



# Verification of a Higher Degree

(For individuals who hold a valid Alabama educator certificate.)

Questions regarding advanced pay should be sent to [payforadvanceddegrees@alsde.edu](mailto:payforadvanceddegrees@alsde.edu).

Local Education Agency	
Name of Professional Educator (For whom form is being completed)	
Social Security Number	
ALSDE ID	
Institution of Higher Education	
ALSDE Accepted Accrediting Agencies (Institution of higher education must have been accredited by one of the agencies indicated at the time the degree was earned.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Southern Association of Colleges and Schools <input type="checkbox"/> New England Commission of Higher Education <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities <input type="checkbox"/> Middle State Commission on Higher Education <input type="checkbox"/> Western Association of Schools and Colleges <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Distance Education Accrediting Commission (Effective: March 28, 2022)
Degree Earned	<input type="checkbox"/> Master's <input type="checkbox"/> Education Specialist <input type="checkbox"/> Doctorate
Major/Concentration Area of Degree Earned (As indicated on the official transcript)	

Please check **ONE** option below regarding the professional educator named above.

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option A</b>	Earned an advanced degree <b>prior to</b> July 1, 2017. <i>Any degree area is acceptable.</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option B</b>	Earned initial graduate credit (grade of C or better) toward the advanced degree, <b>for which this verification request is being submitted, prior to</b> July 1, 2017, <b>and</b> earned the advanced degree, <b>on or after</b> July 1, 2017. <i>Any degree area is acceptable. This option is not applicable if coursework completed for a previous degree was used towards fulfilling requirements for earning the degree for which verification is being requested.</i>			
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Option A or B should be used, if applicable.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>If Option A or B is checked, please STOP, sign the form, and submit it along with the official transcript.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>If Option A or B cannot be used, please see Options C through H and select only <u>ONE</u> option, sign the form, and submit it along with the official transcript.</b></p>				
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option C</b> <i>Subject matter of advanced degree shall be liberally construed for these teaching fields.</i>	Earned an advanced degree in a field of study for which the educator is properly certified: <input type="checkbox"/> Collaborative Teacher K-6 <input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood Education <input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood Special Education <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary Education <input type="checkbox"/> Middle School (English language arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Science) <input type="checkbox"/> Middle School Generalist <input type="checkbox"/> Special Education Alternative Achievement Standards			
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option D</b> <i>Use for any area not included in Option E.</i>	Earned an advanced degree <b>in the same area</b> for which the educator currently holds a valid Alabama certificate. <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Certificate Area:</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		Certificate Area:	
Certificate Area:				

