

# APPLICATION FOR OKLAHOMA SCHOOL CERTIFICATE



## GENERAL CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

The two main classes of teaching credentials offered in Oklahoma are License and Certificate. This application is used for applicants qualifying for a **CERTIFICATE**.

**CERTIFICATES** are issued to educators with at least one year of verified teaching experience under a valid teaching credential in a state or regionally accredited school.

A **LICENSE** is a five-year credential that is initially issued to educators who completed a teacher education program after February 1, 1982, and who have zero years of certified teaching experience in a state or regionally accredited school.

The applicant will participate in the Residency Program during the initial year of teaching in Oklahoma. A residency committee consisting of a mentor teacher, an administrator, and a faculty member in an institution of higher education will provide guidance and assistance and will ultimately make a recommendation regarding certification.

The state agency with authority and responsibility for teacher testing is the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation (OCTP). For information regarding testing registration, contact the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation at (405) 525-2612, 3545 NW 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112, <<http://www.ok.gov/octp>>.

### CERTIFICATION FEES:

- The application fee for the first Oklahoma certificate is \$50.
- All other transactions (adding new areas, duplicates, degree changes) are \$25 per application.
- Payment may be made by check, cashier's check, or money order payable to the **Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE)**. The fee for requesting certification is nonrefundable.

### FINGERPRINTING INFORMATION:

All first-time credentialed Oklahoma teachers are required to have on file with the Oklahoma State Board of Education (OSBE) a current Oklahoma criminal history record from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI) as well as a national fingerprint-based criminal history record provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). (70 O.S. § 6-190; OAC 210:20-9-91)

This applies only to individuals applying for their **first** Oklahoma credential. It does not apply to renewals.

If you have questions concerning whether this law pertains to your eligibility for licensure, contact the Professional Standards Section at (405) 521-3337 or <<http://www.sde.state.ok.us>>.

## PROCESSING INSTRUCTIONS

### Mail application packet to:

Oklahoma State Department of Education, Professional Standards Section - Room 212, 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599. Telephone: (405) 521-3337. Oklahoma State Department of Education Web site: <<http://www.sde.state.ok.us>>

Submit **all** materials including fee in one packet. See next page for more information.

### Did you include:

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Completed application? | <input type="checkbox"/> Official transcripts?            | <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of Teaching form?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 processing fee?   | <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of out-of-state credential? | <input type="checkbox"/> Signature/date in Part V? |

*Additional instructions are continued on the back of this page.*

## PROCESSING INSTRUCTIONS

(Continued)

### OKLAHOMA GRADUATES

- ⇒ Applicants completing a higher education program must have a higher education institution recommendation (Part II). Transcripts must show verification of degree. Applications for **career and technology education** certification should then be forwarded by the higher education representative to the appropriate program administrator at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, 1500 West Seventh Avenue, Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074-4364, telephone (405) 377-2000.

### PROVISIONAL LEVEL I CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION APPLICANTS

If the Provisional Level I Career and Technology Certificate is requested, the signature of the employing district superintendent is also required. Applications must be filed through the appropriate program administrator at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, 1500 West Seventh Avenue, Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074-4364, telephone (405) 377-2000.

### OUT-OF-STATE APPLICANTS

Applications may be approved by the Oklahoma State Department of Education if applicant holds a full out-of-state credential; the higher education institution (Part II) or Oklahoma State Department of Career and Technology Education (Part III) signature is not required. For additional information and eligibility options, refer to "Out-of-State Applicants" brochure or Oklahoma State Department of Education Web site, <<http://www.sde.state.ok.us>>, Site Index, Professional Standards. If you have a certificate issued by the **National Board for Professional Teaching Standards**, please enclose a copy.

- ⇒ Enclose a copy of the front and back of your full out-of-state credential.
- ⇒ Verification of out-of-state teaching experience is required by having districts complete a proof of teaching form. You may request a proof of teaching form from this office or access the Oklahoma State Department of Education Web site at <<http://www.sde.state.ok.us>>, Site Index, Professional Standards.

To receive credit for years of experience, please include a copy of your out-of-state certificate that was valid during the dates of service.

### SCHOOL NURSE APPLICANTS

Please enclose a copy of your current Oklahoma registered nurse's license.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Title 68 O.S. § 238.1 (effective May 31, 2001) requires that all license/certificate holders be in compliance with Oklahoma state income tax laws **before** a teaching license or certificate can be **renewed**.

The Department of Education is mandated to provide to the Oklahoma Tax Commission a list of individuals who are applying for license/certification renewal.

The Tax Commission will contact any person who appears to be in noncompliance.

Please contact the Oklahoma Tax Commission's Professional Compliance Unit, (405) 522-6800, with any questions.



**PART IV:**

I hold or have held OKLAHOMA LICENSE(S) or CERTIFICATE(S):

Type of License or Certificate	Issue Date	Expiration Date	Name When Certificate Was Issued

Do you have a certificate issued by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, please enclose verification or a copy.

**PART V:**

Pursuant to legislation, Title 70 O.S. 1991, § 3-104 and 3-104.1, every applicant is required to answer each of the following questions:

1. During the preceding ten-year period, have you been convicted of a felony?..... Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
2. During the preceding ten-year period, have you been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude?..... Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
3. Have you ever been convicted in Oklahoma, whether upon a verdict or plea of guilty or upon a plea of nolo contendere (no contest), or received a suspended sentence for a crime or an attempt to commit a crime which is considered sexually related in nature? ..... Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
4. Have you ever been convicted, received a suspended sentence, or received a deferred judgment for a crime or attempted crime which was considered sexually related in nature in any other state or jurisdiction?..... Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
5. Have you ever had adverse action taken against any educator certificate or license in Oklahoma or any other state or jurisdiction?..... Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
6. Is any action now pending against you for alleged misconduct in any school district, court, or before any educator licensing agency in Oklahoma or any other state or jurisdiction? ..... Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
7. Do you currently have any outstanding criminal charges or warrants of arrest pending against you in Oklahoma or in any other state or jurisdiction?..... Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If the answer to any of the preceding questions is “Yes,” state on a separate sheet of paper the nature of the charge and in what court or jurisdiction you were charged/convicted. You may be required to obtain and provide to the Oklahoma State Department of Education, official certified copies of all court and/or police records.

The Oklahoma State Department of Education has the authority to require state and national (fingerprint-based) felony background checks on any applicant. If a background check is required, it will be at the applicant’s expense.

**Are you a United States citizen?** ..... Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If the answer is no, the following applies to you.

Noncitizens of the United States are required to submit an unexpired United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) employment authorization document with the application before an Oklahoma teaching credential may be issued. Also include a copy of your social security card.

**Falsification of any information pertaining to certification can result in denial, withdrawal, or revocation of the Oklahoma teaching credential.**

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_