

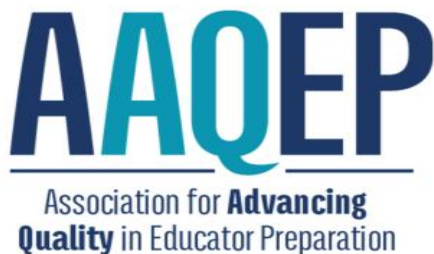


BROOKDALE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OVERVIEW

**New Jersey Alternate Route
Career and Technical Education
Certificate of Eligibility
Educator Preparation Program
(CTE CE EPP)**

a Nationally Accredited
Educator Preparation Program.



Update February 2025

Brookdale Community College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action educational institution. To promote this goal, the College makes positive efforts to ensure equal opportunity to all individuals without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability or veteran status.

**New Jersey Department of Education
Career and Technical Education
Certificate of Eligibility
Educator Preparation Program**

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I. General Information

New Jersey Alternate Route CTE CE EPP

This program provides an opportunity for people with diverse educational, training and employment backgrounds to become Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers. Career and Technical Education programs are secondary school programs that prepare students for training, employment, or postsecondary education in newly developed occupations and existing professions. Individuals who have a Bachelor's degree, an Associate's degree and two years employment experience, or who have four years employment experience may be candidates for this program.

The CTE CE EPP is a 400-hour Educator Preparation Program that is regulated and approved by the New Jersey Department of Education. The program is delivered virtually with mandatory live instruction occurring via Zoom during each stage. This 400-Hour program is comprised of seven stages which includes a 50 hour pre-service component referred to as the 50-Hour Pre-Professional Experience.

Brookdale Community College offers **Stage I, the 50-Hour Pre-Professional Experience**, several times a year. The program will be delivered in two formats, the Traditional Model which will be delivered by Brookdale Community College and the County Vocational School Partnership Model which will be delivered in conjunction with those partnering school districts.

The **350-Hour component** of the CTE CE EPP is delivered as Year 1 (**Stages II-IV**) and Year 2 (**Stages V-VII**) and consists of approximately twelve-week sessions in each stage. Year 1 Cohorts begin in the Fall, Winter and Spring; each stage will follow shortly after the previous stage ends.

The program provides an opportunity for 400-hour completers to earn 28 undergraduate college credits toward an Associate in Applied Science degree in Technical Education and teacher certification, or teacher certification only. Candidates who enroll in the credit option of the program must submit additional fees and documents to complete registration. The full 28 credits are awarded at the conclusion of the full 400-Hour program, upon successful completion of all stages and submission of the final credit portfolio.

More detailed credit option information will be provided to all candidates as they enroll in and continue through the 350-Hour component of the program.

Basic Eligibility Requirements for enrollment in the CTE CE EPP are:

Stage I, the 50-Hour Pre-Professional Experience:

- May enroll with or without a Certificate of Eligibility.
- May enroll with or without employment as a CTE teacher.
- Candidates who have previously completed the 24-Hour Introduction to Teaching Pre-Service Program, or who have completed a 50-Hour program with another program provider may be credited up to 20 hours towards the 50-hour requirement if proper documentation is provided.

Stages II-VII, the 350-Hour Program Component:

- Must already have completed the CTE CE EPP's Stage I, the 50-Hour Pre-Professional Experience.
- Must have a Certificate of Eligibility issued in a CTE subject area.
- Must have been hired to teach in their CTE subject area and enrolled in the NJDOE's Provisional Teacher Program (PTP)*.

*Enrollment in the CTE program is one of many requirements of the NJDOE Provisional Teacher Preparation Program. Unless otherwise noted, it is the teacher candidate's responsibility to ensure all provisional requirements are met through their school/district and the NJDOE.

Candidates must successfully complete a stage to advance to the next. Those who do not successfully complete a stage will be given the opportunity to re-enroll in that stage to successfully complete and advance in the program.

