

# HOW DO I GET MY TEACHING CREDENTIAL?

(Visit [www.ctc.ca.gov](http://www.ctc.ca.gov) for more information on teacher credentialing)



Chaffey College

## Gateways to Teaching Program

Teaching Credentials Available in California

To Teach in an  
Elementary School  
Grades K-6

You Need A:  
*Multiple Subject  
Teaching Credential*

To Teach in  
Junior or High School  
Grades 7-12

You Need A:  
*Single Subject  
Teaching Credential*

To Teach in a  
Special Education Class  
K-12

You Need An:  
*Education Specialist  
Instruction Credential*

### **Major in a field that will help you prepare to teach.**

For example, future English teachers usually major in English. Future elementary teachers major in Liberal Studies. The Gateways to Teaching Program is a transfer program that helps guide you through this process.

### **Complete general education courses at a community college, such as Chaffey College.**

This is approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the required coursework for a B.A., 60 units. Make your academic plan early; contact D.E. Creasy-Valdez for Gateways to Teaching Counseling at (909) 941-2116.

### **Pass the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST).**

The CBEST is a basic skills test that covers math, writing, and reading comprehension. It is recommended that you pass this test while at a community college. Gateways to Teaching helps you prepare for this test with Free Preparation Workshops.

### **Transfer to a university.**

Earn at least 60 units at a community college such as Chaffey. Transfer to a university, such as Cal State, UC or a private university for upper-division classes. For more information go to [www.chaffey.edu/transfer](http://www.chaffey.edu/transfer).

### **Pass the California Subject Exam for Teachers (CSET) Test.**

The CSET covers the subject matter you wish to teach. Take this test in your junior year at your university. If you major in the same field that you will be tested in, you will be more likely to succeed. For example, a future math teacher should major in math. The liberal studies major will help you pass the multiple subject matter tests. Most credentialing programs require that you pass the CSET before you apply.

### **Enter a credential program and complete student teaching/internship.**

There are different credential programs for different subjects. To qualify for a credential program you must meet the 2.75 minimum GPA requirements. All credential programs include advanced course work in health education, special populations, computer technology, and teaching English learners. The credentialing process includes clearance of fingerprinting and a Livescan Report. Gateways to Teaching can help if you have any questions or concerns about this.