

# American Board Licensure Pathway

## Overview

**American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE)** is an alternative route to teacher licensure. This pathway is designed for individuals who hold a **bachelor's degree** and are seeking to become licensed teachers in North Dakota.

---

## Process

1. **Enroll** in the American Board program – enrollment fee is \$1900.
  2. **Pass** the required exams – PTK + subject area(s).
  3. **Apply** for and obtain an **American Board License** through ESPB.
  4. **Teach** under supervision for **at least one year** to complete your American Board Clinical Experience.
  5. Complete **mentoring and professional development** (see below).
  6. Apply for a **regular North Dakota teaching license** after meeting all requirements.
- 

## Approved Content Areas

Elementary Education \* Special Education with Elementary Education \* History \* English Language Arts \*  
General Science \* Biology \* Chemistry \* Physics \* Mathematics

---

## Additional Notes

- This pathway is ideal for **career changers** or individuals with content expertise.
- The American Board License is valid for **two years** while you complete these requirements:
  - American Board's clinical experience program and the ND RISE approved mentor program;
  - Youth Mental Health Competency training;
  - Coursework in cultural diversity which includes Native American studies, as well as teaching diverse learners;
  - Evidence of competencies in beginning reading instruction.

For more information, please visit <https://www.nd.gov/espb/licensure/american-board> and <https://www.americanboard.org>