

Pennsylvania Teacher Certification

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) issues certification for teachers. For the official website for PDE certification [click here](#).

The following teacher preparation programs at Chestnut Hill College have been approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education:

- Early Childhood PK-4
- Special Education PK-12
- Secondary Education 7-12

Graduates who have satisfactorily completed a teacher preparation program at Chestnut Hill College are eligible for teacher certification in the state of Pennsylvania. Early Education PK-4, Special Education PK-12, and Secondary Education 7-12 are eligible for Instructional I teacher certification.

Certification in grades 5-6 may be added onto the Early Childhood PK-4 certification through testing:

Grades 5-6 Add-on Option for Grades PK-4 Certificate Holders

The Pennsylvania Department of Education offers a Grades 5-6 testing add-on option for the Grades PK-4 certificate only. Interested PreK-4 teacher preparation candidates may take two PRAXIS modules in order to obtain certification in grades 5-6:

- The Grades 4-8: Module 2 – English Language Arts & Social Studies (5154)
- The Grades 4-8: Module 3 – Mathematics & Science (5155)

Candidates may take these modules during or after the PK-4 program and apply for them simultaneously, but the evaluation of the Grades Prek-4 requirements will be evaluated first and the Grades 5-6 add on certificate will only be granted once the PK-4 certificate is approved.

Undergraduate students majoring in Education must meet certain requirements established by PDE. One of those requirements is the passing of the Basic Skills Tests, or be exempt by SAT/ACT scores, by the time they reach 60 academic credits. For information on testing requirement for PA certification, [click here](#).

Since teacher certification is issued at the state level, students graduating from Chestnut Hill College first get certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Additional teacher certifications from other states are typically done under each state's *teacher reciprocity policy*. More information can be found on each state's Department of Education website.

Students who transfer into Chestnut Hill College with a minimum of 48 credits are asked to contact Marie Leahy, SSJ, Ed.D. LeahyM@chc.edu to devise a plan to meet the state benchmarks.

For more information on Pennsylvania teacher certification, please contact Lauren Murray MurrayL@chc.edu.