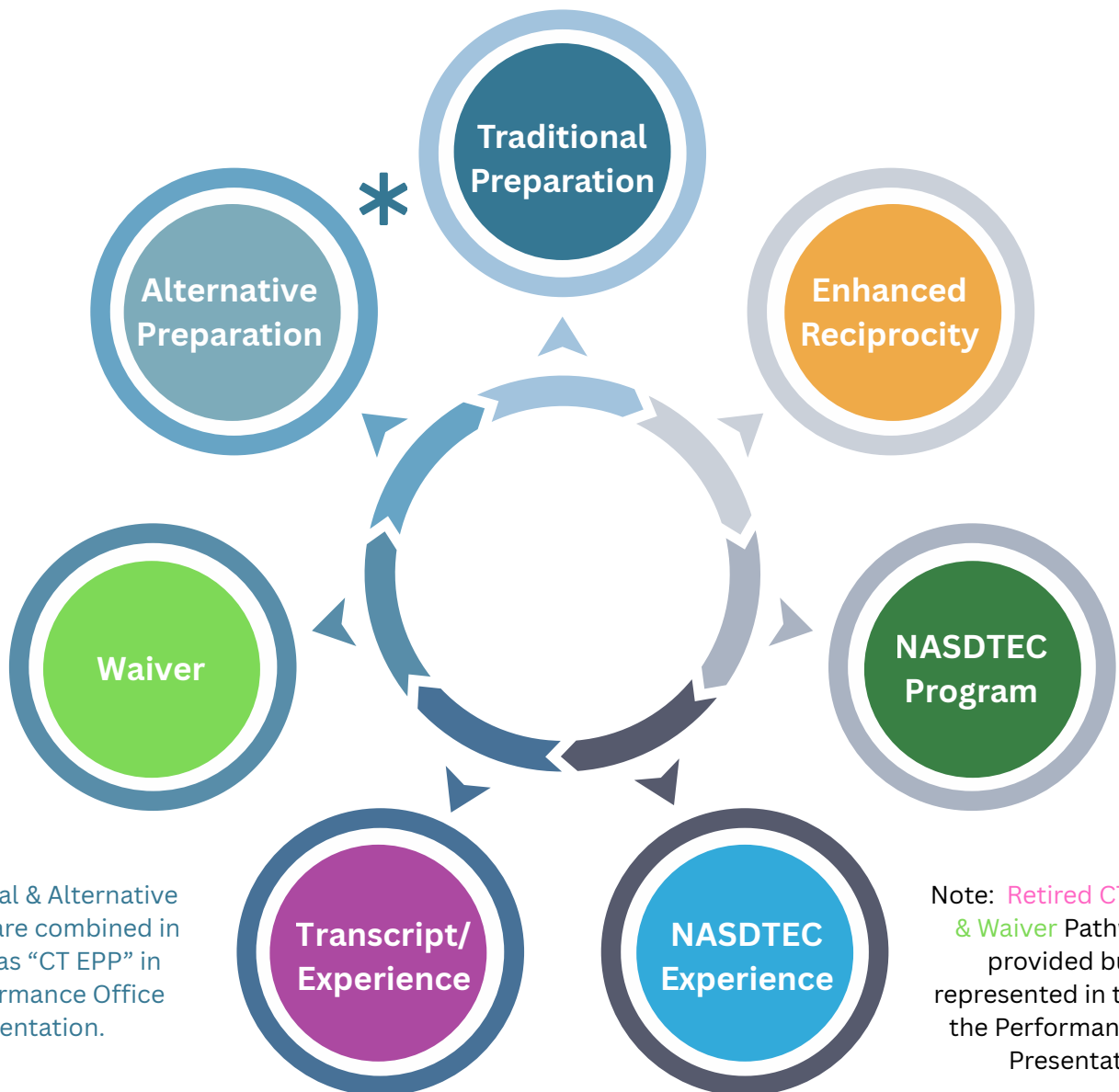


MULTIPLE PATHWAYS TO INITIAL CERTIFICATION FOR CONNECTICUT EDUCATOR CANDIDATES

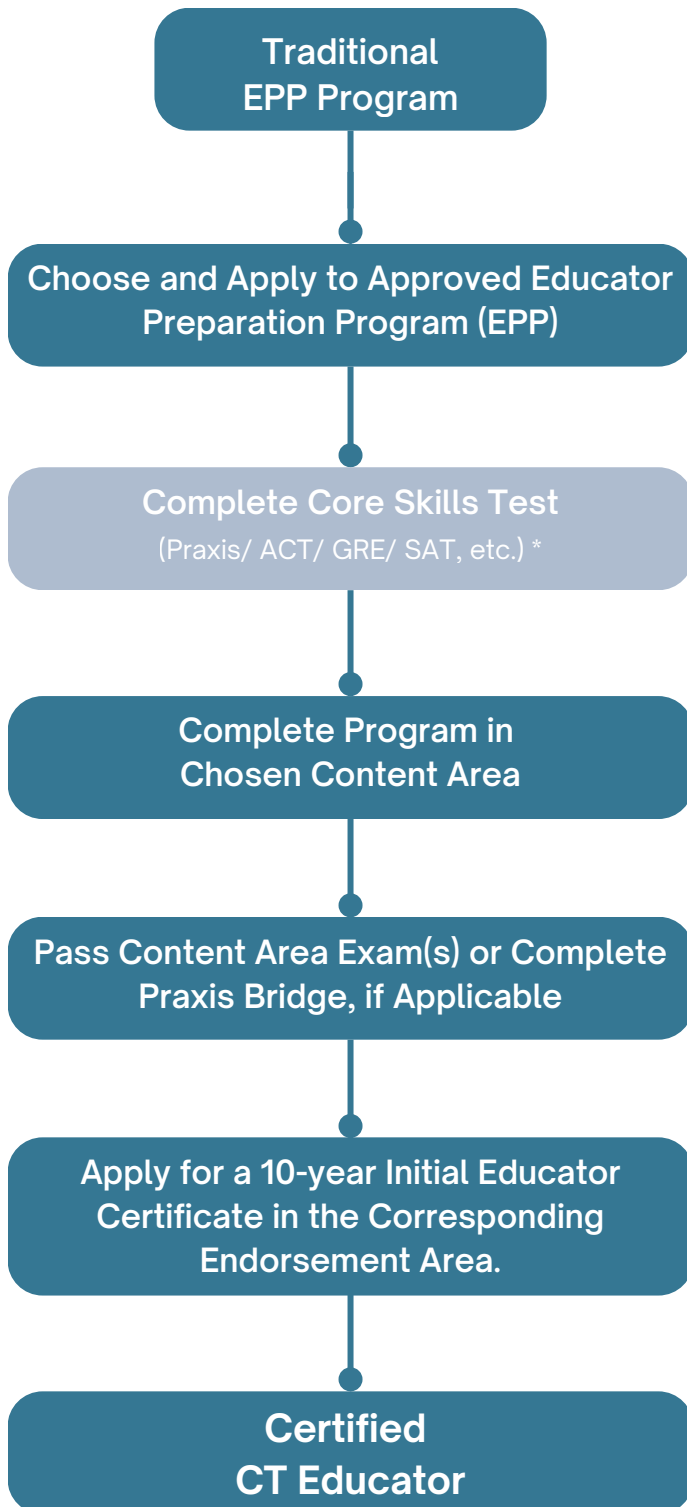
SEPTEMBER 2025

The flowchart color code aligns with
Performance Office Presentation
“How Educators First Become Certified in Connecticut”
(included in September CEPCB Meeting Materials)



