

Certification Standards January 2022

Preamble

The Certification Standards are established pursuant to sections 13 (d) and (e) of the *Teachers Act*. They set out the training, education and qualifications an applicant must have to be eligible for a BC teaching Certificate of Qualification. They are used by the Director of Certification to evaluate applications for Certificates of Qualification.

CATEGORIES OF CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION

1. The Director may issue the following categories of Certificate of Qualification:
 - (a) a Professional Certificate,
 - (b) a Conditional Certificate,
 - (c) a First Nations Language Teacher Certificate,
 - (d) a Developmental Standard Term Certificate, and
 - (e) a Trades Certificate.

Professional Certificate

2. Effective April 1, 2008, a Professional Certificate shall require completion of a minimum four-year program and not less than 120 credit/semester hours, or equivalent, of post-secondary school professional and academic or specialist studies beyond BC grade 12, or equivalent including an acceptable teacher education program and appropriate degree or degrees or equivalent, as defined in sections 50-71 and 75-87.

Conditional Certificate

3. A Conditional Certificate shall require completion of a minimum four-year program of not less than 120 credit/semester hours, or equivalent, of post-secondary school professional and academic or specialist studies beyond BC grade 12, or equivalent, including an acceptable teacher education program. A Conditional Certificate may be granted where not all requirements for a Professional Certificate have been met, as outlined in sections 50-71 and 75-87.

First Nations Language Teacher Certificate

4. A First Nations Language Teacher Certificate
 - (a) shall require the applicant to be a proficient speaker of a First Nations language, and

- (b) may be issued to individuals who have been recommended by the appropriate First Nations Language authority.

Developmental Standard Term Certificate

- 5. A Developmental Standard Term Certificate is a Certificate of Qualification for a specified term that shall require completion of academic and teacher education requirements approved by the Council, and one of the following:
 - (a) an interprovincial trades qualification program recognized by the Director,
 - (b) a First Nations program of studies recognized by the Director, or
 - (c) other qualifications approved by the Council.

Trades Certificate

- 6. A Trades Certificate shall require completion of the following professional, specialist and academic preparation beyond BC grade 12:
 - (a) Red Seal or BC Industry Trade Authority (ITA) Certificate of Qualification in a trades subject area offered within BC's K-12 system, as defined in section 7,
 - (b) A minimum five years of journeyman work and/or Teaching Experience in the trade area as defined in section 8,
 - (c) an acceptable teacher education program as defined in sections 75-87, and
 - (d) 6 credits of English or French literature and composition as defined in section 53.
- 7. For the purposes of section 6, an applicant must have a Red Seal or ITA Certificate of Qualification that has a minimum of three levels as outlined by the ITA.
- 8. For the purposes of section 6, the journeyman work or Teaching Experience must be in the recognized trade area and be accumulated within the last 10 years.
- 9. Any inter-provincial trades qualification program "Red Seal" or equivalent that relates to the BC curriculum outcomes will meet the requirement in section 6.

RESTRICTION OF CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION

- 10. A Certificate of Qualification may be restricted to the following specific teaching areas:
 - (a) a First Nations Language Teacher Certificate,
 - (b) a Developmental Standard Term Certificate, and
 - (c) a Trades Certificate.

