

State-by-State Chart for Policies on Reciprocity and Out-of-State Teacher Certification

Below is a chart that explains the basic conditions under which states do or do not grant reciprocity for out-of-state teachers, or accept their out-of-state qualifications and experience in the certification process. All teachers must be certified in the state in which they teach, and the requirements vary greatly between each state. Please use this chart as a starting point to find the information you need, by clicking on the links to “FURTHER INFORMATION.”

STATE	STATES CONSIDERED	CONDITIONS	FURTHER INFORMATION
Alabama (AL)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants must already have a professional/level 2 license. However, applicants from approved programs who do not yet have a professional license may be eligible for an alternative license.	http://www.alsde.edu/HTML/sections/teachercertAnswers.asp?section=66&sort=3&id=393&footer=sections
Alaska (AK)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants may receive a 3-year initial certificate with comparable out-of-state license and passing scores on Praxis I, CBEST (CA), or WEST-B (WA). Applicants without any of those test scores can receive a temporary 1-year certificate until one of those tests is completed. No out-of-state applicants may immediately receive a Professional Certificate.	http://www.eed.state.ak.us/TeacherCertification/
Arizona (AZ)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants with comparable certification will be granted a 1-year provisional reciprocity certificate. A 2-year provisional certificate will then be granted to those who fulfill both of the following requirements: 1) Pass the Professional Knowledge portion of the AEPA Exam or have 3 years out-of-state teaching experience 2) Pass the Subject Knowledge portion of the AEPA or have a graduate degree in the subject area.	http://www.ade.state.az.us/certification/ReciprocityRequirements.pdf OR http://www.ade.az.gov/certification/downloads/ReciprocalProvisionalTeachingCertificates.pdf

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Arkansas (AR)	N/A	Arkansas does not have a license for Japanese language and therefore cannot issue a reciprocal teaching license.	http://arkedu.state.ar.us/teachers/reciprocity.html
California (CA)	NONE	Some licensure can be granted to out-of-state applicants based on a variety of different conditions, but candidates must complete some extra coursework, tests etc. <i>(The rules regarding out-of-state teacher licensing are too complex to simplify in this document. Yet, please note one common misconception: CLAD certification is not a state requirement for instructors only teaching a foreign language. However, districts may require it of all teachers as an employment condition. For more information on CLAD, please visit http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/el/er/elteachersfaq.asp.)</i>	http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/out-of-state.html
Colorado (CO)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants must first apply for an Initial License and may be subject to extra testing (except if they have at least 3 years of teaching experience). After designated requirements and testing have been met, the Initial License holder may apply for a Professional License.	http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdepr/of/lirecip.htm
Connecticut (CT)	All but AK, AZ, IA, KS, LA, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WI, WY	Out-of-state applicants are eligible for some sort of certification, depending on qualifications and experience, but may still be required to complete CT specific testing/licensure requirements.	http://www.state.ct.us/sde/dtl/cert/facts01/fact106.htm
Delaware (DE)	ALL	Comparable certification (World Languages Certificate) will be granted to licensed out-of-state applicants pending review. Those without Japanese subject certification may take ACTFL's OPI exam.	https://deeds.doe.k12.de.us/certificate/deeds_reciprocity.aspx

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District of Columbia (DC)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants with a level II / professional / standard license but less than 3 years teaching experience may receive a 3-year Provisional Teaching License, but will be required to complete some testing before receiving a Standard License. Those who also have 3 years of teaching experience can receive a Standard Teaching License (further testing is not necessarily required).	http://www.k12.dc.us/dcsea/certification/licensing/initialteacher.html
Florida (FL)	ALL	Comparable certification will be granted to licensed out-of-state applicants pending review. For those without Japanese subject certification, alternative assessment is not accepted.	http://www.fldoe.org/edcert/level1.asp
Georgia (GA)	All but AK	Comparable certification will be granted to licensed out-of-state applicants, provided that they meet all applicable 'special Georgia requirements' (and all applicable content assessment is documented).	http://www.gapsc.com/TeacherCertification/RoutestoCertification.asp#Reciprocity
Hawaii (HI)	ALL	Comparable certification will be granted to licensed out-of-state applicants. Applicants' qualifications must be equivalent to comparable Hawaii licensure, including applicable Praxis testing.	http://www.htsb.org/ OR http://www.htsb.org/forms/Init_Tchr_License/LA_4005_VQE_Final.pdf
Idaho (ID)	ALL	A 3-year Interim Certificate will be issued to those with current out-of-state licenses. During those 3 years applicants must pass the Idaho technology test, Praxis II for pedagogy, and any other deficiencies that are identified. Note that teachers must have accrued at least 20 semester credits of Japanese language courses.	http://www.sde.state.id.us/certification/faq.asp

