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Who can qualify for Alternative Route?

- Mid-career professionals with at least a 4-year degree.
- Those with conditional teaching certificates or who are emergency substitutes.
- Currently employed classified staff, including paraeducators, with a 4-year degree in subject matter shortage areas.
- Classified school instructional employees with an A.A. degree can also qualify to obtain ESL, bilingual, or special education teacher certification. (Contact Mickie Clise, Heritage University, 509-865-8500.)

Educator Retooling Program

The Professional Educator Standards Board has funding for teachers to add endorsements in secondary math, middle level math/science, any secondary science area, bilingual ed, ESL, and special ed. Interested teachers can request an application at www.pesb.wa.gov/endorsements/EducatorRetoolingProgram.asp

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WashingtonESDs



Association of Educational Service Districts

The Alternative Route to Teaching Certification program

can provide teaching certification in high-need subject areas to community members, emergency substitutes, or paraeducators who



have 4-year degrees and are interested in becoming a teacher. The program offers a way for those individuals to earn teacher credentials in one year, fully paid by meeting the requirements of a \$8,000 scholarship.

A program that serves our area's schools

The goal of the Alternative Route Teacher Preparation Consortia is to develop teachers in subject- and geographic-shortage areas to take jobs where they currently live. Teachers are needed for these subject areas:

- Special education
- Physics
- Choral music
- Japanese
- Middle school math or science
- Instrumental music
- English as a second language
- Early childhood special education
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Bilingual

Want to become a teacher?

Acquiring teacher credentials through the Alternative Route program takes approximately one year. It involves university classes plus an internship. Completion of the program results in the same type of teaching endorsement provided by a traditional teaching program. Here's what participants can expect:

- **A performance-based mentored internship** one school year or less. Interns are assigned to work full-time with a mentor teacher in his or her classroom beginning with the first day of school in the district and concluding during March through June.
- **Formalized learning opportunities** offered by Central Washington University, Pacific Lutheran University, Western Washington University, and Heritage University. These sessions involve 17 days during the summer and 12 Saturdays during the fall, concluding in mid-December.
- **NOTE: All credits and tuition are paid by the \$8,000 scholarship.** The money is a gift as long as a participant completes the program and teaches at least two years in a public school anywhere in the state of Washington.