How to get your pre-K–12 foreign languages teaching license through the Virginia Department of Education

Spanish, French, German, Latin, English, or ESL

- Three-year non-renewable Provisional Licensure.
- Obtained through a school division that hires you.
- If you do not have a teaching job you can take courses listed below and then secure a job. The school division will seek a provisional license for you. You must finish the licensure in 3 years.
- Available languages: Spanish, French, German, Latin, or English as a Second Language.

*Note: please double check with the Virginia Department of Education. The recommendations below may not reflect policy changes.*

**Steps:**

**A. Prove you know the language**

*Endorsement in a foreign language, pre-K–12, in a language other than English*

- For the first language, 30 semester hours above the intermediate level in the foreign language (may include both undergraduate courses and courses taken as a graduate student in the MA in Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures program).
- For additional languages, 24 semester hours of coursework above the intermediate level.
- In place of coursework, you can qualify by scoring at the level of Advanced Low on the Oral Proficiency Interview administered by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).
- 3 semester hours of methods of teaching foreign languages.

*Endorsement in a foreign language, pre-K–12, in Latin.*

- 24 semester hours of Latin above the intermediate level. Up to six hours of Roman history, Roman life, mythology, or archaeology may be included in the total hours.
- 3 semester hours of methods of teaching Latin.
- 6 semester hours of post-second study of a modern foreign language.

*Endorsement in English as a Second Language (ESL), pre-K–12*

- 3 semester hours of **EDCI 5784** Topics in Diversity and Multicultural Education.
- 3 semester hours of **ENGL 4064** Modern English Linguistics, OR **ENGL 4074** English Syntax.
- 3 semester hours of **ENGL 4044** Language and Society, OR **ENGL 4054** History of the English Language
- 6 semester hours of post-secondary study of a modern foreign language.
- 3 semester hours of EDCI 5724 Teaching in Middle and Secondary Schools (ESL)

B. Prove you know about teaching

Required courses (Virginia Tech equivalents listed in parentheses).

You can take these courses at Virginia Tech and present them to the Virginia Department of Education to meet the requirements:

- 3 semester hours of Human Growth and Development (EDEP 5154 Psychology Foundations for Pre-Service Teachers).
- 3 semester hours of Classroom and Behavior Management (EDCI 5104 Schooling in American Society).
- 3 semester hours of Foundations of Education (EDCI 5554 Educating Exceptional Learners).
- 3 semester hours of Reading (EDCI 5264 Comprehending Processes and Reading in the Content Area).

You can take these courses at another university and present them to the Virginia Department of Education as well to meet the requirements:

- 3 semester hours of Curriculum and Instructional Procedures & Technology
- 3 semester hours of Methods in Teaching Foreign Languages (available from ACTFL, Longwood College, Roanoke College, or George Mason University).

Teaching requirement

One year of employed teaching with an assigned mentor.

Note: please double check with the Virginia Department of Education, which actually confers pre-K – 12 licensure in foreign languages. The recommendations above may not reflect policy changes.

Contacts

Va Dept. of Ed for licensure: Patty Pitts, Asst. Supt., 804-371-2522; Dr. Mark Allen, 804-371-2471
Enroll as Commonwealth Campus for up to 12 credits, through VT Graduate School (http://www.grads.vt.edu)

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