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Illinois (IL)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants may be eligible for comparable certification depending on their qualifications and experience, pending Illinois basic skills, content area, and assessment of professional teaching tests. Note, some applicants may be exempt from the basic skills and content area tests.	http://www.isbe.state.il.us/certification/requirements/outofstate.htm
Indiana (IN)	All but IA, KS, LA, MN, MO, PA, SD,WI	1, 5, or 10 year licenses are granted to out-of-state applicants based on their level of qualification for all but IA, KS, LA, MN, MO, PA, SD,WI. Candidates from those states may also apply, but will be subject to stricter review.	http://www.doe.state.in.us/dps/welcome.html
Iowa (IA)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants will be given a three year conditional certification--the state would review their credentials and then if necessary ask for them to take more coursework – Note that Iowa requires coursework in the subject area, even for native speakers.	http://www.state.ia.us/boee/#a
Kansas (KA)	ALL	Depending on experience, and level of assessment (content assessment, pedagogy assessment, and performance assessment) out-of-state applicants can receive a comparable certificate – either a One-year nonrenewable, Conditional, or Professional Certificate.	http://www.ksde.org/cert/licensure_info.htm OR http://www.ksde.org/cert/form2testing.doc
Kentucky (KY)	ALL	Depending on experience, and level of assessment (content assessment, pedagogy assessment, and performance assessment) out-of-state applicants can receive a comparable certificate – either a One-year nonrenewable, Conditional, or Professional Certificate.	http://www.kyepsb.net/certification/certstandardroutes.asp
Louisiana (LA)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants can get comparable licensure pending evaluation. They must pass applicable Praxis and NTE requirements. Applicants can obtain a non-renewable out-of-state certificate without the Praxis and NTE requirements, but must fulfill them within the allotted 3-year time period.	http://www.teachlouisiana.net/teachers.asp?PageID=39

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Maine (ME)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants may be eligible for a provisional license, but must meet appropriate qualifications, such as applicable Praxis testing, Basic Skills Test, "Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular Classroom," etc.	http://www.maine.gov/education/cert/index.html
Maryland (MD)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants can get comparable licensure pending evaluation, but must have 3 years of full-time teaching experience.	http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/certification/certification_branch/certification
Massachusetts (MA)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants can get comparable licensure pending evaluation, but must pass the Communication and Literacy Skills Test	http://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/603cmr7.html?section=05
Michigan (MI)	All but IA, MN, MO, SD, WI, WY	For out-of-state applicants from all states except AZ, IA, KS, MN, MO, SD, WI, WY, pending evaluation, Michigan will match licensure as closely as possible requiring little to no further training/testing. For AZ, IA, KS, MN, MO, SD, WI, WY, the process is the same, but applications will be scrutinized more closely and possibly subject to rejection.	http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530_5683_14795---.00.html
Minnesota (MN)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants may apply for First-Time Licensure if they have completed applicable Praxis I and Praxis II testing and a Minnesota Human Relations Program. Otherwise they may be granted a one-year, non-renewable license until these requirements have been met.	http://www.education.state.mn.us/mde/Teacher_Support/Educator_Licensing/Types_of_Licenses/First_Time_Licensure_Adding_to_Existing/000480.html
Mississippi (MS)	ALL	A 2-year certificate will be granted to all licensed out-of-state teachers, and 5-year certificate granted to those with 2 or more years of full-time teaching experience.	http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/ed_licensure/reciprocity.html
Missouri (MO)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants with a valid teaching certificate can be granted a comparable Initial or Career level certificate depending on years of teaching experience.	http://www.dese.mo.gov/divteachqual/teachcert/certclass.htm
Montana (MT)	NONE	N/A	http://www.opi.state.mt.us/

