



Transition Points for the Connecticut Post-Baccalaureate Certification Program for Teachers of Record¹ Elementary Education

Endorsement: Elementary Education 1-6

The transition points in this document serve as a guide for candidates entering the Relay educator preparation program as teachers of record and pursuing a Connecticut Initial Educator Certificate in Elementary Education 1-6. In order to complete the educator preparation program, candidates must meet all of the requirements in each transition point. To complete the educator preparation program on the expected timeline, each transition point must be met by the established deadline. **Failure to meet transition points deadlines may result in a delayed timeline for program completion, additional costs, and/or ineligibility for certification.**

For questions, please reach out to support@relay.edu or sign up for [office hours](#).

Quick Links:

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¹Connecticut elementary teacher candidates who enter in AY 24-25 and later as teaching residents will enroll in a Colorado-based educator preparation program. After completing all Colorado EPP requirements, Relay will verify completion of the Colorado Traditional Teacher Licensure program, which students may use to apply for licensure outside of Colorado. States set requirements for certification/licensure, reciprocity, and equivalent certificates/endorsements, and will make all determinations related to issuing or denying applications for certification/licensure. Refer to [Certification/Licensure Pathways](#) to learn more about applying for certification/licensure outside of Colorado and the [Colorado Traditional Teacher Licensure Program Transition Points](#) to learn more about requirements for Elementary Teaching Residents.



Transition Point 1: Educator Preparation Program Admission

Transition Point 1 [Admissions Deadline Support Center Article](#)

In order to be eligible for admission to the Connecticut Post-Baccalaureate Certification Program (Elementary Education) the following requirements must be met:

1. **Bachelor's Degree:** Hold a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education who has received accreditation through a U.S. Department of Education approved accreditation agency. Verify your institution's accreditation status on the Database of Accredited Postsecondary Institutions and Programs [here](#).
2. **Minimum GPA:** Have an undergraduate GPA of 2.7 or above from an institution of higher education who has received accreditation through a US Department of Education approved accreditation agency
 - Relay may admit up to 10% of applicants to Relay's Connecticut educator preparation programs via exception who have a **GPA below the state minimum of 2.70**.
 - Applicants who have a GPA below a 2.70, are required to submit:
 - A secondary recommendation that will be used to evaluate their eligibility for admissions to Relay; AND
 - A personal statement explaining any extenuating circumstances during their undergraduate program that impacted their GPA and how they will ensure their academic success in the graduate program.
3. **Connecticut Code of Professional Responsibility for Teachers:** Applicants are required to acknowledge the [Code of Professional Responsibility for Teachers](#) which serves as a basis for decisions on issues pertaining to licensure and employment. It applies to all teachers licensed by or individuals seeking licensure from the State of Connecticut.
4. **Basic Skills Requirement²:** Present a score report for the [Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators \(5752\)](#) exam. All sections of the Praxis Core- [Mathematics](#) (5733), [Reading](#) (5713) and [Writing](#) (5723) tests- must be included. Applicants other options include one of the following State Board of Education approved equivalent

² Under Public Act 16-41: An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Minority Teacher Recruitment Task Force, effective July 1, 2016, EPPs must require applicants to submit a score report from an examination of basic skills for diagnostic purposes, but there is no minimum cut score requirement.



assessments: SAT, ACT, GRE. You must have all 3 sections of the exam to meet the requirement. For support in accessing old scores see [here](#).

5. **Coursework Requirements³:**

- a. **General Education Requirements:** All candidates must have a minimum of 39 semester hours of credit in general academic courses in five of the six areas listed below.
 - a. English;
 - b. Natural sciences (biology, chemistry, physics, earth science);
 - c. Mathematics;
 - d. Social studies; and
 - e. Foreign language, or
 - f. Fine Arts
- b. **Subject-Specific Coursework Requirement:** Applicants must have completed a subject-area major consisting of one of the following:
 - a. A major in any **one subject area except education, OR**
 - b. A **39-semester-hours-credit interdisciplinary major** consisting of a concentration of at least **18 semester hours of credit in any one subject area** with the remainder distributed among no more than three additional subjects related to the area of concentration. A major or coursework in education may not be used for admission.

Fall Enrollment Requirement

Relay students are required to confirm their instructional role details through the *Fall School Authorization and Instructional Role Confirmation Form* as a requirement to enroll in coursework each Fall. If your instructional role is not aligned to the requirements of your program, you must also submit a transfer application to a program that does align to your instructional role by the start of the fall term. **Failure to submit a transfer application, if necessitated by your instructional role, may delay program completion or result in administrative withdrawal.**

Instructional Role: Secure a full-time instructional role in a Connecticut school aligned to the certification sought.

³ Applicants who do not meet the coursework requirements may be admitted to the EPP with up to six outstanding credit hours in the subject area that they must fulfill at the undergraduate or graduate level in order to be eligible for a recommendation for an Initial Educator Certificate (see Transition Point #4). Applicants may fulfill their unmet credits at any institution of higher education who has received accreditation through a US Department of Education approved accreditation agency, with AP scores, and/or with acceptable exams for credit.

