

EDUCATOR PREPARATION INSTITUTE  
PROGRAM - VALENCIA COLLEGE

# How do I know if I need the EPI program?

## First Things First..

### ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

When you receive your Statement of Eligibility (SOE) it will indicate whether "**YOU ARE ELIGIBLE**" or "**YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE**". Below are examples.



### Official Statement of Status of Eligibility

MS XYZ PERSON  
123 SAMPLE ST.  
ORLANDO, FL 32811

Florida DOE Number: 1234567  
Applicant ID Number: ###-##-0000  
Processing Date: 02/24/2020  
Expiration Date: 02/24/2023

#### DO NOT DESTROY. PLEASE RETAIN UNTIL ALL REQUIREMENTS ARE COMPLETE

This Official Statement of Status of Eligibility outlines requirements for issuance of a Florida Educator's Certificate. Florida school district personnel will advise you of any additional requirements for employment in the school district and including compliance with applicable federal laws and regulations.

For Florida educator certification purposes, college degrees and credits must be earned at institutions that are either accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or approved by the Florida Department of Education. College level credits recommended by the American Council on Education (ACE) are also acceptable.

**YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A FLORIDA EDUCATOR'S CERTIFICATE AS SHOWN BELOW.**

**Temporary Certificate:** For issuance of a three-year non-renewable Temporary Certificate covering English for Speakers of Other Languages (Grades K-12), the following requirements must be completed, and official documentation must be submitted to the Bureau of Educator



### Official Statement of Status of Eligibility

MS. XYZ PERSON  
123 SAMPLE ST.  
ORLANDO, FL 32811

Florida DOE Number: 1234567  
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Processing Date: 03/23/2020  
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**YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A FLORIDA EDUCATOR'S CERTIFICATE AS SHOWN BELOW.**

**Temporary Certificate:** For issuance of a three-year non-renewable Temporary Certificate covering Computer Science (Grades K-12), the following requirements must be completed, and official documentation must be submitted to the Bureau of Educator Certification:

# What does it mean if I am "Not Eligible"?

Those who have received a Statement of Eligibility indicating that **"You are not eligible"** must fulfill the requirements listed on the Statement of Eligibility and obtain a valid and current SOE before admission into the EPI program. An example of where to locate these requirements is below.

## **YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A FLORIDA EDUCATOR'S CERTIFICATE AS SHOWN BELOW.**

**Temporary Certificate:** For issuance of a three-year non-renewable Temporary Certificate covering English for Speakers of Other Languages (Grades K-12), the following requirements must be completed, and official documentation must be submitted to the Bureau of Educator Certification:

**Subject area mastery content requirements for English for Speakers of Other Languages (Grades K-12) as documented by the following:**

- a passing score on the Florida state approved examination earned no more than ten (10) years prior to the date of application

OR

**Subject area content requirements for English for Speakers of Other Languages (Grades K-12) as documented by the following:**

325 W. Gaines Street | Room 201 | Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400 | [www.fldoe.org](http://www.fldoe.org)  
Find Certification information online at <http://www.fldoe.org/teaching/certification>  
Contact our office at (US domestic calls) 800-445-6739 or (outside the US) 850-245-5049



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**  
fldoe.org

- a bachelor's or higher degree with a major in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

- verification of employment and request for issuance of certificate on the appropriate certification form from a Florida public, state supported, or non-public school which has an approved Professional Education Competence Program

- results of your fingerprint processing from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the FBI. Your employer will assist you in completing the fingerprint process. If your application or fingerprint report reflects a criminal offense or suspension/revocation record, your file will be referred to Professional Practices Services for further review. Issuance of your certificate will be contingent upon the results of this review.

Any completed documentation of the requirements must be sent to the FLDOE for a reevaluation of your application. If you are looking for testing in your area to help fulfill these requirements, please visit this link: <http://www.fl.nesinc.com/>

Test preparation can be found on the EPI website:  
<https://valenciacollege.edu/academics/programs/educator-preparation-institute/ftce-test-prep-info.php>



# What are the next steps if I am "Eligible"?

For those that hold a valid and current Statement of Eligibility indicating **"You are eligible"**, the next step is to complete a Professional Education Competence Program (PEC) mandated by the state of Florida.

## Completion of the following Professional Preparation Coursework Requirements:

- a minimum of 15.00 semester hours in education courses with credit in each of the professional education areas listed below. **Please note that it may require more than the minimum semester hours to satisfy all requirements.**
- classroom management with a focus on creating safe learning environments for students in which effective teaching and learning can take place by promoting a physically, emotionally, socially, and academically secure climate for students
- child and adolescent development including theories and principles of learning
- educational assessment practices that include analysis and application of data from statewide standardized assessments and other multiple sources to improve instruction and learning

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Contact our office at (US domestic calls) 800-445-6739 or (outside the US) 850-245-5049



- effective instructional techniques, strategies, and materials to meet the needs of diverse learners, including students with disabilities
- instructional strategies for teaching students of limited English proficiency including instruction in the English language and development of the student's mastery of the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing (Teaching experience cannot be used to satisfy this requirement.)
- applications of research-based instructional practices in reading
- Note: A passing grade of C or better must be earned for each course, and every course, except child and adolescent development, must be completed at an institution that awards bachelor's or higher degrees.
- practical experience in teaching by completing one year of full-time experience teaching in an elementary or secondary school

The EPI Program fulfills the bullets on your Statement of Eligibility that read:  
"Completion of a Florida approved Professional Education Competence Program..."

And

"Completion of the following Professional Preparation Coursework Requirements:

- o A minimum of 15 semester hours in education courses..."

For information on how to begin enrolling in the EPI program, please visit:

<https://valenciacollege.edu/academics/programs/educator-preparation-institute/how-to-enroll.php>

All documents may be submitted via email to: [ecostello1@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:ecostello1@valenciacollege.edu) or [adorsey6@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:adorsey6@valenciacollege.edu)