First Nations Language Teacher Certificate

11. A First Nations Language Teacher Certificate is a restricted Certificate of Qualification restricted for a specific First Nations language.
12. A Tribal Council or other body acceptable to the Council may recommend to the Council the First Nations Language authority for its language and culture.
13. The First Nations Language authority recommended to the Council shall be the authority for the designated language and culture for the purposes of section 72.
14. For the purposes of issuing First Nations Language Teacher Certificates, the Council recognizes the following First Nations Language Authorities:
 1. Coast Salish Language Authority (Coast Salish)
 2. Dah Dzahge Nodesidē/Tahltan Language and Culture Council (Tāltān Dah)
 3. Fort Nelson First Nation Language Authority (Dene)
 4. Gitksan Language Authority (Gitksan)
 5. Heiltsuk Language Authority (Heiltsuk)
 6. Hul'q'umi'num' Language and Culture Society (Hul'q'umi'num' - Vancouver Island Dialect)
 7. Huu-ay-aht Language Authority (Huu-ay-aht)
 8. Ktunaxa Language Authority (Ktunaxa)
 9. Kwakwala Ni'nogad Language Authority (Kwakwala)
 10. Liq'wala/Kwakwala Language Authority (Liq'wala/Kwakwala)
 11. Musqueam Language Authority (Musqueam)
 12. Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council (Nlaka'pamux)
 13. Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council for Nuu-chah-nulth Language Authority (Nuu-chah-nulth)
 14. Nuxalk Nation Council (Nuxalk)
 15. Okanagan Language Association (Okanagan)
 16. Old Massett Language Authority (Old Massett Haida)
 17. Quw'utsun Syuw'entst Lelum' Language Authority (Hul'qumi'num' – Cowichan Dialect)
 18. Saanich Language Authority (Sencoten)
 19. Scw'exmx Language Authority (Nle'kepmxcin - Scw'exmx Dialect)
 20. Secwépmc Language Authority (Secwépmc)
 21. Skidegate Haida Language Authority (Skidegate Dialect only)
 22. S'malgyax T'simshian Language Authority (S'malgyax T'simshian)
 23. Snuneymux First Nations Language Authority (Hul'qumi'num – Snuneymux Dialect)
 24. Spi7uy Sqweqwluts Language & Culture Society (Secwepemctsin)
 25. Sto:lo Nation Language Authority (Halq'eméylem)
 26. Treaty 8 Tribal Association Dane-zaa Language Authority (Dane-zaa)
 27. Tsilhqot'in Language Authority (Tsilhqot'in)

28. Ts'msyeeen Sm'algyax Language Authority (Ts'msyeeen Sm'algyax)
29. Ulkatcho Language Authority (Carrier)
30. Upper St'at'imc Language and Culture Authority (St'at'imc)
31. Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a Language Authority Committee (Nisga'a)
32. Wuikala' Language Authority (Wuikinuxv)
33. Yinka Dene Language Institute (Athabaskan)

Developmental Standard Term Certificate

15. A Developmental Standard Term Certificate is a Certificate of Qualification restricted to cook (chef) instructor, technology education, First Nations language instruction or other specialty area determined by the Council.

Trades Certificate

16. A Trades Certificate is a Certificate of Qualification restricted to teaching a trade subject area offered within BC's K-12 systems.

VALIDITY OF CERTIFICATES OF QUALIFICATION

17. Certificates of Qualification are valid only if:
 - (a) the Certificate Holder pays the annual practice fee, and
 - (b) the Certificate of Qualification is not suspended or cancelled under the Act.
18. The validity date of a Certificate of Qualification shall be the date of issue.

Professional Certificate

19. A Professional Certificate is a Certificate of Qualification without an expiry date.

Conditional Certificate

20. A Conditional Certificate is a Certificate of Qualification with an expiry date.
21. The period of validity of a Conditional Certificate shall normally be, but shall not exceed, 60 months from the date of issue.
22. Upon request, a Certificate Holder holding a Conditional Certificate will be granted a Professional Certificate if all the following conditions are met:
 - (a) the request for a Professional Certificate is received by the Director prior to the expiry date of the Conditional Certificate,
 - (b) the Certificate Holder is in good standing, and

- (c) the Certificate Holder submits transcripts and/or verification of Teaching Experience showing the successful completion of all requirements for a Professional Certificate.
23. Upon request, an extension of up to one year may be granted to a Conditional Certificate if all the following conditions are met:
- (a) the request for extension is received by the Director prior to the expiry date of the Conditional Certificate,
 - (b) the Certificate Holder is in good standing, and
 - (c) the Certificate Holder has been unable to complete the requirements for a Professional Certificate by reason of circumstances beyond their control.
24. Upon request, an extension of up to four years may be granted to the holder of a Conditional Certificate issued pursuant to the *Canadian Free Trade Agreement* where the initial evaluation required more than 18 credits of coursework if all the following conditions are met:
- (a) the request for extension is received by the Director prior to the expiry date of the Conditional Certificate,
 - (b) the Certificate Holder is in good standing, and
 - (c) the Certificate Holder submits transcripts showing completion of at least one half of the coursework required for the Professional Certificate.
25. A Certificate Holder holding a valid Conditional Certificate may be granted an extension of one year where they:
- (a) are in receipt of long-term disability benefits,
 - (b) request an extension of their Conditional Certificate before its expiry date, and
 - (c) do not meet the requirements set out in section 22(c).
26. Any person who held a Conditional Certificate that has expired may make an application for a Certificate of Qualification based on the Certification Standards in effect at the time of re-application.
27. Exclusive of sections 23-25, no extension of a Conditional Certificate will be granted.