- Non-Resident: Teacher of Record

Transition Point 2: Eligibility for Qualifying Clinical Experience

Connecticut Post-Baccalaureate Certification Program

To Start Qualifying Clinical Experience (QCE) in...	Your Deadline for Transition Point 2 is...	NON-RESIDENTS- The earliest you can complete your program is...
Fall 2025	September 8, 2025	Spring 2027
Spring 2026	February 9, 2026	Fall 2027
Fall 2026	Start Date of Fall Term 2026	Spring 2028
Spring 2027	Start Date of Spring Term 2027	Fall 2028

***Eligibility for program completion is determined by a number of factors. Please consult with your advisor on your academic plan and timeline toward EPP completion.**

Candidates must demonstrate eligibility to begin their qualifying clinical experience, student teaching. In the Relay Connecticut program, candidates complete student teaching as a teacher of record while holding a Resident Educator Certificate (REC), which is valid for up to two years. While candidates holding a REC can hold other positions in a school such as a paraprofessional, **candidates must serve as a teacher of record for a minimum of 10 months while holding a REC in order to qualify for EPP completion and advancement to the Initial Educator Certificate.**

Qualifying Clinical Experience is completed while enrolled in the following clinical practice courses:

- Non-Residents:
 - CLIN-521 Mentored Clinical Practice I
 - CLIN-522 Mentored Clinical Practice II

**Candidates who do not meet the transition point 2 deadline will be dropped from these clinical practice courses and will be required to take the courses in a future term, once transition point 2 is met.*

To be eligible to begin student teaching, candidates must:

1. **Instructional Role:**



- a. Secure a position as a Teacher of Record in a Connecticut public or charter school prior to the start of the PK-12 school year in a position aligned to the certificate that you are seeking.
- 2. Obtain a REC through the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE).**
 - a. Meet **one** of the following criteria for eligibility to apply for a REC:
 - Completed a major in the content area, OR
 - Complete 30 credit hours of coursework in the content area, OR
 - Complete the first year of the Relay Connecticut Post-Baccalaureate Certification Program in good academic standing, OR
 - Pass the Praxis II for the content area*.

**Please note - CSDE takes up to 6-8 weeks to process REC applications.*

- b. **Submit application for the Resident Educator Certificate:**
 1. Create a [CECS account](#); you will need this throughout your teaching career in CT
 2. Complete pages 1-2 of the [ED199](#) and obtain the signature of your school leader or HR director confirming that you have secured a position as a teacher of record in a Connecticut school prior to the start of the PK-12 school year in a position aligned to the certificate that you are seeking.
 3. Complete the "REC Request Form" in Anthology Portfolio and upload completed pages 1-2 of the ED199.
 4. Send your undergraduate and any other graduate [transcripts to CSDE](#)

Applications will take several weeks to process. There is no cost to apply.

Transition Point 3: Educator Preparation Program Completion

In order to be considered an educator preparation program completer, candidates must:

1. **Coursework:** Complete all coursework in your EPP program of study. This coursework is indicated with an asterisk on the [Academic Plan](#).
 - Earn a minimum grade of 80% (or a B-) in all courses in the EPP program of study
 - Earn a cumulative 2.7 grade point average (GPA) on all Relay coursework attempted, **AND**
2. **Qualifying Clinical Experience:** Serve as a teacher of record under a Resident Educator Certificate (REC) for a minimum of 10 months, **AND**
3. **CELP Workshop:** Teacher preparation programs must include instruction around second language learning and second language acquisition. Please see [this link](#) or instructions on how to complete this requirement. Once you complete the workshop, save a copy of your completion scores and submit to Anthology Portfolio.
4. **Dyslexia Workshop:** Candidates pursuing secondary education must complete a Dyslexia workshop. Visit [this link](#) to enroll in the course. Instructions on how to access the workshop are included in the Table of Contents in Anthology Portfolio. Once you complete the workshop, save a copy of your certificate of completion and submit to Anthology Portfolio.
5. **edTPA:** Achieve the minimum passing score as determined by the Connecticut State Department of Education on the appropriate edTPA. More information can be found [here](#).

Transition Point 4: Certification

Successful program completers will be eligible to advance to the Connecticut Initial Educator License, valid for 10 years from the date of issue. Program completers must complete the following steps to apply for the Connecticut Initial Educator License.

1. **Certification Testing:**

- a. **Pass the appropriate Praxis II Subject Subject Assessment:** Candidates must pass the Praxis II Subject Assessment that aligns with their certificate area prior to recommendation for an Initial Educator Certificate. More information about required exams can be found [here](#).
- b. **Pass the Foundations of Reading Exam:** The [Foundations of Reading \(Test Code 190\)](#) must be passed for certification. The exam assesses knowledge of reading development, reading comprehension, and reading assessment and instruction.

2. **Meet any outstanding general education or subject area credit hour deficiencies:**

Candidates who were admitted with outstanding general education credit hour requirements must submit evidence of meeting these requirements to Relay prior to recommendation for an Initial Educator Certificate.

- Passing the Praxis II: Social Studies (5004) meets the requirement for a 3-credit hour course or its equivalent in U.S. History for Elementary Education candidates.

Official transcripts must be [sent to CSDE](#) from institutions where any outstanding general education or subject area coursework was completed.

3. **Apply for an Initial Educator Certificate:**

- Complete the [ED126: Statement of Professional Experience](#)
- Complete the application for the Initial Educator Certificate through [CECS](#) (\$200 fee)
- Complete the “Initial Certificate Recommendation Request Form” in Anthology Portfolio and upload a screenshot of your proof of application.