Requirements for the Standard Professional PreK-12 Theatre Education Certificate

Arizona Department of Education – Certification Unit

Standard Professional PreK-12 Theatre Education Certificate

The Standard certificate is valid for 12 years and may be renewed.

Requirements for the Standard Professional PreK-12 Theatre Education Certificate are:

1. **Application:** Submission of a completed Application for Certification and the appropriate fee (see Application for Certification).

2. **AZDPS IVP fingerprint clearance card:** A photocopy of your valid Arizona Department of Public Safety Identity Verified Prints (IVP) fingerprint clearance card.

3. **Bachelor’s degree:** A Bachelor’s or more advanced degree from an accredited college or university.
   - **Required Documentation:** Official transcript(s) posting the degree and date awarded.

4. **One of the following (Option A, B, or C):**
   - **Option A. Teacher Preparation Program:** Completion of a teacher preparation program in PreK-12 Theatre Education from a Board-approved educator preparation program or from an accredited institution offering substantially similar training, addressing the topics listed below and any others as required by law: Foundations of production; Aesthetics, theatre history, literature, theory and criticism; Advanced work in theatre performance; Instructional design and lesson planning, including modifications, and accommodations; The learning environment, including classroom management; Assessing, monitoring and reporting progress; Professional responsibility and ethical conduct and; Twelve weeks of capstone experience as described in R7-2-604 in grades Pre-K-12 theatre education, which may be completed during the valid period of a teaching intern or student teaching intern certificate.
     - **Required Documentation:** Official transcripts or an Arizona Institutional Recommendation (IR) documenting completion of the teacher preparation program.
   - **Option B. Teaching Experience and Coursework/Training:** Both of the following:
     - **B-1.** Two (2) years of full-time teaching experience in PreK-12 Theatre Education.
       - **Required Documentation:** A Verification of Teaching Experience form, completed and signed by the school Superintendent or Personnel/HR director, verifying completion of the required teaching experience.
     - **B-2.** Completion of Board approved or accredited coursework or trainings which teach the knowledge and skills described in Arizona Administrative Code R7-2-602 and address the following topics:
       a. Foundations of production
       b. Aesthetics,
       c. Theatre history, literature, theory and criticism
       d. Advanced work in theatre performance
       e. Instructional design and lesson planning, including modifications, and accommodations
       f. The learning environment, including classroom management
       g. Assessing, monitoring and reporting progress
       h. Professional responsibility and ethical conduct.
       - **Required Documentation:** Official transcript(s) documenting completion of the coursework or trainings.
Requirements for the Standard Professional PreK-12 Theatre Education Certificate

Arizona Department of Education – Certification Unit

Option C. **Out-of-State Certification.** The applicant holds a valid, comparable PreK-12 Theatre Education certificate from another state and is in good standing with that other state. Applicants who qualify under this option are **not** required to meet the exam requirements listed under #5 and #6.

- **Required Documentation:** A photocopy of the valid, comparable teaching certificate from another state.

5. **Professional Knowledge Exam Requirement. One** of the following (Option A, B, C, or D):

Option A. **NES/AEPA:** A passing score on the National Evaluation Series (NES) or Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment (AEPA) Assessment of Professional Knowledge-Elementary or Assessment of Professional Knowledge-Secondary exam.

- **Required Documentation:** A photocopy of the official NES or AEPA score report.

Option B. **Out-of-State Exam:** A passing score on a substantially similar Assessment of Professional Knowledge-Elementary or Assessment of Professional Knowledge-Secondary examination from another state or agency.

- **Required Documentation:** An original, official score report, or a verification letter from the state agency that accepted the exam, documenting that you passed the exam.

Option C. **NBPTS:** A valid comparable certificate from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).

- **Required Documentation:** A photocopy of the NBPTS certificate.

Option D. **Teaching Experience:** Three years of full-time teaching experience in any state, including Arizona, in grades PreK-12. **Note:** Experience teaching in a foreign school does **not** meet this requirement.

- **Required Documentation:** A [Verification of Teaching Experience](#) form, completed and signed by the District Superintendent or Personnel/HR Director, verifying the required teaching experience.

6. **Subject Knowledge Exam Requirement. One** of the following:

Option A. **Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment (AEPA/NES):** A passing score on the AEPA Subject Knowledge: Theatre exam.

- **Required Documentation:** A photocopy of the passing score report.

Option B. **Out-of-State Exam:** A passing score on a substantially similar Subject Knowledge: Theatre examination from another state or agency.

- **Required Documentation:** An original, official score report, or verification letter from the agency that accepted the exam, documenting that you passed the substantially similar exam.

Option C. **NBPTS:** A valid comparable certificate from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

- **Required Documentation:** A photocopy of the NBPTS certificate.

Option D. **Degree in the Subject:** A Bachelor’s, Master’s, or Doctorate degree from an accredited institution in Theatre.

- **Required Documentation:** Official transcripts documenting the degree.

Option E. **Teaching Experience:** Verification of three years of full-time teaching experience in any state, including Arizona, in PreK-12 Theatre. **Note:** Experience teaching in a foreign school does not meet this requirement.

- **Required Documentation:** A [Verification of Teaching Experience](#) form, completed and signed by the District Superintendent or Personnel/HR Director verifying the required teaching experience.
Requirements for the Standard Professional PreK-12 Theatre Education Certificate

Arizona Department of Education – Certification Unit

Option F. **Post-Secondary Teaching:** Experience teaching courses relevant to Theatre for the last two consecutive years and for a total of at least three years, at one or more regionally or nationally accredited postsecondary institutions.

  o **Required Documentation:** A letter(s) from the college or university Department Chair, Dean, or Personnel Director, verifying postsecondary teaching experience for the specific durations.

Option G. **Work Experience:** Demonstration of expertise in Theatre through five years of relevant work experience.

  o **Required Documentation.** One of the following:

    • A letter from a public school Superintendent or Personnel/HR Director verifying that they have five years of work experience which demonstrates expertise in the subject area-OR-

    • A resume which details work experience of at least five years which demonstrates expertise in the subject area. Note: The Department will review your resume to determine if you have demonstrated expertise through five years of relevant work experience.

| Requirements # 7, #8, and #9 are allowable deficiencies which must be completed in the specified timeframe. |

The following requirements must be completed within **one year** or **three years** to maintain the validity of the certificate:

7. **Arizona Constitution:** A college course or the appropriate examination covering the provisions and principles of the Arizona Constitution.

8. **U.S. Constitution:** A college course or the appropriate examination covering the provisions and principles of the United States Constitution.

9. **Ethics:** A college course or Board approved or accredited training in in professional responsibility and ethical conduct.

**Arizona and U.S. Constitution Requirements:** If you otherwise qualify but are deficient in the Arizona Constitution and/or U.S. Constitution, you have **three years** under a valid teaching certificate to fulfill these requirements, except that if you are certified to teach an academic course on history, government, social studies, citizenship, law, or civics, you have **one year** to fulfill the Arizona and U.S. Constitution requirements. **

**Ethics Requirements:** If you otherwise qualify but are deficient in the Phonics, Dyslexia, and/or Ethics requirements, you have **three years** under a valid teaching certificate to fulfill these requirements. **

**NOTE:** If you do not complete the allowable deficiency requirements within the allowable time frame, your Standard teaching certificate will be **temporarily suspended** and will not be valid for employment until the deficiency is corrected. A temporary suspension for failure to meet these requirements is not considered a disciplinary action and a person shall be allowed to correct the deficiency within the remaining timeframe of the certificate. **