CANDIDATES SEEKING TRADITIONAL PREPARATION

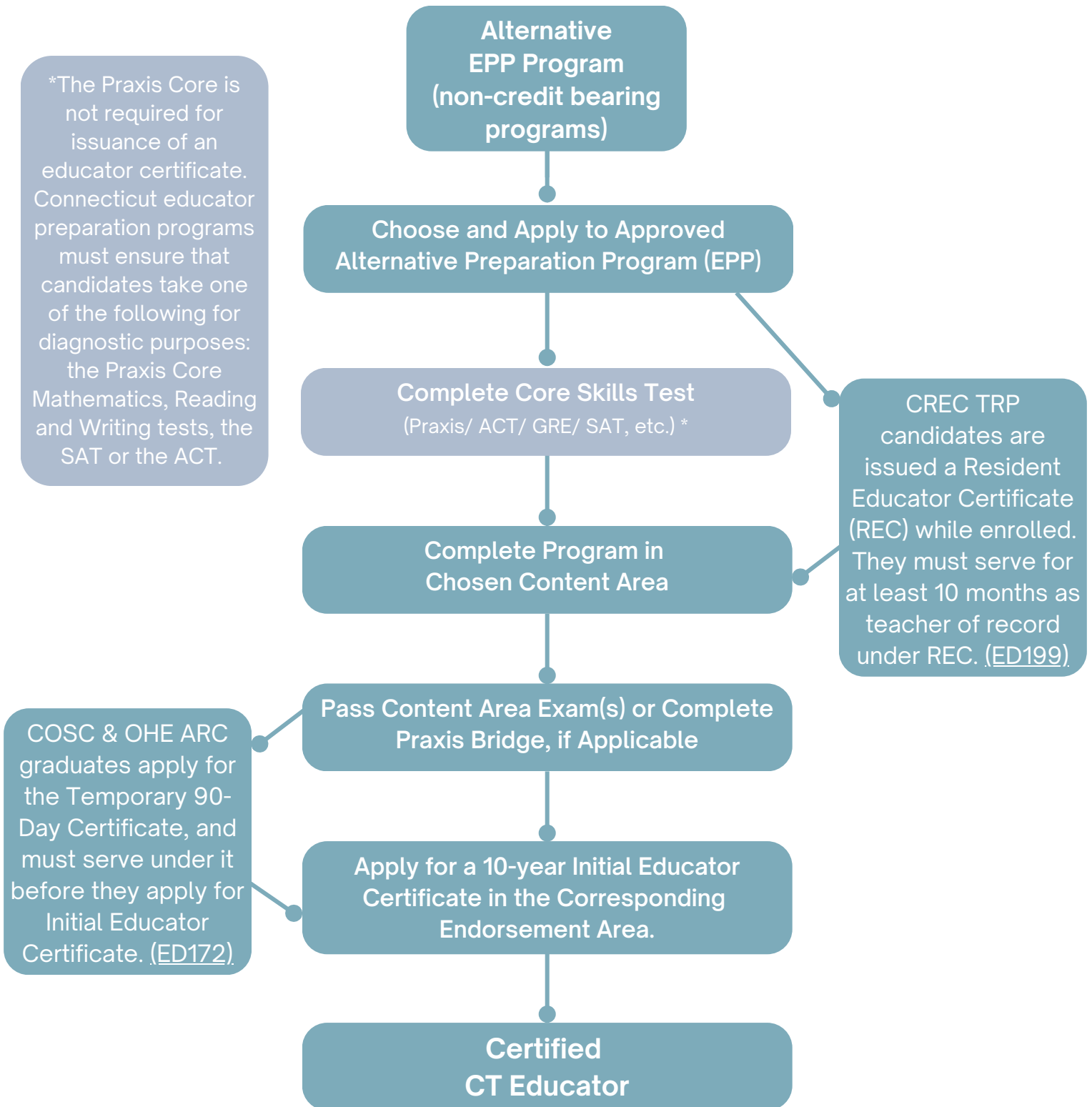
(e.g., High School Graduates, BA Graduates, Career Changers)



*The Praxis Core is not required for issuance of an educator certificate. Connecticut educator preparation programs must ensure that candidates take one of the following for diagnostic purposes: the Praxis Core Mathematics, Reading and Writing tests, the SAT or the ACT.

CANDIDATES SEEKING ALTERNATIVE PREPARATION

(e.g., BA Graduates, Career Changers)



CANDIDATES SEEKING **ENHANCED RECIPROCITY**

(e.g., Out of State Educators)

*Candidates seeking special service or administrative endorsements will be required to submit graduate transcripts as well.

