

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Special Education Early Childhood Instructional Specialist, Birth – 4th grade
Additional Licensure Plan (area 231)

Name: _____ **S.S.#:** _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____

Email address: _____ County: _____ School District: _____

School districts seeking to employ teachers to teach out of field (not in the field in which the teacher is currently licensed) will use the Additional Licensure Plan (ALP) to meet that need. School districts may use the ALP process to address unusual emergency situations when licensed teachers are asked to teach in areas/levels for which they are not licensed. School districts may not exceed the three-year limit without possible penalty.

THIS AREA CANNOT BE ADDED BY TESTING ONLY.

Eligibility guidelines. Teachers must meet the following conditions:

- possess an initial or standard teaching license,
- seek to add this area of licensure or endorsement, and
- be assigned to teach in this area rather than the one for which they are currently licensed.

Teachers assigned to teach in this field of licensure must complete an approved performance-based program of study, defined by the university, and pass the required assessment(s) for the new licensure area. The additional area of licensure will be added to the credential when all licensure requirements are successfully completed and application is submitted bearing the signature of the university Licensure Officer , verifying completion of the program of study. Test scores and official transcript must be attached.

An applicant for this endorsement must enroll at a college or university that offers an approved special education program of study to obtain knowledge and skills in the following competency areas:

Recommended Content background:

- ✓ Knowledge of exceptionalities, including legal and social issues,
- ✓ Human growth & development, both typical & atypical from conception through age eight,
- ✓ Knowledge of disabling conditions, including causes and characteristics,
- ✓ Evaluation, assessment & eligibility criteria,
- ✓ Planning & service delivery for individualized service, including family service plans,
- ✓ Knowledge of family & community systems theory, including family dynamics,
- ✓ Knowledge of professional practice issues.
- ✓ Professional roles/issues/literature for teachers of students with disabilities.

Recommended Experience background:

- ✓ Study and practice on how to prepare and implement the IEP and the IFSP.
- ✓ Study and practice with special education laws, policies, and ethical principles regarding behavior management planning and implementation, including the identification of the use of a variety of behavior management strategies that promote the acquisition of appropriate social skills.
- ✓ Study of biological, environmental, and nutritional aspects, such as toxins, legal aspects, genetics, prematurity, and medical procedures. Con't on next page
- ✓ Practice with ways to select and implement evaluation, assessment, & eligibility criteria, including instrumentation, , child find & screening, referral & diagnostic.

- ✓ Study and practice with development of individualized family service plans, including IEP, interdisciplinary process, service delivery, caregiver programs, and collaboration with other agencies.
- ✓ Demonstrated understanding of history, legislation, litigation, philosophical & ethical issues, including records management, rationale, & research.
- ✓ Study and practice on how to incorporate technology in delivery of specialized instruction.
- ✓ Practice the role of a teacher as a multidisciplinary team member, including participation in transition planning, including parents, paraprofessionals, and community agencies.
- ✓ Study and practice of the collaborative skills necessary to assist individuals with disabilities, their families, and paraprofessionals in becoming active participants in the educational process.

Required assessments:

- **Praxis II: Special Education: Knowledge-Based Core Principles, test #0351**
Minimum score required: 150
- **Praxis II: Special Education: Preschool/Early Childhood, test #0690**
Minimum score required: 610

NOTE: Test at a Glance (TAAG) study guide booklets are available on line from www.ets.org/praxis/prxar.html. **Any teacher wishing to take any Praxis assessment is strongly encouraged to obtain these study materials.**

Employing school district guidelines.

- The employing district will document the need to assign a teacher out of field because an appropriately credentialed teacher is not available.
- The employing district will sign and file this ALP form with the ADE Office of Professional Licensure **within 30 days of the out-of-field teaching assignment**, thus documenting the above statement.
- The employing district understands that a teacher will have no more than three calendar years from the date of filing with the ADE to meet full licensure requirements for the additional licensure or endorsement being sought.

School District Assurances:

I certify that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

School District authority: _____ Date: _____

Teacher ALP guidelines.

Teachers must meet full licensure requirements for the additional license or endorsement being sought within three years of beginning the ALP.

Applicant's signature: _____ Date: _____

S.S.#: _____

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

Arkansas Department of Education
Office of Professional Licensure
#4 Capitol Mall, Room 106 B
Little Rock, AR 72201-1071

Phone: 501.682.4342
Fax: 501.682.4898
arkedu.state.ar.us