



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Arizona Department of Education
Certification Updates
August, 2017

Certification Exam Changes Effective August 9, 2017

This memo is to inform you of upcoming changes to Educator Certification exam requirements due to the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 1042. Effective August 9, 2017, there will be several new options for applicants to waive the required educator exams. The new options to waive Certification exams are explained below.

AEPA/NES Professional Knowledge Exams

Applicants may waive the AEPA or NES Professional Knowledge exam with **one** of the following:

- Three years of full-time teaching experience in any state, including Arizona, in the same area of certification in which the person is applying for certification in this state.
- The applicant has passed a substantially similar professional knowledge exam that has been adopted by a teacher licensure agency in another state.

AEPA/NES Subject Knowledge exams

Applicants may waive the AEPA or NES Subject Knowledge exam with **one** of the following:

- A Bachelor's, Master's, or Doctoral degree in the subject area of certification.
- Three years of full-time teaching experience in any state, including Arizona, in the same area of certification in which the person is applying for certification in this state.
- The applicant has passed a substantially similar subject knowledge exam that has been adopted by a teacher licensure agency in another state.
- Experience teaching courses relevant to the subject area for the last two consecutive years, and for a total of three years, at a regionally or nationally accredited postsecondary institution.
- Demonstration of expertise in the subject area through five years of work experience in a field that is relevant to the subject area.
- Individuals who apply for a Secondary teaching certificate may qualify for a waiver of an AEPA Science or Mathematics exam with verification of five or more years of work experience in a science, technology, engineering or mathematics field and twenty-four semester hours of coursework or a postsecondary degree in the science or mathematics subject area.

Please review the attached Arizona Educator Exam Waivers FAQs for further information on requirements and procedures to waive Certification exam requirements. You may contact the Certification office at 602-542-4367 or email Certification@azed.gov if you have any questions or concerns.