Developmental Standard Term Certificate

28. The period of validity of a Developmental Standard Term Certificate shall be no more than 58 months from the date of issue.
29. Upon application, a Developmental Standard Term Certificate may be extended once for another four-year term dependent on the applicant's satisfactory progress towards a Professional Certificate or a Conditional Certificate.

30. The Development Standard Term Certificate shall be issued to an applicant who meets the criteria for a Certificate of Qualification as defined in section 5.

Trades Certificate

31. A Trades Certificate is a Certificate of Qualification without an expiry date.

UPGRADING OF CERTIFICATES OF QUALIFICATION

32. A Certificate Holder holding a valid Developmental Standard Term Certificate or Conditional Certificate may, upon application, be issued a Professional Certificate if all the following conditions are met:

- (a) the request for a Professional Certificate is received by the Director prior to the expiry date of the Certificate of Qualification,
- (b) the Certificate Holder is in good standing, and
- (c) the Certificate Holder has submitted transcripts and/or verification of Teaching Experience showing successful completion of all requirements for a Professional Certificate.

33. Upon request, a Certificate Holder holding a valid Trades Certificate may be issued a Professional Certificate if all the following conditions are met:

- (a) the Certificate Holder is in good standing, and
- (b) the Certificate Holder submits documentation showing successful completion of the requirements outlined in section 2.

APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF QUALIFICATION

34. The applicant shall be required to acknowledge that they have read the Professional Standards for BC Educators and declare that they will be bound by them.

CRITERIA FOR A CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION – GENERAL PRINCIPLES

35. Eligibility for a Certificate of Qualification shall be based on the following principles:
 - (a) proficiency in English or French,
 - (b) a broad understanding of Canadian culture and society,
 - (c) professional preparation suitable to undertake teaching assignments appropriate to the BC curriculum,
 - (d) specific knowledge appropriate to the BC curriculum, and
 - (e) an appropriate balance between professional, academic and/or specialist studies.

36. To be eligible for a Certificate of Qualification, an applicant:
- (a) must meet one of the following requirements:
 - i. have completed a program of professional and academic or specialist preparation offered in a BC post-secondary institution and approved by the Council and have received a recommendation from that program,
 - ii. in the case of applicants from outside BC, have completed a program of professional and academic or specialist preparation that is comparable to those offered in BC, or
 - iii. in the case of an applicant for a First Nations Language Teacher Certificate, be recommended to the Director by the appropriate First Nations Language authority as a proficient speaker of their First Nations language, or
 - iv. meet the requirements set under the *Canadian Free Trade Agreement*,
 - (b) may be required to provide evidence as to the nature of any and all service previously given in the capacity of a teacher including practice teaching.
37. No Certificate of Qualification will be issued if an evaluation of an application determines that required course work from a previous evaluation, which led to the issuing of a Conditional or Interim Certificate of Qualification, is still required and remains incomplete.

Quality of Training

38. Only trades certification recognized or issued by the BC Industry Training Authority shall be accepted by the Director for the purposes of granting a Certificate of Qualification.

Acceptable Degrees or Equivalent

39. A degree shall be considered acceptable for a Professional or Conditional Certificate if it has been granted by a post-secondary institution acceptable to the Director and the applicant has a minimum four-year program and not less than 120 credit/semester hours beyond BC grade 12, or equivalent.
40. Coursework completed as part of the professional studies component of a teacher education program will not satisfy the academic coursework specified in sections 50-74 unless the specific course(s) has (have) been approved by the Council under the Teacher Education Program Approval Standards or are acceptable to the Director under sections 50-74 for this purpose.

Ontario College of Applied Arts and Technology

41. The Director may accept credit from a College of Applied Arts and Technology (CAAT) as follows:

- (a) up to 30 credit/semester hours of block transfer for completion of a three-year CAAT program,
 - (b) up to 18 credit/semester hours of block transfer for completion of a two-year CAAT program, and
 - (c) no transfer credit will be recognized for coursework completed as part of a one-year CAAT program.
42. All recognized block transfer credit from a CAAT must be an integrated component of an acceptable degree as defined in sections 39 and 40.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

43. To be considered eligible for a Certificate of Qualification, an applicant must meet the language proficiency requirement for teaching in English or French.
44. The Director may grant the applicant an exemption from the requirements of section 43 where an applicant has:
- (a) completed their secondary school education, including grade 12, in Canada in the English or French Language, or
 - (b) verified successful Teaching Experience in Canada in the English or French language, of at least five years duration, and has received a successful teaching report.

