

Northeast Colorado BOCES
Alternative Licensure Program

Program Design

The Alternative Licensure Program consists of a minimum of 225 hours of planned instruction and activities, to include, but not be limited to, teacher preparation courses that align with the Performance-Based Standards for Colorado Teachers. The clock hours will include professional development that is current, research-based, sustained, intensive, and classroom and instruction-focused. The 225 hours will be distributed among the eight standards as indicated by the needs assessment that is conducted with each candidate. The number of hours in each area can vary for candidates, but will always be a minimum of 225 hours.

The planned instruction and activities will be tailored to the needs of each individual and the grade level/content area that they will be teaching (as reflected in “relevant coursework as indicated on professional growth plan”). *Note: more than 225 hours can be required if the Program Support Team deems necessary for the candidate.* The Professional Growth Plan is developed cooperatively by the Program Support Team and the teacher candidate at the beginning of the program and may differ for each alternative teacher candidate depending on prior education, experience, and current placement within the hiring school district.

In order to maximize the use of 225 hours in this one-year Licensure Program, the Professional Growth Plan developed for each candidate will consist of a **required core of course modules that focus on reading literacy, writing, and math** along with additional modules needed for instruction. Other topics for Cohort classes include, but are not limited to, Classroom Management, Special Needs Students, Differentiated Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment, and School Law and Safety. Classes will be a combination of classroom and online instruction.

Scheduled weekly meetings with the assigned Teacher Mentor will occur for direct coaching on curriculum implementation and classroom instruction. Meetings with staff and school district will focus on learning ties to assessments, classroom instruction strategies, and academic goals of the classroom and school. Meetings with members of the Program Support Team and post-secondary institutions will be scheduled during the school year.

Alternative Teacher candidates will attend scheduled observations of master teachers within the district and scheduled visitations to other school districts to connect with master teachers. Ongoing on-site evaluations will be conducted by the Mentor teacher, building Principal, Program Director, and post-secondary institution personnel during the school year.

In addition, all support documentation, Alternative Teacher candidate portfolio, and final summative evaluation will be submitted to the NE BOCES Advisory Council upon completion of the Program. Recommendation to the Colorado Department of Education for an Initial License will follow successful completion of all requirements of the Program.

The cost for the Program to Northeast BOCES will range from \$1,300 to \$1,800. Additional costs for college credit, class texts, and supplies will be the responsibility of the alternative teacher.

Contact: Jonelle Parker, Alternative Licensure Program Director, NE Colorado BOCES
970-774-6152 or jparker@neboces.com