

CertAlert

CERTIFICATION ALERT

Connecticut Educator Certification News from
The Connecticut State Department of Education



December 2025

Educator Certification & Teacher Education and Mentoring (TEAM)

(Effective July 1, 2025)

Requirements to Advance a Certificate to the Professional Level

To be eligible for a Professional Educator Certificate, educators must document at least 50 school months of successful service in Connecticut (under an Initial and/or Provisional Educator Certificate), complete the TEAM Program requirements, and hold a master's degree.

Note: Advanced coursework requirements for administrative and special service endorsements will not change. The master's degree requirement is specific to teaching endorsements.

How TEAM Entry Dates, Expected Completion Dates, and Deadline Dates Are Determined

The TEAM entry date is determined by the first time a teacher holding an Initial Educator Certificate has a classroom assignment working with students in the PK-12 grade range for a duration of 10 months. There are two TEAM entry dates per year. Educators who start prior to November 1st are issued an entry date of September 1st. Educators who start after November 1st but before February 15th are issued an entry date of February 15th. Educators who start after February 15th are issued an entry date of September 1st.

The endorsement listed on the Initial Educator Certificate is used to determine whether an educator is required to complete two or five modules. Educators who need to complete five modules are expected to complete TEAM within two years and have a three-year deadline, and those who need to complete two modules are expected to complete TEAM in one year and have a two-year deadline.

TEAM Program Intervening Study and Experience Requirements

If TEAM modules are not completed by an educator's deadline date, they will be required to complete the Intervening Study and Experience (IS/E) requirements, which include:

- A course on ethics and professional responsibility (course approval required);
- A reflection paper outlining new learning, impact on practice, and impact on students;
- An interview with the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) TEAM program managers;
- Successful continued experience in a district; and
- Upon completion of the IS/E requirements, the educator will re-enter the TEAM program and must finish any remaining modules.

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TEAM Mentor and Cooperating Teacher Eligibility

Previously, educators were required to possess a Provisional Educator Certificate to serve as a Cooperating Teacher or TEAM Program Mentor. As of July 1, 2025, Provisional Educator Certificates are no longer issued; therefore, those who hold an Initial Educator Certificate may be eligible. Educators must meet specific eligibility criteria set by the CSDE. The key requirements are as follows:

- Three years of successful teaching experience: One of the three years of teaching experience must be in the district where the mentor will be assigned.
- Successful completion of Initial Support Teacher (IST) Training.
- Professional Learning Units (PLUs): Mentors must complete a minimum of three PLUs within three years to maintain their mentor status.

These requirements ensure that mentors are well-prepared to support pre-service and beginning teachers effectively and maintain their professional growth. For more detailed information, educators can refer to the CSDE's [Teacher Education and Mentoring website](#).