English Language Proficiency

45. An applicant who teaches in the English language must provide evidence of an acceptable score on a language proficiency test as outlined in sections 46 and 47 if:
- (a) the applicant completed their post-secondary education in countries other than those outlined in section 48, or
 - (b) the Director has reason to believe the applicant is not proficient in the English language.
46. Acceptable scores for fulfilling the English language proficiency requirement are:
- (a) a total score of 580 (paper-based test) or 237 (computer-based test) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), and a score of 50 on the Test of Spoken English (Professional) (TSE-P), or
 - (b) a total score of 98 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), Internet-based test (iBT), with the following minimum subtest scores: 23 on Reading and Listening; 27 on Speaking; and 25 on Writing, or

- (c) an overall band score of 6.5 on the academic version of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), with no band below 6 and with a minimum of 7 on the Speaking and Writing bands.
- 47. Proficiency requirement scores under section 46 are valid for two years from the date of the test.
- 48. The Director may exempt any or all of the English language proficiency testing requirements for an applicant who has completed all their post-secondary education in Canada, the United States, New Zealand, Australia, Ireland or the United Kingdom, or from any of the following countries where English is essentially the only language used:
 - (a) Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts-Nevis, or
 - (b) Any other nation where the applicant can provide documented evidence that the primary/secondary and post-secondary/tertiary education is conducted in English only.

French Language Proficiency

- 49. An applicant who teaches in the French language must demonstrate a satisfactory command of written and spoken French by:
 - (a) showing that they have completed all their education in the French language,
 - (b) providing a letter from a Francophone Education Authority indicating their proficiency in French,
 - (c) providing a minimum score of B1 on the Diplôme d'études en langue française (DELF) or C1 on the Diplôme approfondi de langue française (DALF), or
 - (d) providing a written assessment by faculty of the French Department of a Canadian university, acceptable to the Director, attesting that the applicant has demonstrated knowledge of the French language to indicate that they are capable of conducting all their teaching in the French language.

CRITERIA FOR A CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION – ACADEMIC PREPARATION

Grade 12 Equivalence

- 50. An applicant must have BC grade 12 or equivalent as determined by the Director.

Acceptable Academic Preparation

- 51. An applicant for a Certificate of Qualification must have successfully completed a program of academic studies in faculties other than the Faculty of Education.

52. The courses qualifying for academic background may not include professional coursework from another discipline.
53. All applicants must have successfully completed a minimum of 6 credit/semester hours or equivalent of undergraduate English or French coursework. For applicants teaching in the English language, the coursework must be in English; for those teaching in the French language the coursework must be in French. The following sections apply to the coursework:
- (a) the 6 credit/semester hours must include both literature and composition and must be comparable to post-secondary courses taken at a BC university,
 - (b) 3 credit/semester hours of composition may be credited to applicants who have completed a thesis in the relevant language as part of a masters or doctorate degree acceptable to the Director, and
 - (c) the University of British Columbia English exemption examination shall not be considered to satisfy the academic English requirement for a Certificate of Qualification as outlined above for students accepted into the UBC teacher education program after January 1, 1993.
54. An applicant whose initial teacher education preparation is for assignments at the kindergarten to grade 7 levels must have completed a minimum of 30 credit/semester hours or equivalent of their studies in faculties other than the Faculty of Education, which includes the following academic coursework:
- (a) 3 credit/semester hours or equivalent of sciences, as defined in section 55,
 - (b) 3 credit/semester hours or equivalent of mathematics, and
 - (c) 3 credit/semester hours or equivalent of Canadian studies.
55. Disciplines that will be recognized toward fulfilment of section 54(a) are biology, chemistry, physics, physical geography, geology/earth science, ocean science, environment science and astronomy.
56. An applicant for a Certificate of Qualification, who is deficient in not more than 12 credit/semester hours or equivalent of academic coursework as specified in sections 52-54, may be granted a Conditional Certificate. Any other deficiency in academic coursework must be completed before a Conditional Certificate is issued.
57. An applicant who is eligible for a Conditional Certificate pursuant to the *Canadian Free Trade Agreement* may be granted a Conditional Certificate with more than 12 credit/semester hours of coursework to complete.
58. An applicant whose initial teacher education preparation is for assignments at the levels of grade 8 and above must have completed a minimum of 24 credit/semester hours of academic coursework in one teachable subject area. These studies must be in fields of knowledge that are compatible with the curriculum expectations in BC secondary schools, and in sufficient

depth to ensure an appropriate knowledge and understanding of the subject, as defined in sections 59 and 60.

