

July 12, 2018

Requirements for the Life Science Endorsement 7-12 (395)

You will be eligible for a conditional certificate through the targeted need pathway if you have completed 6 credits of coursework toward this endorsement.

You will be eligible for a conditional certificate if you have completed Section A.

You will be eligible for a conditional certificate through the transitional pathway if you are already a teacher and you have completed 6 credits of coursework toward this endorsement.

If you complete all requirements, you will be issued a five-year professional certificate.

NOTE: The number in () indicates the number of semester hours required.		
Section A:		
1. Bachelor's degree conferred		
2. Life sciences from one or more of the following areas: biology, ecology, botany, zoology, anatomy, physiology, environmental science, entomology, ornithology (24)		
3. Criminal history record check approval – based on fingerprints		
Section B:		
1. Teaching exceptional students in the regular classroom (3)***		
2. Secondary science methods (3)		
3. Student teaching (will be waived upon one school year of successful teaching in Maine under a valid certificate)		
Section C: Core Academic Skills for Educators/PRAXIS I		
Reading	Test: #5712	Score 156
Writing	Test: #5722	Score 162
Mathematics	Test: #5732	Score 150
Composite		Score 468
Section D: PRAXIS II		
Biology: CK	Test Code 5235	Score 150
Section E: Principles of Learning and Teaching Level 7-12		
Test Code 5624 Score 157 OR Successful completion of a state-approved teacher education program		

If this requirements list is more than two years old, please contact the certification office, as the requirements may have changed.

Science is considered a shortage (targeted need) area, so the requirements for certification have been lowered to allow for more teachers to be hired.

Courses must be 100 level or higher from a four-year accredited college offering a bachelor's degree, with the following exception: a maximum of six semester hours of Section A may be met

through CLEP Exam(s) with a minimum score of 60 on subject examinations for courses you have not taken through a four-year accredited college. Required semester hours shall consist of non-duplicative coursework: examples: only one English Composition course or only one Algebra I course.

***These credits may be earned through coursework or through completion of an approved in-service program taken since July 1975 and approved by the Maine Department of Education's Certification Office. This requirement may not be met through experience.

Fingerprint schedule on web site www.identogo.com

Register at www.ets.org/praxis/me/requirements

Applicants for initial teacher certification must achieve a composite score of 468 on the three sections of the Core Academic Skills for Educators, with no single score on any section being more than three points lower than the required score above.

Applicants for certificates requiring bachelor's degrees may use passing scores on either the Pre-Professional Skills Test/PPST or the Core Academic Skills for Educators until 8-31-18. As of 9-1-18, all applicants must meet passing scores on the Core Academic Skills for Educators exams.

Applicants for certificates requiring the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) PRAXIS exam for Secondary Grades 7-12 or Vocational (Career & Technical Education) Grades 9-12 may meet a passing score on either PLT Test Code 0524 or PLT Test Code 0624/5624 until 8-31-16. As of 9-1-16, all applicants must meet a passing score on test 0624.

A provisional certificate is issued to an applicant who has met all of the requirements but has not taught for two school years in a Maine school with a Professional Learning Community Support System (PLCSS). Once an applicant has taught for two school years in a Maine school and been recommended for a five-year certificate by the local school district's PLCSS, the full five-year certificate will be issued.