II. How to obtain your Career and Technical Education Certificate of Eligibility (CE)

There are multiple steps to qualify to become a Career and Technical Education (CTE) teacher candidate through the CTE alternate route provisional teacher program and to complete the requirements for standard certification. Alternate route candidates come from a wide variety of educational and employment backgrounds. If you decide to pursue this challenging career change, you will enjoy the camaraderie and support of a fascinating group of people as you go through the program.

Individuals who are interested in becoming a teacher in a CTE program must apply to the New Jersey Department of Education for a CTE Certificate of Eligibility (CE) in the subject area or "endorsement" that they are seeking to teach. You may apply if you have the required employment experience, self-employment experience, college degree or a combination of employment experience and education.

College Degree:

When the CTE CE EPP applicant has a college degree, the degree must be in the subject area that the individual is seeking on the CE endorsement for which they are applying. For example, if the individual is seeking a CTE certificate of eligibility in culinary arts using only a degree, they must have a degree in culinary arts, food service, etc.

Employment experience:

The CTE CE EPP applicant's employment experience, or self-employment experience must be in the occupation identified on the CE endorsement for which they are applying. For example, if the individual is applying for a CTE certificate of eligibility in carpentry, they must have employment experience, or self-employment experience as a carpenter. It should be noted that if an individual is required by the State of New Jersey to hold an *occupational license or certificate for employment*, then the applicant must also have a current *occupational license or certificate for employment* in addition to meeting the educational and/or employment experience requirements for the CTE certificate of eligibility.

Please visit the NJDOE Certification and Endorsements webpage which outlines the requirements for certificates. [Certifications and Endorsements \(nj.gov\)](https://www.nj.gov/education/njdoe/certification-and-endorsements/)

III. Applying to the CTE CE EPP's Stage I, the 50-Hour Pre-Professional Experience

Individuals who are seeking or who have been issued a Career and Technical Education Certificate of Eligibility (CTE CE) must enroll in Stage I, the 50-Hour Pre-Professional Experience as part of the 400-Hour CTE CE EPP.

Individuals can apply to Stage I, the 50-Hour Pre-Professional Experience, by completing the CTE CE EP Program Application found on the Brookdale Community College, Career and Technical Education Certificate of Eligibility Educator Preparation Program webpage. Applicants who have already completed a 24-Hour Introduction to Teaching Pre-Service Program or another provider's 50-Hour program **must** provide a copy of their completion certificate in order to have 20 hours of coursework from that program credited toward the 50-Hour Pre-Professional Experience Program.

Program applications are available on our website

<https://www.brookdalecc.edu/continuing/careerdevelopment/career-and-technical-education-alternate-route-teacher-program/>. Completed applications and supporting documents can be scanned and emailed to cte@brookdalecc.edu.

Program start dates and current fees will be provided when candidates submit an application.

IV. Applying to the Career and Technical Education Certificate of Eligibility Educator Preparation Program – Stages II-VII

Continuation on to Stage II of the CTE CE EPP, and all subsequent stages, requires that you have met the following criteria:

- Have successfully completed Stage I, the 50-Hour Pre-Professional Experience, of the CTE CE EPP
- Have been issued a Certificate of Eligibility (CE) in a Career and Technical Education (CTE) subject area
- Have been hired to teach by a school district in their CTE CE subject area

NOTE: *In order to be hired by a school district and enrolled in the NJDOE's Provisional Teacher Program, you must have a Certificate of Eligibility and provide your hiring district with a copy of your 50-Hour Verification of Program Completion (VOPC).*

When advancing to Stage II of the CTE CE EPP, candidates will be required to submit a completed Stage II Registration Form with a copy of the following documents:

- Copy of CTE Certificate of Eligibility (*if not previously submitted*)
- Copy of Employment Contract or letter from hiring district indicating the dates of employment and subject area being taught (*if not previously submitted*)

Candidates **must** maintain employment as a teacher in their CTE endorsement area to continue with the CTE CE EPP and may be asked to provide an updated employment contract before any stage.

