

Gifted Education Specialist Endorsement Information

The following requirements must be met to add an endorsement in the content area of Gifted Education Specialist.

The candidate must provide documented evidence of:

- 24 semester hours (sh) of graduate college coursework, professional development, and/or documented work experience/s in the categories listed below – which may include:
 - * No more than 6 sh of documented work experience (e.g., working with gifted students as a g/t teacher, coordinator, g/t resource teacher, administrator of magnet or special g/t program (1 year = 1 semester hour)
 - * No more than 9 sh of professional development hours (15 contact hours = 1 semester hours). Professional development experience must show evidence of increasing gifted education content knowledge/ skills.
 - * At least 15 sh must be graduate college semester hours
- A minimum of 3 semester hours per category is required and may be a combination of coursework, professional development and/or documented work experience.
- Passing score on the Gifted Education Specialist PLACE Exam (This exam will be available 9-24-05)
- At least one year working with gifted students as a g/t teacher, coordinator, g/t resource teacher, administrator of magnet or special g/t program

Note: If documentation is unclear, the applicant is responsible for providing additional descriptions of coursework, professional development and/or work experience (e.g., syllabi, course catalogue information, job descriptions)

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I get information and an application for the Gifted Education Specialist Endorsement?

Visit the CDE website:

http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/wizard_addendorment.asp

I'm a gifted education teacher. I want to add an endorsement based on completion of an approved program outside of Colorado. What endorsement(s) will I qualify for in Colorado?

Your added endorsement application and supporting documents will be evaluated by CDE to determine what endorsement(s) you qualify for. This will be based on your approved program and may require submission of course descriptions to clarify the content of your special education program.

Will I be able to use work experience for credit if I am adding an endorsement based on credit and experience?

Yes, you can submit a portfolio of documented work experiences and past activities that directly relate to the endorsement that you are seeking. Please provide an explanation of those activities and experiences and how they directly enhanced your knowledge of the content area that you are seeking. Such portfolio experiences must be consistent with the State's content preparation requirements for the proposed endorsement area. CDE is able to grant a maximum of six (6) semester hours of work experience credit towards an added endorsement for a gifted specialist endorsement.

What is considered full-time contract experience and does it have to be completed in one year?

CDE can accept part-time contract experience, provided the amount of experience is equivalent to one year of full-time experience. Example: If an educator has been teaching gifted students on a halftime contract basis for two or more years, this experience can be accepted for the equivalent of one contract year of full-time teaching.

Is there a window for current practitioners to apply without having to take the PLACE exam?

Until the PLACE exam is finalized, individuals who meet all of the requirements of the endorsement may submit their application and have their credentials reviewed for the additional endorsement.