59. For the purposes of section 58, the subject areas taught in BC secondary schools are:

Art	Home Economics
Biology	Italian
Business Education	Japanese
Chemistry	Korean
Computer Science	Mandarin
Dance	Mathematics
Drama	Music
Earth Science	Physical Education
English	Physics
First Nations Studies	Punjabi
French	Russian
General Science	Social Studies
Geography	Spanish
German	Special Education
History	Technology Education

60. For the purpose of section 59, at least 6 of the 24 credit/semester hours must be studies in theory (that is, non-studio) in the following areas: Art, Dance, Drama, Music. If the applicant has at least 24 credit/semester hours in the teaching area but lacks the theory coursework, the courses may be completed during the validity period of a Conditional Certificate.

61. The subject area of social studies consists of 24 credit/semester hours which must include:

- (a) 3 credit/semester hours of Canadian studies,
- (b) 3 credit/semester hours of geography,
- (c) 3 credit/semester hours of history, and
- (d) 15 credit/semester hours of academic coursework in one or a combination of anthropology, economics, political science, sociology, history and geography.

62. A Canadian geography course will satisfy the requirements in section 61 (a) and (b) for Canadian studies and geography content but the course will only count for the credit value awarded it on the transcript. An applicant must complete a total of 24 credit/semester hours.

63. A Canadian history course will satisfy the requirements in sections 61 (a) and (c) for Canadian studies and history content but the course will only count for the credit value awarded it on the transcript. An applicant must complete a total of 24 credit/semester hours.

64. For the purpose of section 61(d), coursework relating to these disciplines taken in Canadian studies, Asian studies, women's studies, First Nations studies, religious studies of a non-doctrinal nature, classical studies, urban studies, and environmental studies, or other courses at the discretion of the Director may be credited provided an examination of the course description reveals such a relationship.
65. If the applicant has at least 24 credit/semester hours in social studies, but lacks the courses described in section 61 (a), (b) and (c), the courses may be completed during the validity period of a Conditional Certificate.
66. For the purpose of sections 54(c) and 61(a), the focus of a Canadian studies course must be on understanding the Canadian experience and the Canadian content must be central to the conceptual thesis of the course, rather than existing only in exemplar supporting concepts of another academic discipline.
67. For the purpose of section 33, an individual holding a Trades Certificate who completes a minimum of 6 credit/semester hours in each of two additional areas within technology education is deemed to have met section 58.

Prior Learning Assessment

68. Applicants and Certificate Holders may receive recognition and credit for demonstrated knowledge, skills and attributes in accordance with sections 69 and 70.
69. Applicants and Certificate Holders may receive prior learning assessment credit for coursework that was:
 - (a) assessed,
 - (b) appears on a transcript,
 - (c) was awarded by an institution acceptable to the Director, and
 - (d) was awarded by an institution that either has an articulated process that follows the Prior Learning Assessment Implementation Guidelines for BC from the BC Transfer Guide, as posted on the BC Council on Admissions & Transfer website at www.bccat.bc.ca or a process deemed to be equivalent.
70. An applicant whose first language is not English and who wishes to teach that language as a second language will be awarded the equivalence of up to 24 credit/semester hours of academic coursework in the language if the applicant has:
 - (a) completed a post-secondary degree in a country where the language is the primary language of instruction,
 - (b) completed an acceptable score on a language proficiency test as outlined in section 71, or

- (c) completed an assessment by a Canadian university faculty, acceptable to the Director, who are specialists in that language, attesting that the applicant has demonstrated knowledge of the language equivalent to up to 24 credit/semester hours of coursework done in that language.

- 71. For the purpose of equivalency under section 70 language proficiency tests and scores for French are a minimum score of C1 or equivalent on the French Proficiency Test administered by the University of British Columbia Faculty of Education.

