



STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Master's Degree Policy Overview Updated: November 2017

This document provides information issued by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) about the implementation of the master's degree requirements in accordance with Connecticut state statute passed in 2012.

Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Section 10-145b(g) (as amended by PA 17-173) states that "...on or after July 1, 2018, to qualify for a *professional* educator certificate, a person who holds or has held a *provisional* educator certificate ... shall hold a master's degree in an appropriate subject matter area, as determined by the State Board of Education, related to such teacher's certification endorsement area."

Accordingly, the State Board of Education policy is amended as follows:

Applicants for a *professional* educator certificate who are **first certified** in Connecticut **after** July 1, 2018, shall complete a minimum of 15 graduate credits of content or content pedagogy, either as part of or in addition to a master's degree.

This policy will be applicable to certificate holders endorsed in the following teaching areas:

- Early Childhood
- Elementary
- Middle Grades
- Secondary
- PK-12 Special Subjects
- All Special Education Areas
- TESOL and Bilingual Education

Acceptable master's degrees include, but may not be limited to the following*:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ▪ English Language Arts/ELA Education | ▪ Health/Physical Education |
| ▪ Math/Math Education | ▪ Instructional Technology/Educational Technology |
| ▪ History-Social Studies/History-Social Studies Education | ▪ Interdisciplinary Studies/Liberal Arts |
| ▪ Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science or Physics/Science Education | ▪ Teacher Leadership |
| ▪ Spanish, French, Italian, Latin, German, or Chinese/World Languages Education | ▪ School Guidance Counseling |
| ▪ Arts/Arts Education (Music, Dance, Art, Theatre) | ▪ School Marriage and Family Therapy |
| ▪ STEM Education | ▪ School Psychology |
| ▪ TESOL/Bilingual Education | ▪ School Social Work |
| ▪ Reading/Literacy | ▪ School Speech and Language Pathology |
| ▪ Special Education | ▪ Library Media Studies |
| | ▪ Assessment and Measurement |
| | ▪ Curriculum and Instruction |
| | ▪ Administration/Educational Leadership |

*Programs not listed above, including certain doctoral degree programs, may qualify but would need to be pre-approved by the CSDE.

Questions about this policy may be directed to the certification office in writing at: teacher.cert@ct.gov.