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Nebraska (NE)	ALL	A 1-year provisional license, 2-year provisional license, or 2-year Temporary Certificate can be granted to out-of-state applicants depending on which state they are from, their Nebraska employment status, qualifications and whether they have completed the necessary Basic Skills Competency Test, Human Relations Training, and Special Education Competencies.	http://www.nde.state.ne.us/TCERT/
Nevada (NV)	All but AR, CA, CO, DC, HI, IL, IA, MN, NY, NC	Nevada has full reciprocity with other states in the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement. Applicants with regular (not provisional) certification can be given comparable certification in Nevada. This includes 3 years teaching experience with competency testing	http://www.doe.nv.gov/licensing/license-reciprocity.html
New Hampshire (NH)	ALL	Comparable certification will be given to fully licensed out-of-state applicant who have at least 3-years full-time teaching experience. However, depending on qualifications, the applicant may have to complete further testing to comply with New Hampshire standards.	http://www.ed.state.nh.us/education/beEd.htm
New Jersey (NJ)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants with at least 1-year teaching experience (plus student teaching program) are eligible for a Standard Certificate (lifetime), OR a Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing for those who completed a student teaching program OR a Certificate of Eligibility is available for those who have only completed a regionally-accredited teacher training program.	http://www.state.nj.us/njded/educators/license/
New Mexico (NM)	ALL	Depending on qualifications and experience, out-of-state applicants with a standard certificate are eligible for comparable certification.	http://www.ped.state.nm.us/div/ais/lic/options.html

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New York (NY)	All but AK, IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, NY, ND, SD, WI, WY	Out-of-state applicants from accepted states may be granted either a 2-year Conditional Initial or 5-year Regular Initial certificate, depending on qualifications and work experience. A Full Professional Certificate may be issued once applicants have met all New York standards for this license.	http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/certificate/teachrecother.htm
North Carolina (NC)	All but AZ, IA, KS, MN, MO, MT, SD, WI	Provided candidates' qualifications meet the standards of NC, and are considered "highly qualified" in their own state, equivalent licensure will be given, pending passing scores on applicable Praxis II tests.	http://www.ncpublicschools.org/licensure/lifaq.htm#TOP
North Dakota (ND)	N/A	No licensure is available for Japanese	http://www.nd.gov/espb/licensure/types.html
Ohio (OH)	All but LA, MN, MO, NV, NM, ND, TX, WY	Out-of-state applicants must meet Ohio Praxis II testing requirements and Japanese teachers must apply for a "multi-age (P-12) foreign language license for Japanese". Teachers from LA, MN, MO, NV, NM, ND, TX, WY may also apply, but there is no reciprocity agreement to support their application, possibly making it more difficult to get Ohio licensure.	http://www.ode.state.oh.us/Teaching-Profession/Teacher/Certification/Licensure/initialoos.asp
Oklahoma (OK)	ALL	A 2-year temporary certificate will be issued (pending general education, subject area, and professional education competency tests, or out-of-state equivalent), then a 5-year certificate will be issued after 1 year of full-time teaching in Oklahoma	http://sde.state.ok.us/home/defaultie.html (go to "site index", then click on "teaching certificate")
Oregon (OR)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants are eligible for comparable certification, but must get a "Transitional Teaching License"	www.tspc.state.or.us OR http://www.tspc.state.or.us/pub.asp?id=54
Pennsylvania (PA)	All but IA, MN, MO, SD, WI	Out-of-state applicants Must take the Praxis exams required by PA, and to dual certify in Japanese, must take the Praxis Foreign Language Exam (generic) or take the Japanese writing exam and the OPI administered by ACTFL.	http://www.teaching.state.pa.us/teaching/cwp/view.asp?A=3&Q=22613

