

# TEACHER CERTIFICATION OFFICE

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[teachercertification.buffalostate.edu](https://teachercertification.buffalostate.edu) (<https://teachercertification.buffalostate.edu/>)

The Teacher Certification Office is a resource for Buffalo State students, faculty, and staff in verifying program completion so that Buffalo State graduates can apply for New York State teacher certification. The office also verifies completion of teacher education programs for graduates applying for out-of-state certification and is a resource for education departments in all 50 states.

## New York State Certification

All students who successfully complete an approved educator preparation program may be recommended to the New York State Education Department for a teaching certificate.

The New York State Education Department requires additional steps, including a background check through a fingerprinting process and satisfactory performance on a series of examinations, before a certificate can be issued.

Graduates can apply for a New York State Teacher Certificate online through TEACH Online Services (<http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/teach/>). For the Teacher Certification Office to provide verification of program completion to the New York State Office of Teaching Initiatives, students must provide the certification office permission to release this information. Release forms are available on the Teacher Certification Office website or in the certification office.

## Teacher Certification Examinations

Successful completion of identified New York State Teacher Certification Examinations (NYSTCE) is required for New York teaching certificates in all areas. Information can be obtained from the Teacher Certification Office.

## Interstate Certification

As a participant in the Interstate Certification Project, New York State has reciprocity agreements with a number of other states, allowing Buffalo State graduates to seek certification and employment in other states. These include reciprocity for classroom teachers, vocational teachers, and administrative personnel. The New York State Teacher Certification Examinations may not be acceptable in other states. Students should check with individual states to determine specific requirements.

## Certification for B.A./B.S. Degree Holders

Holders of B.A. or B.S. degrees who wish to become certified may receive advisement from the Teacher

Certification Office regarding available options, which may include postbaccalaureate certification programs, master's degree including initial teacher certification, and alternate pathways.