



West Central Alternative Teacher Licensure Program
In cooperation with Uncompahgre Board of Cooperative Educational Services

The purpose of the WC-ATL program is to allow school districts in our small rural communities to recruit and retain high quality professionals who are looking for a career change to teaching. **This is not a program intended for a college aged student who is wanting to major in education to become a teacher.** The sole purpose of our program is to allow professionals who have earned a bachelor or master degree to complete an accredited licensure program to become a teacher without having to attend a traditional four-year education program.

The WC-ATL two-year program is fully accredited through the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). Successful completion of our program leads to an Initial Educator License conferred upon the candidate by CDE.

Program Requirements/Admission:

1. Successful candidates will have earned a bachelor or master degree from an accredited university or college.
2. Successful candidates will have passed the PLACE or PRAXIS test in the area in which they intend to teach. (Example: If a candidate holds a master degree in chemical engineering and wants to teach high school chemistry they will need to complete the PLACE test for Science. (For access to testing information go to the CDE Educator Licensing page at: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof>) Candidates CAN opt out of testing if they have sufficient credits. Contact CDE for more information.
3. Successful candidates will hold a Statement of Eligibility (SOE) from the CDE. To obtain information about how to obtain a SOE go to the CDE Alternative Teacher Program page at: [http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure alt1 info](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure_alt1_info)).

4. Successful candidates will secure a teaching position within one of our member districts (DeBeque 49JT, Delta County 50(J), Hinsdale RE-1, Montrose RE-1J, Norwood R-2J, Ouray R-1, Ridgway R-2, Telluride R-1, West End RE-2, and Plateau Valley 50). This entails that candidates work directly with each district to interview and be selected for a teaching position.
5. ATL Member School Districts who hire an ATL candidate teacher will then make a referral to the ATL council on behalf of the candidate, essentially endorsing the candidate as a highly qualified candidate who has met the above criteria and demonstrates the disposition to be a high quality teacher. Jump Start **MUST** be completed in order for a candidate to be accepted into the current year's program.
6. A candidate who is selected will have to successfully complete the two-year program concurrently with their employment at the hiring district in order to obtain a recommendation from the WC-ATL Council for Initial Teacher Licensure.

This is a brief description of the requirements for admittance into our program. For complete program information please visit our website at: www.unboces.org and select the ATL link at the bottom of the page.