



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

December 15, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: County and City Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: Federal Loan Repayment Program for Selected Teachers of Mathematics, Science, and Computer Science

I am pleased to share with you that the Alabama Legislature provided funds to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) to continue and expand the Alabama Math and Science Teacher Education Program (AMSTEP). Since initial funding was provided in 2018, applications for support from 100 Alabama teachers have been processed by Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) staff and forwarded to the ACHE for processing. Hopefully, that number will increase significantly during this school year.

All local education agencies (LEAs) and charter schools may submit AMSTEP applications. The TEAMS list will be used to determine which teachers qualify for additional support because they are employed in a hard-to-staff school. I encourage you to complete and submit an AMSTEP application for every teacher you believe to be qualified for federal loan reimbursement based on AMSTEP criteria.

According to the 2018 version of AMSTEP, a full-time teacher of mathematics and/or science in Grades 6-12 who earned her/his first Professional Educator Certificate endorsed for mathematics or science and completed a Class B or Alternative Class A program at an Alabama college or university at the end of spring semester 2018 or thereafter, was eligible to apply for AMSTEP support to pay off a federal loan. Teachers employed in LEAs with the highest percentage of teachers not certified for mathematics or science were eligible for additional support. Eligibility required the teacher to reside in Alabama.

According to the 2021 version of AMSTEP:

1. Teachers who completed a state-approved educator preparation program in any state or U.S. territory to earn an initial teacher certificate in computer science, mathematics, or science after spring semester 2021 are eligible to apply.
2. In addition to teachers of mathematics and science, computer science teachers are eligible to apply.

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3. Teachers of mathematics, science, and/or computer science of students in Grades 4 and 5 are eligible to apply, along with teachers of students in Grades 6-12.
4. Teachers who teach mathematics, science, and/or computer science at least three-fourths of the school day are eligible to apply.
5. Teachers who live in another state but teach in Alabama and meet other criteria are eligible to apply.
6. Teachers who earned an Alabama Professional Educator Certificate endorsed for mathematics, science, or computer science after spring semester 2021 via the Alabama Provisional Certificate in a Teaching Field (PCTF) approach and meet other criteria are eligible to apply if they incurred a federal loan to finance up to 12 semester hours of courses used to meet PCTF criteria.

A copy of the revised AMSTEP application is attached. It is also accessible via the Educator Certification Section of the ALSDE website at <https://amstep.ache.edu>. Mrs. Artcola Pettway is the ACHE contact person for questions about AMSTEP. Her email address is artcola.pettway@ache.edu. General questions about AMSTEP may also be directed to Dr. Jayne A. Meyer by email at jmeyer@alsde.edu or to Dr. Deanise F. Peacock by email at dpeacock@alsde.edu. If you need information about how one of your teachers earned an Alabama Professional Educator Certificate endorsed for mathematics, science, or computer science, please do not hesitate to contact the member of our Educator Certification Section who is assigned to work with your school system.

The ALSDE is pleased to assist in the process of qualifying Alabama teachers for reimbursement of their federal loans based on AMSTEP criteria.

EGM/JAM/HMS

Attachment

cc: Dr. Jim Purcell
Mrs. Artcola Pettway
Deans of Education
Mrs. Angela Martin
Mr. Andy Craig
Dr. Jayne A. Meyer
Mrs. Shavon Y. Harris
Dr. Deanise F. Peacock

FY22-2018



Form AMS



**Alabama State Department of Education
Educator Certification Section**

**5215 Gordon Persons Building
Post Office Box 302101
Montgomery, AL 36130-2101**

Telephone: (334) 694-4557

ALABAMA MATH AND SCIENCE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM (AMSTEP) VERIFICATION REIMBURSEMENT FORM

This form is to be used to verify program completion and certification status for eligible (AMSTEP) recipients. An eligible recipient:

- Completed a Bachelor's or Alternative Master's level **Alabama** approved Educator Preparation Program Spring 2018 or thereafter.
- Completed a state-approved Educator Preparation Program in **any state or US Territory** in computer science, mathematics, or science Spring 2021 or thereafter.
- Completed an alternative approach in computer science, mathematics, or science and earn an Alabama Professional Educator Certificate Spring 2021 or thereafter.

Note: A teacher who adds an endorsement to an existing Alabama Professional Educator Certificate in the area(s) of mathematics, science, or computer science by earning the passing score on the appropriate Praxis test is not eligible for AMSTEP.

I. PERSONAL DATA: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT. TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY, USING BLACK INK, WHEN COMPLETING THIS FORM.

Title (e.g., Mr.)	First	Middle	Maiden	Last	Suffix (e.g., Jr.)
<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>
Street/Apt./P.O. Box/Route and Box		City		State	ZIP Code
<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>		<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>		<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>
Cell Telephone	Home Telephone	Work Telephone	E-mail Address		
<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>		
TCH Number		Date of Birth (mm-dd-yyyy)			
<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>		<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>			

I hereby permit the release of information concerning my employment and program completion to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education.

_____ **Date**

_____ **Signature of Applicant**

Upon completion of Section I (Personal Data) the applicant should forward this form to the Alabama Public School System/Charter School wherein he/she earned the applicable work experience:

II. EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, OR HUMAN RESOURCES/PAYROLL OFFICER.

Name of the Alabama Public School System (Local Education Agency)	TEAMS School	Name of Alabama School Public/Charter	From: Month/Day/Year	To: Month/Day/Year	Specific Grade(s) Taught	Specific Subject Area(s)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				<input type="checkbox"/> 4-8 <input type="checkbox"/> 6-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Computer Science Critical Shortage Area <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
						<input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics Critical Shortage Area <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
						<input type="checkbox"/> Science Critical Shortage Area <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

II. EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION (CONT): TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, OR HUMAN RESOURCES/PAYROLL OFFICER.

A notary seal must be affixed to this form OR the business card of an authorized official at the charter school must be attached.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____,

Seal and Signature of Notary Public

My Commission Expires: _____

Signature of:
Superintendent *or*
Human Resources/Payroll Officer

Typed or Printed Name

Position Held

Alabama School System/Charter School

Address

City/State/ZIP Code

Telephone Number

Date

Upon completion of Section II (Employment Information) the Alabama Public School System or Charter School should forward this form to the Alabama State Department of Education for credential verification.

III. CREDENTIAL VERIFICATION: TO BE COMPLETED BY ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PERSONNEL.

College/University

Program/Approach
Professional Educator Certificate Based Upon Completion of PCTF Approach. Date issued _____
 Yes No
Alabama-Approved Educator Preparation Program
 Yes No
State-Approved Educator Preparation Program
 Yes No
 Bachelor's Degree Master's Degree
Date Degree Was Conferred _____
 Computer Science Mathematics
 Science

Initial Professional Educator Certificate issued 2018 or thereafter
 Yes No
Date _____ Grade _____
 Computer Science Mathematics
 Science

Teaching Schedule Verified
 Yes No Yes No
 Computer Science Mathematics
 Yes No Science
Note: An eligible recipient must teach at least 75% of the school day in computer science, math, or science or a combination.

I certify all information pertaining to this application form is true and correct.

- Approved Rejected
- One or more of the following criteria were not met:
- Alabama approved Educator Preparation was completed prior to 2018
 - Applicant does not hold an Alabama Class B or Alternative Class A Professional Educator Certificate in computer science, math, or science.
 - Recipient is not employed in an Alabama Public/Charter School
 - The initial Alabama Professional Educator Certificate was issued prior to the end of the Spring semester 2021 to a person who earned a degree from an institution in another state.

Signature of Authorized Official	Printed Name
Title	E-mail Address