

## Alternative Certification

In order to be hired into a position as an alternative certification teacher, there are prerequisite criteria that must first be met. Prior to being offered a teaching position as an alternative certification teacher:

1. No certified applicant must have applied for the position that had been posted at least twice; and

2. The candidate must have already taken and passed the three CASE (Core Academic Skills for Educators) Praxis tests in Reading, Writing and Mathematics\*\*

The CASE tests needed to be taken and passed are:

CASE Reading Test #5712 (Minimum score 156)

CASE Writing Test #5722 (Minimum score 162)

CASE Math Test #5732 (Minimum score 150); and

3. For **General Education candidates only**, the applicant must also have taken and passed the Praxis II content test(s) for the field in which s/he plans to teach. *(For **Special Education candidates**, at the conclusion of the approved alternative certification program teachers in the special education teaching path shall then be required to meet the proficiency score on the applicable Praxis II content and Principles of Learning and Teaching exams.)*

The information regarding test numbers and passing scores for the content tests is included in the brochures below. More specific information and registration for the Praxis exams may be found by logging into the site: <https://www.ets.org/>

Once the criteria above are met, an applicant can then be considered for hire into an applicable teaching position for which s/he applies if recommended for hire.

Concord University and Marshall University are the institutions of higher education that the RESA 4 school districts have paired with to deliver the six hours of online coursework. If offered a position as an alternative certification teacher, an applicant will have to decide from which institution s/he wants to enroll as courses may only be completed through one institution. **However, an applicant cannot enter the alternative certification program until s/he is hired into a position with a school district in RESA 4.**

*\*\* The Core Academic Skills for Educators (CASE) may be waived provided the candidate: a) holds a master's degree from an accredited institution of higher education; or b) currently holds, or has held, a West Virginia Professional Teaching, Student Support Services, or a West Virginia Professional Student Support Certificate endorsed for School Nurse or is licensed by the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses, or Administrative Certificate; or c) has attained a score of 25 or higher on the American College Testing (ACT) program prior to November 1989 or an enhanced ACT score of 26 or higher beginning November 1989; or d) has attained a score of 1035 or higher on the Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT) prior to April 1995, or a re-centered SAT score of 1125 or higher beginning April 1995, or an SAT combined Critical Reading and Math score of 1170 or higher beginning March 2005.*

## For Alternative Certification in a General Education Field:

### Candidate Eligibility & Timeline

1. Vacancy must be advertised twice at least (ten working days), and if no certified teacher applies.
2. Candidates must
  - a. Possess a bachelor's degree
  - b. Pass Praxis I (CORE) and Praxis II (Content Area) for which he/ she is seeking licensure. *See Praxis information on the inside of this pamphlet.*
  - c. Receive a formal offer of employment from a county superintendent
  - d. Take 6 semester hours in Education throughout the school year with either Concord or Marshall. *Information on the left side of pamphlet under Program of Study.*
  - e. Upon completion of Program of Study, candidates must pass Praxis PLT (Principals of Learning & Teaching Test). *See Praxis information on the inside of this pamphlet.*
  - f. At the conclusion of the alternative certification program, the school district shall provide a comprehensive report on the candidate's performance.
  - g. If approval is granted, the candidate will be issued a professional teaching certificate.



### County Contact Information:

Braxton County Schools

304-765-7101

Fayette County Schools

304-574-1176 ext. 2137

Greenbrier County Schools

304-647-6454

Nicholas County Schools

304-872-3611

Pocahontas County Schools

304-799-4505 ext.2227

Webster County Schools

304-847-5638 ext. 114

Updated 8/1/16

For additional information contact

David A. Warvel, Executive Director

RESA 4

404 Old Main Drive  
Summersville, WV 26651  
304-872-6440



### Alternative Certification for General Education

#### What is it?

*It is an alternative program for the education of teachers to be created for qualified persons who will become licensed teachers in West Virginia.*

#### What is the purpose?

*To create an alternative means for a qualified person to earn a professional teaching certificate by a school or school district to offer a rigorous alternative program for teacher certification.*

