

South Carolina Department of Education Office of Career and Technology Education
Guidelines For Career and Technology Education Work Based Certification
Health Science Teacher Certification Guidelines

Appendix D addresses guidelines that are unique and essential for certification of Health Science teachers.

I. Requirements

In addition to meeting all requirements of Regulation R. 43-63 and Section III of the Guidelines For Career and Technology Education Work-Based Certification, supplemental requirements for certification of Health Science Technology Education teachers are provided below.

A. Competency Validation

Teacher candidates must:

1. **Document a minimum** of an associate degree related to science, healthcare, or health science from a regionally accredited institution of higher education or approved by the State Board of Education (the only exception would be a **registered** nurse (RN) that graduated with a diploma in nursing, which is the equivalent of an associate degree as far as hiring practices)
2. **Document and maintain a CTE approved active state or nationally recognized healthcare professions license, certificate, or registration.**
3. **Document and maintain state license, certificate, or registration if it is available or required to practice in SC.**
4. **Document minimum employment in a healthcare setting** as a licensed, certified, or registered healthcare professional as outlined in Appendix A.
 - a. Master's or Doctorate degree, teacher candidates, require six months of full-time healthcare work experience, while licensed as an approved healthcare provider, during the last five years.
 - b. Bachelor's +18 towards their master's degree, teacher candidates, require one or more years of full-time work experience, while licensed as an approved healthcare provider, during the last five years.
 - c. Bachelor's degree, teacher candidates, require two or more years of full-time healthcare work experience, while licensed as an approved healthcare provider, during the last five years.
 - d. Associate degree +30 in towards their bachelor's degree, teacher candidates, require three or more years of full-time work experience during the last five years.
 - e. Associate degree, teacher candidates, require four or more years of full-time healthcare work experience while licensed as an approved healthcare provider, during the last five years.
 - f. Recent work experiences will be an important deciding factor for eligibility approval.
 - g. The SCDE office of Teacher Certification in conjunction with the SCDE Office of Career and Technical Education work together to determine appropriate and approved work experiences.
5. **Possess and maintain a current BLS CPR certification.** BLS Instructor certification desired.

B. Basic Skills Validation

1. Teacher candidates must **take the WIN Learning Career Readiness Assessment** during the first year of induction certification. The candidate will have five years to successfully pass the examination. The measurement of basic skills may be attempted as many times as needed through the fifth year of teaching.
2. Teacher candidates that have **healthcare experiences with direct patient care are the most desired.**

Approved Medical Professional	Certification/Licensure/Registration Organizations	Required And Approved Certification Acronym	MINIMUM length of education and appropriate work experience as a licensed, registered, or certified health professional
Athletic Trainer	National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification, Inc., (BOC) http://www.bocatc.org/ *BOC Required South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Athletic Trainer Certification Verification SCDHEC *State Certification Required	ATC	Minimum of a bachelor's degree plus appropriate work experience as an ATC
Cardiovascular Technologist	American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers Registry Examination http://www.ardms.org	RCVT	Minimum of an associate degree plus appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting
Chiropractor	National Board of Chiropractic Examiners http://www.nbce.org/ South Carolina Board of Chiropractic Examiners South Carolina Board of Chiropractic Examiners SCLLR *State Certification Required	DC	Minimum of a Doctor of Chiropractic plus appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting
Clinical Laboratory Scientist Medical Laboratory Scientist	American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP) http://www.ascp.org *BOC certification required	CLS MLS MT	Minimum of a bachelor's degree plus appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting
Dental Hygienist	National Dental Hygiene Certification Board National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (NBDHE) :: Pearson VUE South Carolina Board of Dentistry SCLLR *State Registration Required	RDH	Minimum of associate degree plus appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting
Dentist	American Dental Association Licensure Overview American Dental Association (ada.org) South Carolina Board of Dentistry SCLLR State Registration Required	DDS or DDM	Minimum of a doctor or dental surgery/medicine degree with appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting

Diagnostic Medical Sonographer	American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers http://www.ardms.org	ARDMS	Minimum of an associate degree plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Exercise Physiologist	American Society of Exercise Physiologists http://www.asep.org/ American College of Sports Medicine http://www.acsm.org	ASEP - EPC ACSM – EP ACSM – CEP	Minimum of a bachelor's degree in Exercise Science, Exercise Physiology, Kinesiology, or an equivalent exercise degree as approved by the OCTE plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Health Education Specialist (Certified Health Education Specialist)	National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. http://www.nche.org/	CHES MCHES	Minimum bachelor's degree in Health Education or Public Health Pathway plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Nuclear Medicine Technologist	American Registry of Radiologic Technologists www.arrt.org Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board http://www.nmtcb.org South Carolina Radiation Quality Standards Association www.scrqsa.org State Certification Required	NMT	Minimum of an associate degree, <i>plus approved work experience as an RT or NMT in an appropriate healthcare setting with direct patient care</i>
Nurse Practitioner	South Carolina Board of Nursing State Certification Required SCLLR State Certification Required	APRN NP	Minimum of a master's degree plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Occupational Therapist	South Carolina Board of Occupational Therapy SCLLR State Certification Required	OTR	Minimum of a bachelor's degree <i>plus appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Occupational Therapy Assistant	South Carolina Board of Occupational Therapy SCLLR State Certification Required	COTA	Minimum of an associate degree plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>