First Nations Language Teacher Certificate

- 72. An applicant qualifying for a First Nations Language Teacher Certificate under section 4 shall have the recommendation of the appropriate First Nations Language authority to teach their First Nations language and culture.

Development Standard Term Certificate

- 73. An applicant qualifying for a Developmental Standard Term Certificate under section 5(a) must have completed 30 credit/semester hours of arts and science university transfer courses, including 6 credits credit/semester hours of English composition and literature and an inter-provincial trades qualification program “Red Seal” (cook) or equivalent.
- 74. An applicant qualifying for a Developmental Standard Term Certificate under section 5(b) must complete an academic program of studies approved by the Council and a First Nations language program approved by the Council.

CRITERIA FOR A CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION – PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

Acceptable Specialist Preparation

- 75. An applicant qualifying for the Trades Certificate through section 6 must:
 - (a) hold a Red Seal or ITA Certificate of Qualification recognized or issued by the BC Industry Training Authority, and
 - (b) have a minimum 5 years of journey person work and/or Teaching Experience in the trade area as defined in section 8.

Acceptable Professional Preparation

- 76. An applicant must have successfully completed an acceptable teacher education program that must include 48 credit/semester hours or equivalent of professional education coursework, including a practicum as defined in section 81.

77. To be considered acceptable, a teacher education program shall either
- (a) be a program offered at a BC post-secondary institution and approved by the Council, or
 - (b) if outside BC, be a program that
 - i. is offered at a post-secondary institution acceptable to the Director,
 - ii. satisfies the requirements of sections 76-87, and
 - iii. has resulted in a licence to teach being granted in the jurisdiction in which the teacher education program was completed.
78. An acceptable teacher education program must include studies in:
- (a) human development and learning,
 - (b) educational foundations (history, philosophy, sociology),
 - (c) curriculum and instruction in the applicable teaching area(s),
 - (d) diagnosing and providing for the educational needs of individual students, and
 - (e) evaluation and testing.
79. An applicant for a Certificate of Qualification who has a deficiency in academic coursework allowed under sections 50-74, and who has successfully completed a minimum of 30 credit/semester hours of professional education coursework and practice teaching, is deemed to have completed an acceptable teacher education program, but must complete the following during the validity period of their Conditional Certificate:
- (a) any required professional education coursework, and
 - (b) any required academic coursework.
80. An applicant from outside BC who qualifies for the Conditional Certificate under the *Canadian Free Trade Agreement* is deemed to have completed an acceptable teacher education program but must complete any required professional education coursework during the validity period of their Conditional Certificate.

Acceptable Practicum

81. An acceptable practicum as it applies to section 76 is defined as one that:
- (a) is normally of 12 weeks, but not less than 10 weeks in duration,
 - (b) is recognized by an accredited university and is supervised by that university's Faculty of Education, and
 - (c) takes place under the supervision of one or more school advisors who are certified in the jurisdiction in which the practicum takes place.
82. Applicants who have completed 75 days of satisfactory Teaching Experience within one school year or 100 days of satisfactory Teaching Experience over two consecutive school years in the

10-year period prior to the date of application to the Director, will be deemed to have completed an acceptable practicum as defined in section 81 provided that:

- (a) there is a practicum supervised by the university in their teacher education program, and
- (b) the Teaching Experience being considered is verified by way of a satisfactory teaching report or a letter of recommendation by a superintendent of schools, a chief executive officer, an assistant superintendent of schools, a principal or a vice-principal who supervised the experience.

Prior Learning Assessment

83. Certificate Holders holding a Conditional Certificate may have up to 6 credits of education coursework exempted provided that:

- (a) they have successful full-time Teaching Experience in BC for at least 1.5 school years (the equivalent of 15 months teaching time) while holding a Certificate of Qualification, and
- (b) they have provided evidence by way of an evaluation from a Certificate Holder who is a superintendent of schools, a chief executive officer, an assistant superintendent of schools, or a principal or a vice-principal who has supervised and assessed the Certificate Holder's classroom performance that they demonstrated competency in teaching related to the coursework required.

84. Teaching Experience may be part time and/or full-time teaching assignments amounting to the equivalence of 1.5 school years (the equivalent of 15 months teaching time) of full-time teaching.

Familiarization

85. If an applicant for a Certificate of Qualification has completed a teacher education program, but it is not similar in philosophy to a BC teacher education program, the applicant shall be required to successfully complete an approved program of study as outlined in section 88.

