



ABCTE Program

American Board for the
Certification of Teacher Excellence

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Expand your career to be a Pennsylvania Department of Education-certified teacher through the ABCTE program at Point Park University

Point Park University is the only higher education institution in Pennsylvania that offers this state-approved alternative teacher certification program.

The nonprofit American Board for the Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) has partnered with the University to place qualified professionals in the classroom through the ABCTE program.

WHO MAY APPLY?

Anyone who holds a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree from an accredited college or university.

WHAT ARE THE CERTIFICATION AREAS?

Students who successfully complete Point Park's ABCTE program may obtain a Pennsylvania Instructional I certificate in:

- Pre-K through Grade 4
- Special Education, Pre-K through Grade 12

Secondary Education, Grades 7 through 12, in the following areas:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- English
- General Science
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Social Studies

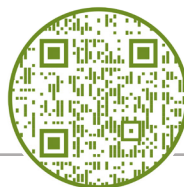


The ABCTE program at Point Park University greatly supported my professional growth by providing a strong curriculum that balanced essential teaching foundations with advanced strategies. The program's emphasis on practical experience and mentorship helped me strengthen my instructional skills and knowledge, preparing me for my permanent role as a second grade teacher at South Fayette School District."

MAI HASSAN

- ABCTE Program, '23
- Teacher, South Fayette School District

HOW DO I GET STARTED?



For full details about application procedures, costs and more, visit:
pointpark.edu/abcte

**POINT
PARK**
UNIVERSITY



The ABCTE Process at Point Park University

PHASE 1

1. Read Point Park University's ABCTE handbook, then visit the American Board at americanboard.org to register.
2. Take and pass the ABCTE required exams.
3. Apply online to Point Park University by visiting pointpark.edu/abcte and follow the instructions at step #3. Or sign waiver for an early admission to complete coursework before you pass your exams.

PHASE 2

4. After being admitted to Point Park, register for two online graduate classes. (Please note: transfer credits are not approved for the ABCTE Program). Candidates are then enrolled in a Canvas course named Professional Development.
5. Submit American Board exam scores and Passport to Teaching certificate.
6. Complete and submit the statement of financial responsibility form.
7. Request approval for your 60-day teaching placement, which must include: the name of the school district, the school district calendar and your teaching schedule. Candidates can complete the 60-day teaching placement utilizing one of two tracks:
 - **Track 1** - Student teacher with a cooperating teacher (no Temporary Teaching Permit)
 - **Track 2** - Contracted paid teacher (Temporary Teaching Permit)
8. Complete and submit the placement verification form.
9. Apply for new Act 33, Act 34 and FBI clearances (employment) and submit to Point Park.

10. Complete online training: Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse: Mandated and Permissive Reporting in Pennsylvania and submit certificate.

PHASE 3

11. Upon successful completion of Phases 1 and 2, apply to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the Temporary Teaching Permit (TTP). **Track 1** candidates can skip this step. **Track 2** candidates can apply for TTP in Teacher Information Management System (TIMS). Learn more at: education.pa.gov/TIMS.
12. **Track 2** candidates, submit your Temporary Teaching Permit.
13. Mentoring process begins on next available date.
14. Complete 60 consecutive days of teaching and submit all assignments.

PHASE 4

15. Upon completion of Phase 3, apply for Instructional 1 certification through the TIMS at education.pa.gov/TIMS.

COSTS

It is important to understand that costs are incurred through the American Board, PDE and Point Park University. Details are available on Point Park's ABCTE webpage.

Email Mrs. Denise Beverina-Moore, M.A., senior lecturer and director of ABCTE, at dmoore@pointpark.edu to ask questions or to request an invitation to a Zoom informational meeting.

Learn more!
pointpark.edu/abcte