

Career and Technology Education (CATE) Work-Based Certification General Work Experience Definitions

All work experience submitted by the applicant, must be verified. **Falsification of any information may result in the denial of a teaching certificate pursuant to State Board of Education regulations.** Verification of all work experience in the area in which the applicant requests certification must be provided. Work experience must be verified by each employer as to the length of employment and type of work experience while employed. **SCDE reserves the right to request additional documentation and/or examples of work skills (portfolios, samples, drawings, etc.) in order to adequately verify a candidate’s work experience/expertise in the requested area of certification.**

The information below represents general work experience requirements for each work-based area of certification **but it is not all inclusive.** These definitions do not include **all statutory and regulatory criteria** required to officially determine an applicant’s qualifications.

Certification Area	Industry Work Experience Definition
Automotive Collision Repair	Hands-on work experience as an automotive collision repair or master repair technician.
Automotive Technology	Hands-on work experience as an automotive repair technician.
Barbering	Hands-on work experience as a barber. SC LLR instructor’s license required.
Carpentry	Hands-on work experience as a residential or commercial carpenter. Company owner/manager experience and/or a Commercial Builders License do not meet the industry work experience requirement for this area of certification.
Cosmetology	Hands-on work experience as a cosmetologist. SC LLR instructor’s license required.
Culinary Arts	Hands-on work experience as a chef and/or sous chef and directly involved in the preparation of food. Associate’s degree from a regionally accredited college/university in area required. Restaurant owner/manager experience only does not meet the industry work experience requirement for this area of certification.
Diesel Technology	Hands-on work experience as a diesel engine repair technician.
Digital Art and Design	Hands-on work experience in the marketing/advertising industry directly responsible for the design, development and production of print/web marketing/advertising materials.
Drafting	Hands-on work experience as a draftsman/CADD technician. Associate’s degree from a regionally accredited college/university in area required.
Electricity	Hands-on work experience as a residential or commercial electrician.

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Electronics	Hands-on work experience as an electronics repair technician. "Remove and Replace" repair does not meet the industry work experience requirement for this area of certification.
Emergency and Fire Services	Hands-on work experience as a county or municipal fire fighter.
Engineering Technology	Approval required prior to application by OCTE. A post-secondary degree Associate's degree from a regionally accredited college/university in area required.
Environmental Control Systems	Hands-on work experience as an HVAC residential or commercial installation/repair technician.
Graphic Communications	Hands-on work experience in the print industry; design, pre-press, press; and post-press operations using a variety of mechanical/inked print machines.
Health Science Technology	Hands-on work experience in one of the approved health care professions after professional certification. Minimum of an Associate's degree from a regionally accredited college/university in area required. Professional health care license required.
Information Technology	Hands-on work experience in the information technology industry. Minimum of an Associate's degree from a regionally accredited college/university in area required. Professional industry certification required.
Law Enforcement Services	Hands-on work experience as a state, county or municipal law enforcement officer with patrol experience. Must have complete a police academy.
Machine Tool Technology	Hands-on work experience as a machine tool technician.
Masonry	Hands-on work experience as a residential or commercial mason.
Media Technology	Hands-on work experience in the TV/Video broadcasting industry as a producer, assistant producer, director or on-air-reporter. Radio broadcasting experience does not meet the industry work experience requirement for this area of certification.
Nail Technology	Hands-on work experience as a nail technician. SC LLR instructor's license required.
Plumbing	Hands-on work experience as a residential or commercial plumber.
Power Equipment Technology	Hands-on work experience as a small engine repair technician.
Welding	Hands-on work experience as a welder.