



Regional Consortia Alternate Route Teacher Certification Program

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Frequently Asked Questions

1. If I am willing to pay the \$8,000 myself, may I participate in the certification program assuming I meet all the criteria for qualifications?
Yes if there is room.
2. If I don't get a teaching position within ESD 123, but do secure a position within the state, what is the loan payment situation?
You do not have to repay if you are employed anywhere within the state in a public school and teaching in one of the high need content areas. If you are not so employed, the Higher Education Certification Board will schedule your repayment over the next five years.
3. Does this give you an endorsement just as if you had gone through a "traditional program?"
Yes
4. Could I get two endorsements in two of the "high need" content areas if I worked with two mentors or your one mentor teaches in two of these areas?
Yes
5. I have a 4-year degree from an accredited institution, but not in the "high need" content area. If I can pass the West B and WEST E in the "high need" area, can I proceed with the program?
Yes
6. Is special education at the elementary level an identified area of need?
Yes, special education at all levels is "high need".
7. Is any district in ESD 123 considered "high need" due to geographic area, thus qualifying their intern people in a content area such as high school English?
Yes, however the district must state their position with ESD 123 that they are having trouble getting highly qualified teachers in that "non high need" subject area.
8. I have a Speech Pathology degree and I am currently working as a CDS in a school district. Do I qualify for the program?
No, because this program is not a master's degree program, which is required of you to work as a CDS.
9. I have a current certification from another state. Do I qualify?
No, you need to call the Certification office at ESD 123 (509-544-5702) and they will advise you as to the steps you need to follow.

10. If I complete the program prior to the end of the year, must I stay a full year as an intern?

No, you can leave upon completion of at least half the school year, however, you may want to remain the full year to gain more skills and experience, which is certainly acceptable.

11. I have a degree from another country. Will I qualify?

No, your degree must be from an accredited institution in the USA.

12. What happens if I do not complete the program or can't successfully pass the WEST E and I am already in the summer institute?

If you have received any grant money, it must be returned.