

QUALIFYING FOR A LATERAL ENTRY LICENSE IN NC

Individuals must first be employed by a NC public school system that will request the lateral on behalf of the teacher.

To qualify:

1. Must have at least a Bachelor's degree
2. One of the following:
 - a. Relevant Degree (for subject area)
 - b. 24 semester hours of course work in core area (what they would like to teach)
 - c. Passing score on the NC State Board of Education approved licensure exams for the teaching area (Praxis II – for the majority of license area; Pearson testing for Elementary Education-passed prior to employment; Praxis II and Pearson for Special Ed: General Curriculum-passed prior to employment; American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages for World Languages except English)
3. One of the following:
 - a. 2.5 GPA
 - b. 5 years of experience considered relevant by the employing LEA (depends on the school unit/county unit)
 - c. Passing scores on Core Academic Skills for Educators OR SAT score total 1100 OR ACT score total 24 PLUS one of the following
 - i. 3.0 GPA in major field of study
 - ii. 3.0 GPA in all senior courses
 - iii. 3.0 GPA on a minimum 15 semester hours of courses completed within the last 5 years after bachelor's degree

English as a Second Language requires a degree in English OR 24 semester hours in English OR Linguistics OR passing the NC State Board of Education approved licensure exams.

School will apply for lateral entry. Teacher has to enroll in a university program or alternative study program. Teacher has to pay but sometimes rural counties will reimburse, depends on the school unit.

Need to take 6 semester hours each year to complete the program.

Further requirements will be outlined and must be satisfied within 3 years in order to qualify for a clear, Standard Professional I or II license. This includes a mentoring program that all new teachers have to complete. If NC State Board of Education licensure exams were not taken up front before employment, then teacher will have to take and pass the exam within the 3 year time period.

Once a Standard Professional I or II license is obtained may be used in other states. Check with individual state's department of public instruction to make sure no additional requirements are needed to teach in the state.

Praxis testing information: https://www.ets.org/praxis/nc?WT.ac=praxishome_states_121126

Pearson testing information: <http://www.nc.nesinc.com/>

NC Department of Public Instruction Professional Licensure information: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/licensure/>