All required documents must be submitted to the CTE Office at Brookdale for review. Candidates who meet the eligibility requirements will be admitted to the CTE CE EPP. Registration and payment procedures, current fees and program dates/times, and other relevant information will be provided to all candidates at time of acceptance. Upon acceptance to the program, students must complete a Registration Form and remit payment for their respective stage.

Candidates will be offered two options for the program:

- **Credit option:** Brookdale Community College provides CTE CE EPP students with the option of earning **28 undergraduate credits** that can be used toward a Technical Education AAS degree from Brookdale Community College, in addition to completing the program hours for certification.
- **Noncredit option:** For NJDOE requirements toward standard certification only.

NOTE: *The course requirements and workload are the same for both options. Both equally fulfill the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) alternate route requirements for teacher certification. Upon completion of the 400-Hour Program, all candidates will receive the same VOPC confirming their completion of instructional hours for submission to the NJDOE.*

V. Stage I: 50-hour Pre-Professional Experience

Stage I of the CTE CE EPP is the first step in the Standard Certification process for CTE provisional teachers and will provide the student with an understanding of the teaching profession, present the realities of teaching as a career, and prepare the student for classrooms of diverse learners.

Stage I represents the 50-Hour component and is comprised of two “Virtual Cohort Saturday” sessions (dates announced by stage), as well as several online sessions. *Attendance at all Virtual Cohort Saturdays and completion of the online component is **mandatory**.* Students are expected to arrive on time for the Virtual Cohort Saturdays and remain until class has ended. Attendance in the online component requires timely participation within the **weekly deadlines** for each session.

The student’s successful completion of Stage I of the CTE CE EPP, acquisition of a CTE Certificate of Eligibility (CE), and employment by a school district in their CTE CE subject area will allow the candidate to continue to the 350-Hour component (Stages II-VII) of the program.

VI. Stages II-VII: 350-hour CTE Program

Stage II is the first of the six remaining stages that comprise a total of 350 hours of instruction that includes eighteen “Virtual Cohort Saturday” sessions, as well as online sessions that occur between live meetings.

During Stages II-VII, students will be prepared to implement effective teaching practices in a career and technical education program classroom setting. The coursework will prepare the student in the areas of classroom management, strategies for instruction, differentiated instruction, and the application of curriculum theory. *Attendance at all Virtual Cohort Saturdays and completion of the online component is **mandatory**.* Students are expected to arrive on time for the Virtual Cohort Saturdays and remain until class has ended. Attendance in the online component requires timely participation within the **weekly deadlines** for each session.

Stages II-VII of the CTE CE EPP will provide a support system as well as an environment in which to share relevant experiences with other students in the cohort. The program will focus in greater depth on many of the topics that were introduced in Stage I, such as the principles of effective instruction, exploration of effective implementation strategies, and the importance of literacy across the curriculum.

To successfully complete CTE CE EPP program, students must fulfill all the program requirements including the production of a Professional Improvement Development Plan (PDP), teacher portfolio and performance assessment measure.

Upon successful completion of the program and all requirements, students will receive an original copy of their NJDOE Verification of Program Completion (VOPC). The VOPC will serve as verification of the successful completion of 400-Hours of alternate route instruction. Brookdale will verify a candidate’s program completion through the NJedCert after all program requirements have been met.

VII. Resources/Useful Links

- Brookdale Community College CTE CE EPP website: www.brookdaleecc.edu/cte
- County Office of Education locations: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/counties/>
- NJDOE Teacher Homepage: <https://www.nj.gov/education/certification/teachers/>
- NJDOE Certification & Endorsements: <https://www.nj.gov/education/certification/certsandtitles/>
- NJDOE Apply for Certification: <https://www.nj.gov/education/certification/apply/>
- NJDOE Certification FAQ's: <https://www.nj.gov/education/certification/faq/index.shtml>
- Provisional Teacher Program:
<https://www.nj.gov/education/certification/teachers/alternate/step2alternate.shtml>
- Hiring and job outlook in NJ: <http://www.njhire.com>; www.teachtechnj.org;
<https://www.nj.gov/education/careers/leavacancies/> and through your County Superintendent of Education Office
- Praxis exam information: Educational Testing Services (ETS), 609-771-7395
<http://www.ets.org/praxis/nj/requirements> or to register for exam, <http://www.ets.org/praxis>

VIII. Glossary of Terms

Alternate Route: An alternate certification process that permits qualified individuals who have not completed a traditional teacher training program to earn instruction licenses while teaching in schools under a program of mentoring supervision, evaluation and formal instruction.

