

Law & Public Safety Programs

Occupation Based Certification Guide

As directed in [16 KAR 2:020](#), all candidates pursuing occupation-based teacher certification in Kentucky are required to:

- Complete Year 1 and 2 of New Teacher Institute (NTI) – Jodi Adams, Director: Jodi.Adams@education.ky.gov
- Have an Associate degree or higher in the content area (or Career and Technical Education). If candidate does not have at least an Associate degree in the technical area of the program they will be teaching (or Career and Technical Education), they will have six (6) years to obtain this degree, and must complete at least 6 college credit hours from the degree program each year. NTI will count as the required 6 college credit hours during NTI Year 1 and 2 for renewal purposes.

Prior to an offer of employment:

- **Candidate meets work experience criteria (4 years of experience in content area, 2 years of experience in the past 5 years). The state program consultant will verify eligible work experience.**
- **There is no college degree required (at the time of hire). If a candidate does not have a degree, the candidate will be required to take a content knowledge exam (requirements below).**

After a top candidate is chosen and an offer of employment has been extended:

1. Candidate completes the KECS [Verification of Experience Form](#) and email as an encrypted document (encrypt with password) to Carmela Clark at carmela.clark@education.ky.gov.
2. The candidate either takes and passes a content knowledge assessment OR has **current** industry certification to show content knowledge within the area in which certification is sought.
 - Fire Service Technology** – IFSAC Accredited Fire Fighter I **AND** IFSAC Fire Fighter II Certification **AND** IFAC Accredited & KY Fire Commission Fire Instructor I **OR** Fire Instructor II certification – **OR** – Associate or Bachelor's in Fire Science or related discipline **AND** Kentucky Fire Commission Fire Instructor I or II Certification. (Must earn IFSAC Accredited Fire Fighter I **AND** II certification within 12 months).
 - Law Enforcement** – NOCTI Criminal Justice (70) **OR** Certification as police officer/police instructor from Kentucky Law Enforcement Council
 - Pre-Law** – bachelor's degree and active license to practice law **OR** Paralegal/Legal Studies degree.
3. Candidate sends **official** college transcripts (if applicable) to Carmela Clark. To be considered official, the transcript must arrive in our office unopened (if sent US Mail) **OR** ordered through the National Student Clearinghouse and emailed directly to Carmela Clark. If ordered through National Student Clearinghouse, please list carmela.clark@education.ky.gov as the transcript recipient. The link is: <https://studentclearinghouse.org/> (and click on Order/Track/Verify button to order the transcript).
If a candidate does not have any college hours, the candidate will be required to take one of the following general knowledge exams (ACT/SAT/KYOTE/GED) and obtain a passing score. Contact Carmela Clark to set up KYOTE tests (no fee).

General Knowledge and Competency Exams:

ACT:

Reading – score of 20 or higher
Mathematics – score of 19 or higher
English (Writing) – score of 18 or higher

KYOTE:

Reading – score of 20 or higher
Mathematics – score of 22 or higher on College Readiness Mathematics or score of 14 or higher on College Algebra
English (Writing) – score of 6 or higher

SAT:

Reading – score of 470 or higher on Evidence-Based Reading and Writing
Mathematics – score of 460 or higher
English (Writing) – score of 430 or higher on Evidence-Based Reading and Writing

GED College Readiness:

Reading – score of 165 or higher on Reasoning through the Language Arts
Mathematics – score of 165 or higher on Mathematical Reasoning
English (Writing) - score of 165 or higher on Reasoning through the Language Arts

Once the candidate meets above requirements and all relevant documentation is in KDE possession, OCTE will recommend candidate to EPSB for initial provisional certification. Candidates will be contacted by Jodi Adams for more information regarding enrollment in NTI.