#### Who will support this effort?

*A partnership with the school district will be the Regional Education Service Agency 4 (RESA 4), regional accredited higher education institute, and West Virginia Department of Education, all under the supervision of the West Virginia Board of Education.*

#### In Collaboration with

Braxton County Schools  
Fayette County Schools  
Greenbrier County Schools  
Nicholas County Schools  
Pocahontas County Schools  
Webster County Schools

## For Alternative Certification in a General Education Field:

### Program of Study

Six Semester Hours - delivered through six one-hour units of instruction to be offered during the calendar year.

1. Classroom Management
2. Human Development/ Education Psychology
3. Instructional Methods (Curriculum)
4. Assessment
5. School Law, Special Education, and Diversity
6. Literacy

Prior to being hired at the district level as an alternative program participant, program candidates in a general education teaching path of a WVBE-approved program for alternative certification must submit to WVDE and to the alternative program provider passing scores on pre-professional skills test or tests or evidence of a qualifying exemption as described in Policy 5202, [Passage of Core Academic Skills for Educators tests is required in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. The Core Academic Skills for Educators (CASE) may be waived provided the candidate: a) holds a master's degree from an accredited institution of higher education; or b) currently holds, or has held, a West Virginia Professional Teaching, Student Support Services, or a West Virginia Professional Student Support Certificate endorsed for School Nurse or is licensed by the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses, or Administrative Certificate; or c) has attained a score of 25 or higher on the American College Testing (ACT) program prior to November 1989 or an enhanced ACT score of 26 or higher beginning November 1989; or d) has attained a score of 1035 or higher on the Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT) prior to April 1995, or a re-centered SAT score of 1125 or higher beginning April 1995, or an SAT combined Critical Reading and Math score of 1170 or higher beginning March 2005.] and passing scores on the subject matter test or tests required by the WVBE (Praxis II Exams).

### Professional Teacher Certification/Endorsements and Requirements

Certification/Endorsement Area	Grade Levels	Praxis II Content Requirement (Required prior to program admittance)	Praxis PLT Principles of Learning and Teaching Requirement
Art	PK-AD	Test Number: 5134 Qualifying Score: 158	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
Biology	9-AD	Test Number: 5235 Qualifying Score: 152	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
Chemistry	9-AD	Test Number: 5245 Qualifying Score: 157	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
Early Education	PK-K	Test Number: 5531 Qualifying Score: 155	Test Number: 5622 Qualifying Score: 160
Elementary Education	K-6	Test Number: 5002 Qualifying Score: 157	Test Number: 5622 Qualifying Score: 160
		Test Number: 5003 Qualifying Score: 157	
		Test Number: 5004 Qualifying Score: 155	
		Test Number: 5005 Qualifying Score: 159	
		Test Number: 5203 Qualifying Score: 162	
English	5-AD	Test Number: 5038 Qualifying Score: 167	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
Family & Consumer Science	5-AD	Test Number: 5122 Qualifying Score: 153	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
French	5-AD	Test Number: 5174 Qualifying Score: 160	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
General Science	5-AD	Test Number: 5435 Qualifying Score: 153	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
Health	5-AD	Test Number: 5551 Qualifying Score: 156	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
Mathematics	5-AD	Test Number: 5161 Qualifying Score: 160	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
Music	PK-AD	Test Number: 5113 Qualifying Score: 155	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
Physical Education	PK-AD	Test Number: 5091 Qualifying Score: 150	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
Physics	9-AD	Test Number: 5265 Qualifying Score: 126	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
School Library/Media	PK-AD	Test Number: 5311 Qualifying Score: 138	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
Social Studies	5-AD	Test Number: 5081 Qualifying Score: 148	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
Spanish	5-AD	Test Number: 5195 Qualifying Score: 163	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157
Wellness (Health and Physical Education Comprehensive)	PK-AD	Test Number: 5551 Qualifying Score: 156	Test Number: 5624 Qualifying Score: 157

