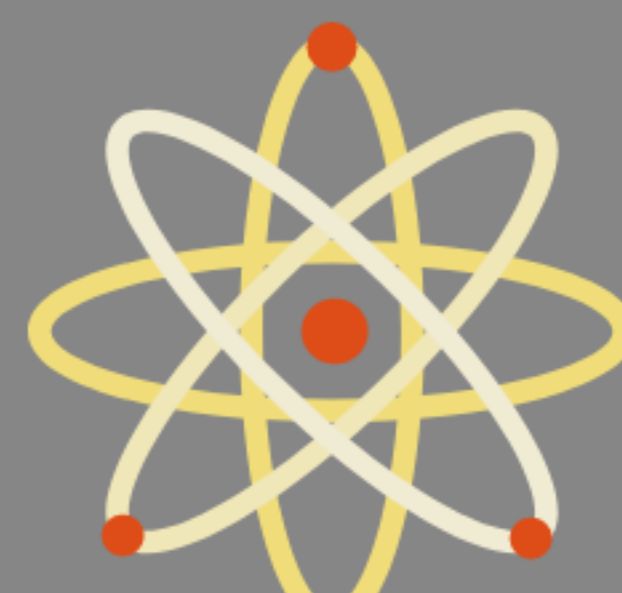
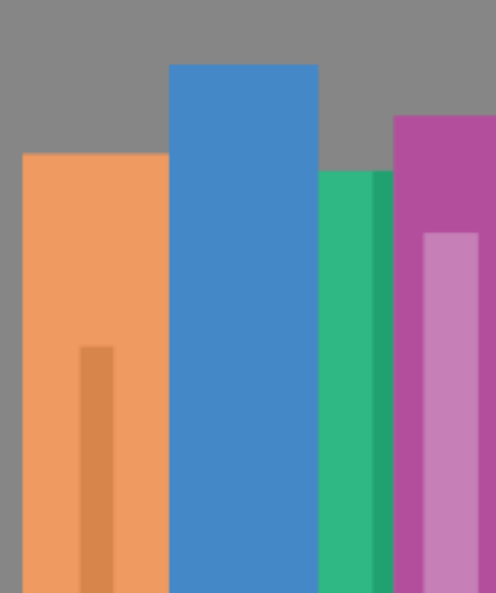
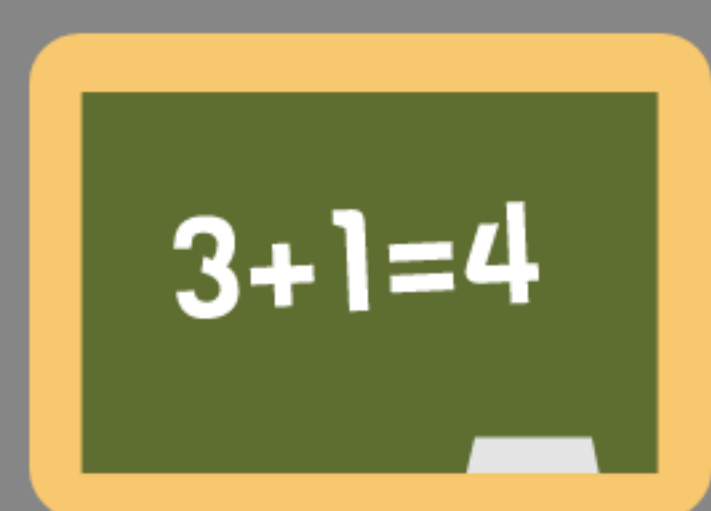


# ELEMENTARY EDUCATION



Develop excellent communication skills, verbal and written. Become skilled in various teaching strategies and technologies. Demonstrate enthusiasm and energy for the field, particularly the desire to work with and help others. Obtain part-time, summer, internship or volunteer experience with the intended age group in various settings (e.g., pre-schools, day cares, camps, community agencies, adult centers, YMCA's). Participate in co-curricular activities and related organizations to broaden skills, interests and networking opportunities.

Bachelor's degree is sufficient for certification to teach K-12 in most states. Obtain a master's degree for advancement and to increase earning potential. Advanced degrees are required for specialists, education administration, college teaching and some other professional positions.

Maintain current knowledge of state and national legislation regarding teacher certification. Identify transferable skills learned in teaching applicable to alternative careers: Verbal and written communication, teaching and instruction, program planning, organization and record-keeping, working under pressure, meeting deadlines, motivating others, creativity, working autonomously, decision-making, problem solving and research.

## AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY

- Special services:
  - Reading
  - Title 1
  - Guidance counseling
  - School psychology
  - School social work
  - Occupational therapy
- Special education
- Career/Technical education
- Self-Enrichment
- English as a second language
- Curriculum supervision
- Subject area supervision

Elementary school  
Day care centers  
Nursery schools  
Boards of education  
Tutoring and learning centers  
Test preparation companies  
Overseas schools for military dependents  
Bookstores  
Publishers: textbook, online, newspaper, magazine, book, educational websites  
Test-preparation companies  
Software companies  
Education-related businesses: toy retailers, educational supply companies  
Public and private corporations

## COMMON EMPLOYERS



## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS



American Association of School Administrators  
American College Personnel Association  
American Educational Research Association  
American Federation of Teachers  
American Library Association  
American School Counselor Association  
Association for Career and Technical Education  
Association of American Educators  
Association of Teacher Educators  
Council for Exceptional Children  
International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language  
NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education  
National Association of School Psychologists  
National Education Association  
Phi Delta Kappa International



## STRATEGIES ON ENTERING THE FIELD

- Obtain experience working with target age group through volunteer or part-time positions.
- Demonstrate patience, creativity and the ability to work well with people of various backgrounds.
- Develop strong communications skills to deal effectively with students, staff and parents.
- Complete a college level teacher preparation program to obtain certification for desired subject area or grade level. Requirements vary by state.
- Private schools may not require certification.
- Pursue multiple certifications to increase employability.
- Earn master's degree for higher pay and for a hiring edge in some districts.
- Join related organizations such as National Education Association, International Reading Association, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, etc. to learn about current issues in the field.
- Research school administration graduate programs and certification requirements for principal positions.
- Graduate study is required for "special service" fields. Obtain master's degree in area to become a specialist.