

Guide: Add a Teaching Field: Special Education

Revised 06/2026

To add a teaching field for Special Education (SPED) to your existing Hawai'i teacher, school counselor, or school librarian license, applicants are required to verify both experience and content knowledge in the new SPED field and grade level.

💡 Useful Tips 💡

If you are locked out of your HTSB account, email htsb@hawaii.gov for assistance. DO NOT create a new account.

- Check the **Contact HTSB tab** of your account for communication from HTSB licensing specialists and staff.
- Update your HTSB Profile: Name, Address, and Phone.
- Use a current personal email address (e.g., Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail, iCloud) as the primary in the **Email tab** of your account. School or higher education email addresses are *not* acceptable.
- Starting on July 1, 2026, acceptance of official records and documents (e.g., employment records, official transcripts) must be submitted using one of the following methods: (1) a third-party vendor, (2) mailed directly from the institution to, or (3) direct submission from the issuing institution's secure email (see Hawaii Revised Statutes §302A-803, §302A-805, [New Business Item 25-15](#)). Email: htsb@hawaii.gov. Mailing address: HTSB, 650 Iwilei Road, Suite 268, Honolulu, HI 96817.
- Information on your valid government-issued photo identification must match the Profile information in your account and all submitted documents. Further documentation may be required if needed.
- All HTSB Forms require wet/ink or digitally stamped signatures. The most updated versions of HTSB Forms are located on the HTSB website > *Licensing and Permits* > [HTSB Forms](#). Outdated versions and incomplete forms are *not* acceptable.
- Read more about the Add a Teaching Field Requirements on the HTSB Website at: <https://www.hawaiiteacherstandardsboard.org/apps/pages/index>

For more useful guides, visit the HTSB website's Resources page.

****Important Note**

The application review process may take up to six weeks pending receipt of required documents. All applications will be processed in the order they are received. Go to your HTSB account's **My Profile Home** and check **My HTSB Transaction History** for the status of your application.

Requirements to Add a Teaching Field for Special Education

- ☐ Start your application for adding a new license field in the *Licenses/Permits* tab of your Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) online account, then click *Add Teaching Field*.
- ☐ Clear the HTSB Professional Fitness check.
- ☐ Copy of a signed U.S. Social Security Card.

****Note:** This item does not apply to previously employed and current Hawai'i Department of Education and Hawai'i State Public Charter School teachers who have already provided the required information.

- ☐ Copy of a valid government-issued photo identification (submit one):
 - A valid U.S. passport or passport card
 - A valid international passport or passport card
 - A valid driver's license issued by any U.S. state
 - A valid identification card issued by any U.S. state
 - A valid U.S. military or military dependent identification card (including the back side)
 - A valid U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner identification card
 - A Native American Tribal Document

****Note:** A school identification will not be accepted.

- ☐ Submit a copy of an official transcript of your coursework from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or the equivalent from a non-U.S. institution via a third-party vendor or the issuing institution.
- ☐ All official transcripts and official documents from non-US institutions that you would like reviewed must include a course-by-course evaluation/report completed by a [National Association of Credential Evaluation Services \(NACES\) member agency](http://www.naces.org) (www.naces.org) and submitted via a third-party vendor or the issuing institution.

- ☐ Choose ONE of the options below for **content knowledge** verification requirements:

Option A: Hawai'i or Other U.S. Approved SATEP	☐ Complete a SATEP in Hawai'i or another U.S. state in the new SPED field. (See programs listed below.) Submit HTSB Form LA3009.
Option B: Coursework	☐ Complete thirty (30) semester hours in the new SPED field from a regionally accredited institution, fifteen (15) hours of which are upper division. Submit a copy of an official transcript.
Option C: Licensure Test	☐ Pass a licensure test or assessment approved by the board — <i>i.e.</i> , Praxis. Submit official documentation of passing score (e.g., Praxis score report).
Option D: National Board Certified Teacher	☐ Become a National Board Certified Teacher in <i>Exceptional Needs</i> . Contact HTSB for more information.
Option E: Hawai'i Advanced License **Experience verification is <u>not</u> required for this option.	☐ Hold a Hawai'i Advanced License. ☐ Complete thirty (30) semester hours in the new SPED field from a regionally accredited institution. Submit a copy of an official transcript. — OR — ☐ Hold a Hawai'i Advanced License. ☐ Pass a licensure test or assessment approved by the board. Submit official documentation of passing score (e.g., Praxis score report).

☐ Choose ONE of the options below for **experience** verification requirements:

Option A: SATEP in the same SPED grade level	☐ Complete a SATEP for a license in the SPED grade level applied for. Submit HTSB Form LA3009.
Option B: One (1) year in the new SPED field	☐ Verify one (1) year out of the last five (5) years of at least half-time teaching experience in a P-12 contracted position in the new SPED field in a Hawai'i school or another U.S. state. Submit HTSB Form EX1000.
Option C: Three (3) years in the new SPED grade level	☐ Verify three (3) years out of the last five (5) years of teaching experience with a Hawai'i Standard License in a P-12 contracted position in the new SPED grade level in a Hawai'i school or another U.S. state. Submit HTSB Form EX1000.
Option D: Praxis: Principles of Learning and Teaching	☐ Pass the appropriate Praxis: Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) exam. Submit Praxis score report.

HTSB Special Education License Fields	Grade Level Options
Special Education	P-3, K-6, 6-8, 6-12, P-12, K-12
Special Education Blind/Visually Impaired	P-3, P-12, K-12
Special Education Deaf/Hard of Hearing	P-3, P-12, K-12
Special Education Mild/Moderate	P-3, K-6, 6-8, 6-12, P-12, K-12
Special Education Orientation and Mobility	P-3, P-12, K-12
Special Education Orthopedic Impairments	P-3, P-12, K-12
Special Education Severe Disabilities/Autism	P-3, K-6, 6-12, K-12
Special Education Severe/Profound	P-3, K-6, 6-8, 6-12, P-12, K-12

HTSB-Approved Preparation Providers with Special Education Programs	
Brigham Young University–Hawai'i	808-675-3211
Chaminade University of Honolulu	808-735-4711
iTeach Hawai'i	877-348-3224
Leeward Community College	808-455-0480
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa	808-956-7915
University of Hawai'i at West O'ahu	808-689-2339