



ProTeach Support: FAQs

I HEARD CHANGES HAVE OCCURRED RECENTLY TO THE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS. IS THIS TRUE?

Yes. In the 2009 the state legislature took steps to move toward a uniform assessment statewide of the portfolio for the professional certificate. On September 1, 2011, the new assessment will become mandatory and universities will no longer be able to evaluate Professional Certification candidate portfolios and recommend candidates for the issuance of the Professional Certificate. Details about the new ProTeach portfolio and assessment can be found the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) webpage [here](#).

Up until the transition time of September 2011, university programs are still being allowed to assist candidates already in process and new candidates who would like to finish under the guidance of a course instructor. The instructor will still be able to evaluate the candidate's final portfolio and the university will work with OSPI on the issuance of the Professional Certificate once all closing paperwork is submitted.

SPU ProTeach Support Seminars will begin in Spring 2011 to assist candidates in preparing for the ProTeach Portfolio Assessment.

HOW LONG WILL THE SUPPORT SEMINAR LAST?

Support Seminars will typically span one calendar year, beginning in the spring. Each partner district or seminar provider sets their specific course dates.

HOW MANY CREDITS IS THE SUPPORT SEMINAR?

The ProTeach Support Seminar will be offered for 4 credits.

IS THERE ANY ADDITIONAL COURSEWORK REQUIRED?

While not officially part of the Professional Certification program, all those holding a teaching certificate in the state of Washington must have completed a course related to Issues of Abuse. This requirement has been in effect since 2000. If you completed your Residency Certification through a Washington institution since 2000 you should have already completed a course to fulfill the requirement during your undergraduate preparation. If you came to Washington from another state or were initially certified prior to 2000 you may still need to take a relevant course.

You will not be able to apply for the issuance of your Professional Certificate until you are able to document the completion of a course related to Issues of Abuse. The course may not specifically be titled Issues of Abuse so if you are not sure which course meets the requirement, contact the institute where you earned your Residency Certificate.

If you still need to take a course, SPU's Center for Professional Education offers courses that will fulfill the requirement. To find out more please view the online [SPIRAL catalog](#) or contact our Distance Learning department at 800/482-3848.

WHAT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE?

Unfortunately, federal aid is not able to cover continuing education level coursework. However, private loans are available through several lending institutions. More information can be found [here](#). The SPU Student Financial Services department is available to assist with the loan application process. If you are interested in learning more please contact Student Financial Services directly at 800/737-8826.

WHERE CAN I FIND INFORMATION ON THE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE AT THE STATE LEVEL?

[Click here](#) for information from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).