CANVAS: Online learning management system through which the online sessions of the CTE CE EP Program are conducted.

Career and Technical Education Certificate of Eligibility Educator Preparation Program (CTE CE EPP): An alternate route certification program that provides an opportunity for people who have not completed a traditional teacher education program and who have varied educational, training and employment backgrounds to become Career and Technical Education (CTE) program teachers.

Career and Technical Education Provisional Teacher Program (PTP): A combination of alternate route teacher training, support and evaluation for first year Career and Technical Education teachers. Teacher candidates must be enrolled by their district in the PTP and enrolled in the CTE CE EPP.

Career and Technical Education Teacher: These individuals teach in Career and Technical Education high schools (formerly vo-tech) or may teach in comprehensive high schools that offer CTE programs.

Certificate of Eligibility (CE): Document issued by the NJDOE that shows the person has the qualifications to teach in New Jersey and may seek employment in the subject area/s indicated. This is NOT a teaching license.

Cohort Saturday: Scheduled virtual instruction with instructor and members of respective cohort. Meet approximately one Saturday per month. **Attendance is mandatory.**

Credit Option: Option through which a student may earn 28 undergraduate credits towards a Technical Education associates degree upon successful completion of the full 400-Hour Career and Technical Education Certificate of Eligibility, Educator Preparation Program (CTE CE EPP).

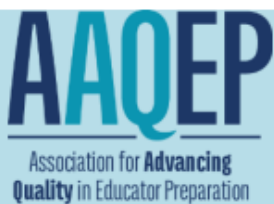
Noncredit Option: The option by which students may elect to enroll in the CTE CE EPP to receive certification only for their program completion. There are no college credits earned.

NJDOE: New Jersey Department of Education

Provisional License: Two-year license that allows first year teachers to begin working in the classroom and legalizes employment. Upon employment, the school enrolls the new teacher in the Provisional Teacher Program. Under certain circumstances the provisional license can be extended.

Standard Certification: The permanent credential that allows the holder to serve without condition in all New Jersey schools. The standard license is issued after meeting all requirements of the provisional license.

Technical Education AAS: The Technical Education A.A.S. program allows CTE CE EPP students the opportunity to obtain credit for the CTE CE EPP curriculum and apply the credit toward completion of an associate degree. The Technical Education A.A.S. program is designed so that students with prior work experience and apprenticeship training may apply technical credits approved by the American Council on Education (or other agencies that convert training to college credit) toward completing the degree.



Brookdale Community College is a member in good standing of the [Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation \(AAQEP\)](#), a national accrediting organization recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. The Alternate Route to Teaching - Community College program has been awarded initial accreditation by AAQEP through December 31, 2029. Accreditation acknowledges that a program prepares effective educators who continue to grow as professionals and has demonstrated the commitment and capacity to maintain quality.

CTE PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. Susan Pagano
Executive Director
Office of Continuing & Professional Studies
spagano@brookdalecc.edu
732-224-2685

Dr. Jennifer Calvelli
CTE Program Director
jcalvelli@brookdalecc.edu

Barbara Devine
Program Manager, Career & Technical Education
bdevine@brookdalecc.edu
732-224-2319

Amy Yates
Program Specialist
ayates@brookdalecc.edu
732-224-2384

Kathy Hildin
Program Assistant
khildin@brookdalecc.edu
732-224-2139

Erin Mattsson
Web Administrator
emattsson@brookdalecc.edu
732-224-2214