86. An applicant will be exempted from the requirements in section 85 if they have successful Teaching Experience in a jurisdiction considered to have an education system comparable to the BC public education system amounting to:

- (a) at least 1.5 school years (the equivalent of 15 months teaching time) of employment on a full-time basis, as verified by employer(s), for which a valid licence to teach is required; or
- (b) at least .2 of full-time employment in a part-time position when the part-time service can be accumulated to a total of 1.5 school years (the equivalent of 15 months teaching time), as verified by employer(s), for which a valid licence to teach is required; and

- (c) the applicant has submitted a satisfactory teaching report from that Teaching Experience.
87. The following factors will be taken into consideration in determining whether an education system is comparable to the BC education system, as required in section 86:
- (a) experience where the teacher has organized a classroom with students as active participants;
 - (b) experience in classrooms where children are actively involved in large and small groups;
 - (c) experience planning and adapting lessons where there are students with special needs and students from different ethnic background;
 - (d) experience using a variety of student assessment and evaluation methods;
 - (e) experience with similar class size and curriculum to that used in BC public schools; and
 - (f) familiarity with available learning resources in BC public schools.

Approved Programs

88. An approved program of study required in section 85 shall be comprised of either:
- (a) 12 credit/semester hours of education methodology related to their teaching area and a minimum 6 weeks of supervised student teaching in an acceptable classroom setting, supervised by an approved teacher education program within BC; or
 - (b) The Professional Qualification Program offered through Simon Fraser University.

Historical Programs

89. Where an applicant for a Certificate of Qualification has completed the Ontario Short Program (1970-1975), comprised of 18 credit/semester hours of professional coursework and required practicum, leading to an Ontario provincial certificate and
- (a) has at least 10 years of full-time Teaching Experience, and
 - (b) provides a satisfactory teaching report written within the 10 years prior to the date of application,

the Director deems that the applicant has satisfied the full professional requirements as outlined in sections 76-87.

RE-EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR A CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION

90. An applicant whose qualifications have been evaluated for the purposes of granting a Certificate of Qualification may apply for re-evaluation of their qualifications only if there is a change in circumstances since the first evaluation.

Reinstatement

91. The Director may reinstate the Certificate of Qualification of a former Certificate Holder if the applicant satisfies the Director upon application that they:
- (a) formerly held a non-expiring Certificate of Qualification that was cancelled under section 33(2)(a) or (e) of the Act or was relinquished,
 - (b) has satisfactory recent Teaching Experience, verified in writing by the employer, of at least one school year on a full-time basis, or the accumulated part-time equivalent, in the five years immediately prior to the application date in:
 - i. a BC public school,
 - ii. a Group 1, Group 2 or Group 4 BC independent school, or
 - iii. an accredited First Nations school in BC.

LETTERS OF ELIGIBILITY AND EVALUATION

Letters of Eligibility

92. A letter of eligibility represents official verification that an applicant has met the requirements for a Certificate of Qualification.
93. A letter of eligibility shall be valid for a non-renewal period of up to 6 months from the date of issue.
94. Recipients of letters of eligibility who have not satisfied requirements for obtaining their Certificate of Qualification within the period of validity must apply for a re-evaluation of their qualifications under the Certification Standards in effect at the time of re-evaluation.

Letters of Evaluation

95. A letter of evaluation is correspondence defining the academic, specialist and professional coursework an applicant is required to complete.
96. A letter of evaluation is valid for a non-renewable period of up to five years from the date of issue.
97. If designated coursework remains outstanding five years from the date the letter of evaluation is issued, a re-evaluation of the applicant's qualifications under the Certification Standards in effect at the time of re-evaluation will be required.

GLOSSARY

Note: These terms are included to assist the public. To the extent that there is a discrepancy between these terms and definitions in the legislation, the legislative definitions prevail.

Act	means the <i>Teachers Act</i> .
CAAT	means a College of Applied Arts and Technology in Ontario.
Certificate Holder	means a person who holds a Certificate of Qualification.
Certificate of Qualification	means a certificate of qualification issued by the Director under the Act.
Council	means the British Columbia Teachers' Council established under section 9 of the Act.
Director	means the Director of Certification appointed under section 6 of the Act.
Teaching Experience	means experience where the applicant is primarily responsible for the planning, delivery, and evaluation of an instructional program with curriculum subject areas that are taught within the BC Curriculum.
