

MIDDLE GRADES SCIENCE CERTIFICATE (11303 or 11333 or 11343) Grades 5-8

The Middle Grades Science Certificate is valid for assignment as a Middle Grades Science teacher in grades 5 - 8 in Rhode Island public schools. Educators can attain Middle Grades certification in the following ways:

Option 1 – Middle Grades Science Teacher Certificate (11303): Stand Alone Certificate

Option 2 – Middle Grades Science Teacher Elementary Extension (11333): Extend an Elementary Education Teacher Certificate

Option 3 – Middle Grades Science Teacher Secondary Extension (11343): Extend a Secondary Grades Science Certificate

Certification Requirements for full Rhode Island Certification¹

Requirements for Option 1 - Middle Grades Science Teacher Certificate (11303):

To be issued a certificate in Middle Grades Science an applicant must satisfy all of the following:

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Completion of an approved program for the preparation of Middle Grades Science Teachers
- Completion of a minimum of 12 weeks of Student Teaching in this area and a minimum of 60 hours Field Experience prior to Student Teaching
- Demonstration of meeting the Professional Competencies of the Rhode Island Professional Teaching Standards (RIPTS)
- Demonstration of meeting the Content Competencies as prescribed by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA)
- Demonstration of the pedagogical competencies of the Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE)
- Other requirements:
 - College Major or Equivalent in science
 - Met all Rhode Island pedagogy and subject matter testing requirements for this certificate area

Requirements for Option 2 – Middle Grades Science Teacher Elementary Extension (11333):

To be issued a certificate in Middle Grades Science Teacher Elementary Extension an applicant must satisfy all of the following:

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Completion of an approved program or Credential Review Consortium Institution (CRCI) credential review plan for the preparation of Middle Grades Science Teachers
- Completion of a minimum of 45 hours of Practicum
- Demonstration of meeting the Professional Competencies of the Rhode Island Professional Teaching Standards (RIPTS)
- Demonstration of meeting the Content Competencies as prescribed by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA)
- Demonstration of the pedagogical competencies of the Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE)
- Other requirements:
 - Hold an Elementary Education Certificate and met all Rhode Island assessment requirements for this certificate area
 - Earn a minimum of 21 semester hours of coursework in Science
 - Meet all Rhode Island pedagogy and subject matter testing requirements for this certificate area

Requirements for Option 3 – Middle Grade Science Teacher Secondary Extension (11343):

To be issued a certificate in Middle Grades Science Teacher Secondary Extension an applicant must satisfy all of the following:

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Completion of an approved program or Credential Review Consortium Institution (CRCI) credential review plan for the preparation of Middle Grades Science Teachers
- Completion of a minimum of 45 hours of Practicum
- Demonstration of meeting the Professional Competencies of the Rhode Island Professional Teaching Standards (RIPTS)

¹ Full Certification in Rhode Island means a multi-year certificate that demonstrates the educator has met all Rhode Island requirements for certification in the three-tier certification system (Initial, Professional, or Advanced certification). Full Certification does not include Preliminary Certifications which require educators to meet additional requirements to attain full certifications. Full certifications in Rhode Island are comparable to National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) stage three or higher certificates and are recognized by other states for certificate reciprocity.

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- Demonstration of meeting the Content Competencies as prescribed by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA)
- Demonstration of the pedagogical competencies of the Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE)
- Other requirements:
 - Hold any Secondary Science Certificate and met all Rhode Island assessment requirements for this certificate area
 - Meet all Rhode Island pedagogy and subject matter testing requirements for this certificate area

Assessment Requirements

Go to www.ets.org for test registration, dates and locations.

All applicants must meet the following Rhode Island assessment requirements:

- Applicants must achieve a passing score of 150 on the Praxis II Middle School Science (5440) OR a passing score of 153 on the Praxis II General Science: Content Knowledge (5435)
- Applicants prepared in a program where the language of instruction was not English must achieve a passing score of 64 on the Versant Pro Speaking and Writing English assessments

******* NOTE: Educators seeking a Middle Grades Stand Alone Certificate or a Middle Grades Extension who have not taken the Principles of Learning and Teaching K-6 (5622), Principles of Learning and Teaching 5-9 (5623) or Principles of Learning and Teaching 7-12 (5624), must take and pass Principles of Learning and Teaching 5-9 (5623) with a passing score of 160 in addition to the defined assessment(s) below in order to be eligible for this certificate.**

Current Routes to Certification

Current Routes to Certification for Option 1 - Middle Grades Science Teacher Certificate (11303):

Certification may be attained through the following route:

- **Reciprocity** - Reciprocity is recognition of preparation or certification in another state as comparable to Rhode Island. Applicants seeking certification through reciprocity must demonstrate that they meet all Rhode Island certification assessment requirements, hold the additional required certificate and meet all experience requirements when applicable. Applicants can attain certification by completing a state approved program for Educator Certification in a state other than Rhode Island within the last 5 years OR by demonstrating that they hold a currently valid full certificate in another state.

Current Routes to Certification for Option 2 – Middle Grades Science Teacher Elementary Extension (11333):

Certification may be attained through the following route:

- **Reciprocity** - Reciprocity is recognition of preparation or certification in another state as comparable to Rhode Island. Applicants seeking certification through reciprocity must demonstrate that they meet all Rhode Island certification assessment requirements, hold the additional required certificate and meet all experience requirements when applicable. Applicants can attain certification by completing a state approved program for Educator Certification in a state other than Rhode Island within the last 5 years OR by demonstrating that they hold a currently valid full certificate in another state.
- **CRCI** - Completion of CRCI Credential Review plan. For more information review the [Credential Review Pathways website](#).

Current Routes to Certification for Option 3 – Middle Grade Science Teacher Secondary Extension (11343):

Certification may be attained through the following route:

- **Reciprocity** - Reciprocity is recognition of preparation or certification in another state as comparable to Rhode Island. Applicants seeking certification through reciprocity must demonstrate that they meet all Rhode Island certification assessment requirements, hold the additional required certificate and meet all experience requirements when applicable. Applicants can attain certification by completing a state approved program for Educator Certification in a state other than Rhode Island within the last 5 years OR by demonstrating that they hold a currently valid full certificate in another state.
- **CRCI** - Completion of CRCI Credential Review plan. For more information review the [Credential Review Pathways website](#).