**Alabama, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, or Wisconsin.

**Enhanced
Reciprocity**

Hold a valid*, fully licensed educator certificate equivalent to at least Connecticut's Initial Educator Certificate from 1 of the 23 approved states/territories**

**Certified
CT Educator**

RETIRED CT EDUCATOR

Not an Initial Certification Pathway

**Maintained
Certificate**

**Decide nature of employment
(e.g., full or part-time)**

Obtain required approvals from Teacher Retirement Board and complete required applications

Re-employed CT Educator

**Did not Maintain
Certificate**

Contact the State Department of Education to review options for reinstating expired certification

**Certified
CT Educator**

CANDIDATES SEEKING NASDTEC

INTERSTATE AGREEMENT

(e.g., Out of State Educators)

Hold a valid, fully licensed educator certificate in any state(s)/territory(ies) NOT covered by Enhanced Reciprocity

**Program
Institutional
Recommendation
(ED125)**

**Out of-State
Experience
(ED126)**

Specific Connecticut coursework requirements are waived if the candidate has completed a state-approved and accredited EPP in another state and/or documents 30 months of successful full-time teaching experience in another state under the valid certificate (minimally equivalent to CT's Initial Educator Certificate) in the corresponding subject area within 10 years of the date of application.

Candidate applies for an initial educator certificate in the corresponding endorsement area.

Testing is NOT waived*.

Educator is eligible for a 3 Year Nonrenewable Interim Initial Educator Certificate with deferral of testing.

If testing is completed in those 3 years, a certificate becomes a 10 year Initial Educator Certificate.

Testing is waived.

Educator is eligible for a 10 Year Initial Educator Certificate.

*Note: NIA program pathway does not waive testing; however, the CSDE can accept equivalent out-of-state content tests ([Form ED 711](#));

**Certified
CT Educator**

CANDIDATES SEEKING TRANSCRIPT/EXPERIENCE PATHWAY

(e.g., Approved Instate/Out-of-State Non-Public School Educator, International Candidates, College/Higher Ed. Candidates, & NASDTEC With Less Than 30 Months, Candidate Who Can't Produce Institutional Recommendation)

Transcript/Experience Pathway

2 Years Experience

The candidate must document at least 20 school months (2 years) of successful full-time or 40 school months (4 years) of successful part-time teaching experience* in the subject or field for which certification is sought. The experience must be in ONE out-of-state public school district under a valid certificate from that state, approved nonpublic school, or in an institution of higher education. For the #092 administrative certificate, experience in a CT education agency as a professional or managerial staff member may be accepted to waive the institutional recommendation.

Experience must be verified on the **ED 126 Form** - Statement of Professional Experience.

*Substitute teaching experience cannot be accepted to waive an institutional recommendation for certification.

Transcript Evaluation

The CSDE completes a course-by-course evaluation to identify regulatory coursework requirements, including the award of a bachelor's degree, general and professional education coursework, and testing requirements (if applicable).

All Requirements Met

**Certified
CT Educator**

Note: Occupation endorsements require 3-8 years of work experience and do not require a Bachelors Degree.

