

Designated Subjects Career Technical Education (CTE) and Adult Education Teaching Credentials

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl888.pdf>

What is the difference between a CTE and Adult Education Credential?

CTE credentials authorize the individuals to teach career related classes *in classes offered at the high school as well as adult education programs*. The Adult Education credential authorizes qualified individuals with the authorization to teach academic subjects, such as GED preparation and ESL to adult learners.

Do I qualify?

One must have a total of at least three years full-time professional work experience in the designated industry and at minimum a high school diploma. The work experience must be recent; at least 1 year within the last 5 years or 2 years within the last 10 years.

How do I apply?

Complete the application paperwork from a State approved program sponsor. Each program sponsor is separately approved by the State with some differences in associated processing fees and costs for the teacher preparation program.

Approved programs:

LA County Credential Services -
<http://www.lacoe.edu/CurriculumInstruction/CareerTechnicalEd/CTECredentials.aspx>

Orange County Department of Education -
<http://www.ocde.us/Leadership/Documents/Application%20Packet%202015-2016.pdf>

San Diego County Department of Education -
<http://www.sdcoe.net/human-resources/credentials/designated-subject-credentials/Pages/teaching-rop-cte.aspx>

What if I don't have 3 years work experience?

Up to 48 semester units of coursework related to the subject can be substituted for two years of work experience. One must have at least **one year full-time work experience** (equivalent to 1,000 hours) to qualify for a CTE credential.

How do I verify my work experience?

Obtain original letter(s) from current/former employer(s) on letterhead with original signature. The letter must include job title, employment dates, full-time or part-time status (if part-time, include annual number of hours worked), list of main job duties, contact information and job title of the individual verifying the experience, and original signature.

I already have a teaching credential. Can I teach CTE?

Single Subject Credentials in Agriculture, Business, Home Economics, Industrial Arts, Industrial and Technology Education, or a related supplementary authorization authorize the individual to teach classes designated as career technical related to their authorization. Single subject credentials with academic authorizations do not qualify.

If I have an academic teaching credential and want to obtain a CTE credential, what are my options?

Verify a minimum of 1,000 hours of industry-related work experience. The work experience does not have to be consecutive or paid. Work experience can be accumulated over several years verified by a formal letter.

What happens once I obtain the credential?

You can start teaching right away. Within 30 days, one must complete an online orientation designed to provide information that will be important for the first days of school. The credential is issued for a 3-year period, during which time specialized courses in CTE teaching methods are completed to ensure the individual's effectiveness and success in the classroom. New teachers are provided with a mentor and regular supervisory support and guidance during the initial 3 years.