

Post-Baccalaureate Traditional Cohort Teacher Certification Questions and Answers

- **Who can apply?**
Any person with a bachelor's degree from an accredited university who wishes to teach elementary school (grades K- 8) and middle school (6,7,8) may apply.
- **When is the deadline to apply?**
The application process has begun and will close once the cohort is full.
- **When do classes begin?**
The Traditional May Cohort begins mid-May.
The Traditional November Cohort begins in November.
- **What time commitment is required?**
The STEP post-baccalaureate teacher certification program is a field-based immersion program that requires students to participate two full days per week taking course work and completing field-based classroom internships.

During the school year, students spend the day at field-based schools working side-by-side with teachers in the classrooms (usually 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM), and attend classes at SCC from 4:00 - 8:30 PM.

Homework and class preparation are in addition to these hours.

During the twelve weeks of student teaching at the end of the program, students spend full time at the school with no classes at SCC.

- **Who are the teachers?**
Master teachers have been selected at each of the partner schools to provide the highest quality field experiences. The instructors for the methods courses include master teachers, professional development trainers, school principals and college professors.
- **What are the requirements for teacher certification in Arizona?**
The Arizona Department of Education requires the following for Elementary Teacher Certification (K-8).
 1. Possession of a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.
 2. Valid IVP Fingerprint Clearance Card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
 3. Completion of required twelve weeks of student teaching.

4. Passing score on the Elementary Professional Knowledge Arizona teacher certification exam.
5. Passing scores on the Elementary Education Subject Knowledge portion of the Arizona teacher exam.

- **What are the Arizona teacher exams)?**

To obtain a teaching certificate in Arizona, teachers must take and pass the Arizona teacher exams from the National Evaluation Systems (NES) in Professional Knowledge and Subject Knowledge for elementary education. Specific information about the educator testing is available on the [Arizona State Department of Education website](#).

- **What are the courses?**

Courses for the STEP post-baccalaureate teacher certification program are:

EDU 272 - Education Psychology

EDU 271 - Phonics-based Reading and Decoding

EDU 269 - Methods for Integrating Technology Into The Curriculum

EDU 270 - Learning and the Brain

EDU 254 - Education Internships

POS 220 – US and Arizona Constitution

EDU 270AA - Elementary Reading and Decoding

EDU 293 - Math Methods and Curriculum Development

EDU 295 - Social Studies Methods and Curriculum Development

EDU 276 - Classroom Management

EDU 290 - Science Methods and Curriculum Development

EDU 222 - Introduction to the Exceptional Learner

EDU 233 - Methods for Teaching Structured English Immersion (SEI)/English as a Second Language (ESL)

EDU 288AA - Student Teaching

- Note: The Arizona Department of Education requires all teacher certification applicants complete Arizona and U.S. Constitution (POS 220 3 credits). This course will be completed at SCC in an online format while completing the program. All students will also complete three one-credit Master Teacher Seminars. The seminars will be offered through the year.

- **What is the cost of the program?**

The tuition at Scottsdale Community College is \$85.00 per credit hour. Estimated course cost to complete the program is under \$5000. Students may be eligible for Arizona Teachers Academy Scholarships, Financial Aid, or Pell grants.

- **Is the STEP program at SCC accredited?**

The STEP post-baccalaureate teacher certification program is accredited by the Arizona State Board of Education.