

Teacher Preparation and Recertification

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Teacher Preparation

Students who wish to pursue a career as a primary or secondary school teacher can do so in one of two ways: teacher certification or alternate certification. Teacher certification requires students to obtain a Bachelor's degree in an educational program and to earn a passing score on all sections of the Florida Teacher Certification Examination. The alternate certification requires students who have a Bachelor's degree in a discipline other than education to demonstrate mastery of outcomes within a competency-based program and to earn a passing score on all sections of the Florida Teacher Certification Examination.

Teacher Certification

Education Transfer Plans

Valencia offers an Associate in Arts degree transfer plans that lead to teacher certification: Education (General Preparation). This transfer plans is designed for students who wish to transfer to a state university and major in education; it is included in the Transfer Plan section of this catalog.

Associate in Arts Early Childhood Education Pre-Major

This pre-major is designed for the student who plans to transfer to a Florida public university as a junior to complete a four-year Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education. If this pre-major transfers to a limited-access program, you are responsible for completing the specific requirements of the institution to which you will transfer as completion of this pre-major does not guarantee admission to an upper division limited-access program. For specific transfer information, meet with a Valencia advisor or Academic Dean to review your transfer plans, and check the transfer institution catalog for specific degree requirements. Students are strongly encouraged to take electives that relate to their intended baccalaureate degree program.

Alternate Certification

Educator Preparation Institute (EPI)

The Educator Preparation Institute (EPI) provides a competency-based program that offers an individual with a Bachelor's degree in a discipline other than education the preparation to become a classroom teacher in Florida. Participants who demonstrate mastery of the 6 Florida Educator Accomplished Practices and present passing scores on all sections of the Florida Teacher Certification Exams will be awarded a Certificate of Completion. The program requirements designated by an EPI prefix provide institutional credit, are not transferable to an upper-division institution, and do not count toward any degree. Program acceptance is required for participation in the EPI.

Program Requirements

To be considered for enrollment in the Educator Preparation Institute (EPI) program, participants must possess a Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution, and a Statement of Status of Eligibility from the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE), and have passed the General Knowledge Test (GKT) teacher certification exam. The eligibility statement must be presented with the EPI application. Participants cannot begin EPI coursework until a valid Statement of Eligibility has been submitted to the EPI office. If the Statement of Eligibility expires while the participant is enrolled in the EPI program, the participant will not be permitted to continue taking EPI courses until a copy of the renewed valid eligibility statement is provided to the EPI office.

For further admission information and enrollment session dates, please visit the EPI Website at valenciacollege.edu/epi.

EPI Curriculum

Module I

EPI 0001	CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT	3
EPI 0002	INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES	3
EPI 0003	TECHNOLOGY	3
EPI 0004	TEACHING AND LEARNING PROCESS	3

Module II		
EPI 0010	FOUNDATIONS OF RESEARCH-BASED PRACTICES IN	3
Module III		
EPI 0020	PROFESSIONAL FOUNDATIONS	2
EPI 0030	DIVERSITY	2
Module IV		
EPI 0950	TEACHING METHODS FIELD EXPERIENCE	4
Total Credit Hours		23

Teacher Recertification

Most of Valencia's courses meet the requirements of teachers seeking recertification. These courses are offered in a variety of delivery modes (face-to-face, online, hybrid, etc.) on each Valencia campus. Please visit valenciacollege.edu/epi for general information or email epi@valenciacollege.edu to receive an automated message with pertinent recertification and Valencia-related admissions/residency and registration details.

Registration for teacher recertification courses starts at the beginning of registration for returning students and continues until the class begins, provided no other pre-determined registration deadline is designated and space is available. Registration, through the student ATLAS system, is available according to the dates listed in the Academic Calendar in the online official catalog. Students may register in an Atlas Access Lab on any campus or from any remote location that provides Internet access.

Students enrolling for the first time must complete the online Valencia Application for Admission and pay the \$35 non-refundable, non-transferable fee. The application must be submitted electronically at valenciacollege.edu/admissions by the application deadline. A residency form must also be submitted to determine Florida residency eligibility for tuition purposes.

Returning students who have not attended Valencia within the past two years are required to complete the online Valencia Application for Admission and pay the \$35 non-refundable, non-transferable fee. The application must be submitted electronically at valenciacollege.edu/admissions by the application deadline. A residency form must also be submitted to determine Florida residency eligibility for tuition purposes. Please refer to valenciacollege.edu/epi, for more details and contact information.