

# How do I become a qualified teacher?

## Teacher Education Programmes

To become a teacher, you need to enrol for a teacher education programme that leads to an approved teacher qualification.

### Here are the choices you have:

1. You can enrol for a four-year integrated BEd programme.
2. You can enrol for a Diploma in Grade R teaching. If you want to teach in Grades 1–3 you need to enrol for a BEd programme.
3. You can enrol for an undergraduate degree first. Afterwards you need to complete:
4. One-year Advanced Diploma in Teaching, **or** Postgraduate Certificate in Education.

### In a four-year integrated BEd degree, you can specialize in these teaching phases.

- **Foundation Phase (FP) teaching**- Young children in Grades R–3
- **Intermediate Phase (IP) teaching**- Children in Grades 4–6
- **Senior Phase (SP) teaching**- Young people in Grades 7–9
- **Further Education and Training (FET) teaching** - Young people in Grades 10–12

If you choose to teach in the **Intermediate, Senior** or **FET** Phase you choose to become a subject teacher.

### Here are examples of the choice of subjects.

- English
- Mathematics
- Natural Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Information Technology
- South African Sign Language

Open this website for some more options:

<http://ncap.careerhelp.org.za/occupations/search/teacher/page/1/>

Universities have a points table linked to school-leaving status. Wits University uses this example:

National Senior Certificate (NSC) %	Wits Academic Points Score (APS)	Wits APS %
	8	90–99%
80–99%	7	80–89%
70–79%	6	70–79%
60–69%	5	60–69%
50–59%	4	50–59%
40–49%	3	40–49%
30–39%	2	30–39%
0–29%	1	0–29%

**Find out how universities calculate the Academic Points Score or APS.**

University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) Admission requirements (NSC). Humanities – Bed  
[http://www.wits.ac.za/academic/health/students/prospectivestudents/9134/entry\\_requirements.html](http://www.wits.ac.za/academic/health/students/prospectivestudents/9134/entry_requirements.html)

**University of Pretoria** Undergraduate brochure, general information.  
[http://www.up.ac.za/media/shared/6/ZP\\_Files/undergraduate-brochure-2015.zp49297.pdf](http://www.up.ac.za/media/shared/6/ZP_Files/undergraduate-brochure-2015.zp49297.pdf)

**When you have successfully completed the BEd programme you have achieved teaching status.**

**You can now register as a teacher with the South African Council for Educators.**

<http://www.sace.org.za>

As professionals, teachers continually improve their competence and practice in the following ways:

- Teachers share information and support one another.
- Teachers enrol for specialized and postgraduate programmes.
- Teachers participate in workshops and conferences.
- Teachers continually reflect on their teaching practice.
- Teachers engage with online information.