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Rhode Island (RI)	All but IA, KS, MN, MO, SD, WI	Full reciprocity is available to applicants holding Level 2 certificates from other states with a reciprocity contract. A 3-year Certificate of Eligibility of employment is available for those who have completed an out of state accredited teacher training program, but do not hold a level 2 certificate, or hold a certificate in a state that does not have reciprocity.	http://www.ride.ri.gov/Certification_PD/certification/Reciprocity.htm
South Carolina (SC)	ALL	The appropriate level of PLT or equivalent out-of-state pedagogy exams are required for out-of-state applicants to receive a 3-year Initial Certificate. 3-years teaching experience is also required for the 5-year Professional Certificate.	http://www.scteachers.org/cert/reciprocal.cfm Also see chart at http://www.scteachers.org/Cert/chart.cfm
South Dakota (SD)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants can get a 1-year Temporary Certificate, or if they have passing Praxis II scores and 6 relevant semester-hour credits within the last 5 years, they can get a 5-year Regular Certificate.	http://doe.sd.gov/oatq/teachercert/index.asp
Tennessee (TN)	All but NH	Applicants with 3 years teaching experience and full out-of-state licensure may receive a 5-year Out-of-State License, then get a 10-year Professional License after 1 year teaching in TN. Applicants with less than 3 years experience get a 5-year Apprentice License, then get a 10-year Professional License after 3 years in TN.	http://www.state.tn.us/education/lic/out.shtml
Texas (TX)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants must take TEXES Exams (similar to Praxis) within one year. If the Candidate has no subject certification in Japanese, they must complete such a program as well.	http://www.sbec.state.tx.us/SBECOnline/certinfo/routescertif.asp#oos2?width=1024&height=768?width=1024&height=768?width=1024&height=768
Utah (UT)	All but AK, IA, MN, MO, SD, WI, WY	Out-of-state applicants can receive comparable certification, so long as all Utah license requirements have been met. If there are insufficiencies, a Conditional Level 1 license may be temporarily issued.	http://www.schools.utah.gov/cert/OOS/Oosappl.htm

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Vermont (VT)	All but IA, MN	A 7-year Level 2 License will be issued to those with 3 years out-of-state teaching experience, or a 3-year Initial License will be issued to those with less than 3-years experience.	http://www.state.vt.us/educ/new/html/licensing/forms/reciprocity.html
Virginia (VA)	ALL	Pending review of application and possible additional assessment, out-of-state applicants are eligible for reciprocity.	http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/newvdoe/licroute.htm Also see http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/suptsmemos/2005/reg012.html
Washington (WA)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants will be issued a temporary permit pending passing scores on applicable Praxis II tests. They will be given a 1-year grace period on these scores if they have 3 years teaching experience. They must also pass a basic skills test within 1 year. A 7-year Residency Certificate (provisional for the first 2-years) will be issued once these requirements have been met. Applicants are then eligible for a Professional Certificate. Only candidates holding an Oregon CTL issued since 1999 may qualify for this immediately	http://www.k12.wa.us/certification/teacher/teacherinformation.aspx
West Virginia (WV)	ALL	West Virginia has reciprocity with all states, but applications are subject to basic approval.	http://wvde.state.wv.us/certification/certificationfaqs.html
Wisconsin (WI)	ALL	After application review applicants with comparable out-of-state licenses will be issued a licenses with identified "deficiencies/stipulations" which must be overcome removed through coursework and/or testing within a given timeframe.	http://www.dpi.wi.gov/tepd/oo.html
Wyoming (WY)	ALL	Out-of-state applicants will be given full reciprocity, pending passing scores on applicable Praxis 1 & 2 tests, but must pass US and Wyoming Constitution courses or tests.	http://ptsb.state.wy.us/faq.asp