

ABCTE offers a certification program ideal for knowledgeable and motivated professionals who want to change careers and become teachers, and for current teachers who need to earn their certification.

The ABCTE certification was officially recognized in 2007 by the South Carolina Department of Education as a route to state certification. All teachers certified through ABCTE's program are considered Highly Qualified.

### **Current South Carolina Certifications**

- Biology (9-12)
- Chemistry (9-12)
- General Science (9-12)
- English (9-12)
- Math (9-12)
- Physics (9-12)

### **Requirements**

All candidates for ABCTE certification must hold a bachelor's degree and demonstrate mastery on subject area and professional teaching knowledge examinations. Prior to earning certification, candidates must also pass a federal background check.

### **Process**

1. Complete the ABCTE certification program.
  - a. Certificate should be used within 3 years
  - b. ABCTE certificate is used in step 1 below

**South Carolina Department of Education Requirement for using ABCTE certificate**  
803-734-8466 (<http://ed.sc.gov/index.html>)

*Degree must be from a regionally accredited college.*

1. Apply for a Statement of Eligibility from South Carolina Department of Education (Office of Educator Certification).
2. Obtain an offer of employment from a South Carolina public school, and provide verification of the offer to the Office of Educator Certification.
3. Receive a one year, renewable for 2 yrs, Alternate Route Certificate.
4. Teach for 3 years, complete induction and formal teacher evaluation requirements (specific to school district), and pass the Praxis exam in Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT).
5. Apply for the 5 year Professional Certificate