Paramedic	National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians http://www.nremt.org/ SC Department of Health and Environmental Control South Carolina Division of EMS and Trauma SCDHEC State Certification Required	EMT – Paramedic	Minimum of an associate degree/completion of a paramedic training program, approved by SC– DHEC, <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Pharmacist	South Carolina Board of Pharmacy SCLLR State Certification Required	RPh	Minimum of a bachelor's degree in pharmacy plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Physical Therapist	South Board of Physical Therapists SCLLR State Certification Required	PT	Minimum of a bachelor's degree plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Physical Therapy Assistant	South Board of Physical Therapists SCLLR State Certification Required	PTA	Minimum of an associate degree and plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Physician	South Carolina Board of Medical Examiners SCLLR State Certification Required	MD or DO	Minimum of a Doctor of Medicine or osteopathy plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Physician Assistant	National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants Home - NCCPA / South Carolina Board of Medical Examiners SCLLR State Certification Required	PA	Minimum of a master's degree plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Public Health Specialist	American College of Sports Medicine ACSM Certification Specialized Programs National Board of Public Health Examiners NBPHE National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. http://www.nchec.org	PAPHS CPH CHES MCHES	Minimum of a bachelor's degree in a public health area plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>

Updated September 2023

Radiologic Technologist	South Carolina Radiology Quality Standards Association South Carolina Radiation Quality Standards Association (scrqsa.org) State Certification Required	RT	Minimum of an associate degree, plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Registered Nurse	South Carolina Board of Nursing SCLLR State Certification Required	RN	Minimum of an associate degree plus <i>appropriate work experience in a healthcare setting</i>
Respiratory Care Practitioner	National Board for Respiratory Care http://www.nbrc.org/ South Carolina Board of Medical Examiners-Respiratory Care Commission SCLLR State Certification Required	CRTT RRT	Minimum of an associate degree from plus appropriate <i>work experience in a healthcare setting</i>

If you have questions or need further clarification, please contact:

Angel Clark, Health Science Education Associate, South Carolina Department of Education, Office of Career and Technology Education
aclark@ed.sc.gov, 803-734-0372

Added flexibility due to hardships in districts may include the following approved medical certifications, with a minimum of an associate degree in a related medical or scientific area.

Approved Medical Professional	Certification/Licensure/Registration Organizations	Required And Approved Certification Acronym	MINIMUM length of education and appropriate work experience as a licensed, registered, or certified health professional
EMT – Advanced	National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians http://www.nremt.org/ SC Department of Health and Environmental Control South Carolina Division of EMS and Trauma SCDHEC State Certification Required	NRAEMT	Minimum of an associate degree, successful completion of an advanced EMT course, plus <i>four years of work experience as a 911 responder in the role of an advanced EMT</i>

Licensed Practical Nurse	Labor, Licensing and Regulation – SC Board of Nursing SCLLR State Certification Required	LPN	Minimum of an associate degree plus completion of an accredited LPN program plus four years of appropriate clinical work experience as a licensed practical nurse (LPN) with direct patient care in an approved healthcare setting.
Medical Assistant	American Association of Medical Assistants AAMA Official Site - American Association of Medical Assistants (aama-ntl.org)	CMA NRCMA RMA	Minimum of an associate degree plus completion of an accredited medical assisting program or a bachelor's degree in a health-related pathway with national registration or certification plus four years of appropriate clinical work experience as a clinical CMA or RMA with direct patient care in an approved healthcare setting.
Medical Laboratory Technician	American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP) ASCP - American Society for Clinical Pathology BOC certification required	MLT	Minimum of an associate degree, completion of an accredited MLT program plus four years of appropriate clinical work experience as a certified MLT with direct patient care in an approved healthcare setting.
Surgical Technologist Surgical First Assists	The National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting Homepage NBSTSA	CST CSFA	Minimum of an associate degree plus completion of an accredited Surgical Tech program with four years of appropriate clinical work experience as a certified medical professional with direct patient care in an approved healthcare setting.