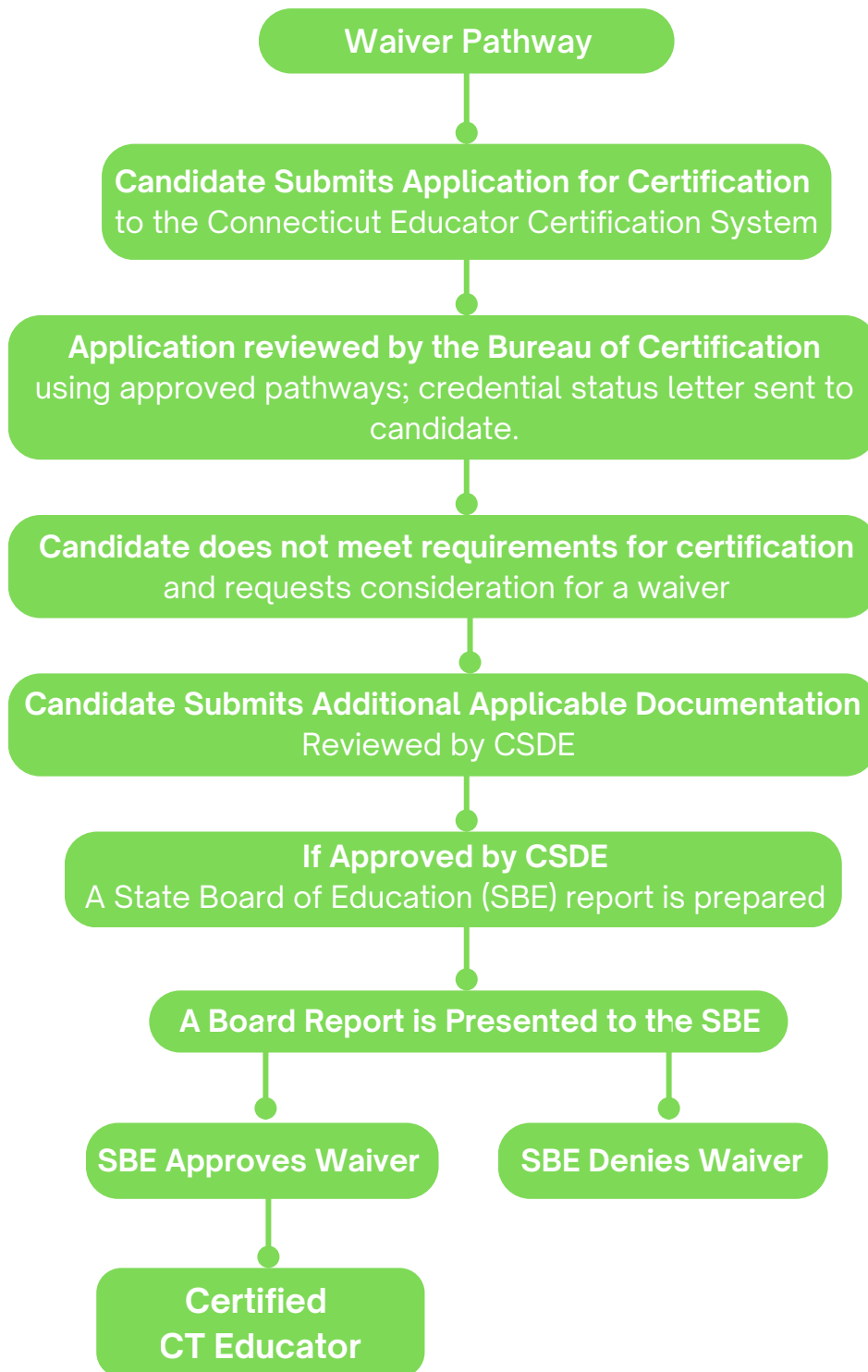
Additional Requirements Needed:
Candidate may be eligible for a durational shortage area permit (**DSAP- ED177**) to cover a teaching assignment in CT public school district while the candidate works to satisfy outstanding certification requirements.

All Requirements Met

CANDIDATES SEEKING **WAIVER PATHWAY**

(PUBLIC ACT 24-41 - SEC. 6)

(e.g., Candidate is unable to meet all other pathway requirements)



Note: While Awaiting Waiver it is recommended the candidate serve under a DSAP ([ED177](#)) (Durational Shortage Area Permit). This ensures legal coverage while maintaining appropriate salary and benefits

*Further attention to establish consistent criteria that align with sunseting regulations may be required.

ADDITIONAL TESTING **WAIVER OPTIONS**

Law/Policy	Waiver Option	Precise Requirements
PA 18-34	Accept out-of-state equivalent exams	Must be taken as part of educator prep program
Enhanced Reciprocity	Waives all Connecticut tests	Candidate holds equivalent certification from one of 23 approved states
NASDTEC (Experience Interstate Reciprocity)	Waives all Connecticut tests	Must document 30 months (3 years) of experience in the last 10 years under valid certification
PA 18-51	Defers CT testing for 3 years	For out-of-state program completers without equivalent exams; issued nonrenewable cert
PA 23-167 Sec. 8(c)	Waives CT testing for Registered Teacher Apprentices (Department of Labor)	Must be a registered apprentice, complete Residency Program, and obtain recommendation from Superintendent