## For Alternative Certification in a Special Education Field:

### Candidate Eligibility & Timeline

1. Vacancy must be advertised twice at least (ten working days) pursuant to WV code §18 A-3-1a, and if no certified teacher applies
2. Candidates must
  - a. Possess a bachelor's degree
  - b. Pass Praxis I (CORE) test
  - c. Receive a formal offer of employment from a county superintendent
  - d. Take 6 semester hour in Special Education throughout the school year with Marshall University. *Information on the left side of pamphlet under Program of Study.*
  - e. Upon completion of program of study, candidates must pass Professional Teacher Certification test in which the candidate taught during that school year, and pass the Principles of Learning and Teaching Test (PLT).
  - f. At the conclusion of the alternative certification program, the school district shall provide a comprehensive report on the candidate's performance.
  - g. If approval is granted, the candidate will be issued a professional teaching certificate.



### County Contact Information:

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304-765-7101

Fayette County  
304-574-1176 ext. 2137

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Webster County Schools  
304-847-5638 ext. 114

Updated 8/1/16

For additional information contact  
David A. Warvel, Executive Director

RESA 4  
404 Old Main Drive  
Summersville, WV 26651  
304-872-6440



### Alternative Certification for Special Education

#### What is it?

*It is an alternative program for the education of teachers to be created for qualified persons who will become licensed teachers in West Virginia.*

#### What is the purpose?

*To create an alternative means for a qualified person to earn a professional teaching certificate by a school or school district to offer a rigorous alternative program for teacher certification.*

#### Who will support this effort?

*A partnership with the school district will be the Regional Education Service Agency 4 (RESA 4), regional accredited higher education institute, and West Virginia Department of Education, all under the supervision of the West Virginia Board of Education.*

### In Collaboration with

Braxton County Schools  
Fayette County Schools  
Greenbrier County Schools  
Nicholas County Schools  
Pocahontas County Schools  
Webster County Schools

## For Alternative Certification in a Special Education Field:

### Program of Study

#### Six Semester Hours

Instruction will be delivered through 4 units of instruction to be offered during the calendar year.

1. Children with Exceptionalities (3 hours)
2. IEPs and Training Planning (1 hour)
3. School Law, Special Education, and Diversity (1 hour)
4. Literacy (1 hour)

#### Special Education Testing Requirements:

Prior to being hired at the district level as an alternative program participant, program candidates in the special education teaching path of WVBE-approved program for alternative certification to prepare highly qualified special education teachers must submit to WVDE and to the alternative program provider passing scores on WVBE-approved pre-professional skills test or tests, or evidence of a qualifying exemption as described in Policy 5202. At the conclusion of the alternative certification program, teachers in the special education teaching path completing a WVBE-approved alternative certification program to prepare highly qualified special education teachers shall be required to meet the proficiency score(s) on the appropriate state competency exam(s) in special education content and the state competency exam(s) in pedagogy.

Support for program of study will be offered throughout the year by county support team and RESA 4.

### Professional Teacher Certification/Endorsements and Requirements

To Be Certified in	You Need to Take	Test Code	Qualifying Score
Behavioral Disorders (excluding Autism)	Special Education: Teaching Students With Behavioral Disorders/Emotional Disturbances	5372	154
	and		
Mentally Impaired (Mild/Moderate)	Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications	5354	151
Multi-Categorical Special Education (BD excluding Autism, MI, SLD)	Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications	5354	151
Preschool Special Needs (PreK-K)	Special Education: Core Knowledge and Mild to Moderate Applications	5543	153
Severe Disabilities	Special Education: Preschool/Early Childhood	5691	159
Specific Learning Disabilities	Special Education: Core Knowledge and Severe to Profound Applications	5545	158
	Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications	5354	151
Visually Impaired	and		
	Special Education: Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities	5383	151
Visually Impaired	Special Education: Teaching Students with Visual Impairments	5282	163
	and		
Visually Impaired	Braille Proficiency	0631	168