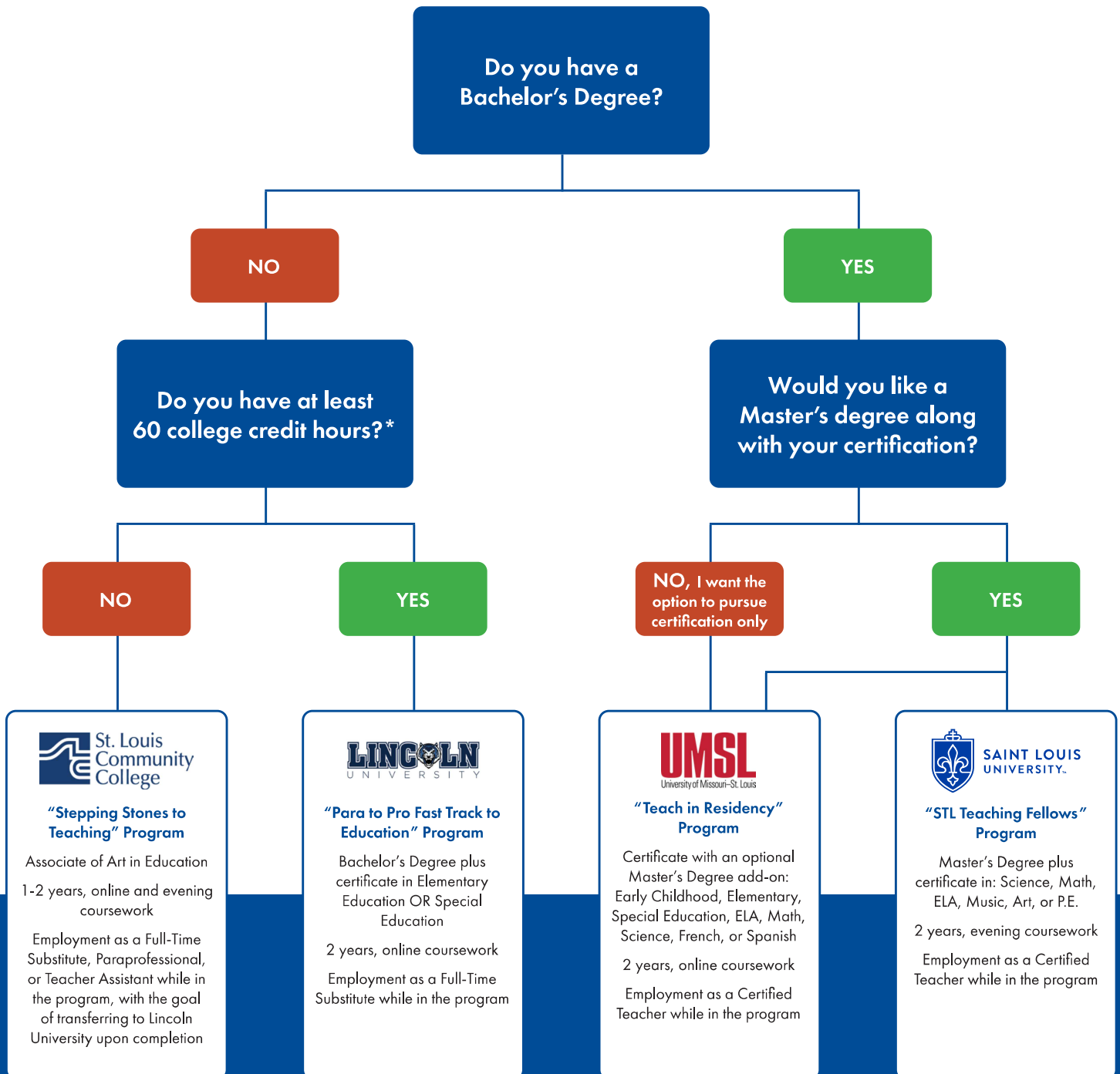


Alternative Certification Pathways for SLPS Employees



Sponsored by SLPS Human Resources and the Parsons Blewett Memorial Fund



Don't see the right fit? There is also an opportunity for Initial Certification through Lindenwood University. Contact Dr. Michael Baird at Michael.Baird@SLPS.org for more information.

*Equivalent to the requirements of an Associate of Arts degree. Updated February 2025. For more information, contact Recruitment@SLPS.org

Financially Sponsored Certification Opportunities through Saint Louis Public Schools

"STL Teaching Fellows"

SLU Two-Year Certification Program

Our Saint Louis University program is an opportunity for candidates to become teachers-of-record immediately while taking two years of coursework to receive their certification and a master's degree in secondary Math, secondary Science, secondary English Language Arts, secondary World Languages, Music, Visual Art, or Physical Education. Classes are in-person on weeknights on SLU's campus and during the day in the summers. SLPS pays the cost of tuition.

Contact Karissa Sywulka at karissa.sywulka@slu.edu, or check out www.slu.edu/education for more information.

"Teach in Residency"

UMSL Two-Year Certification Program

Our program with the University of Missouri - St. Louis is an opportunity for current non-certificated employees to become teachers-of-record in prioritized subject areas immediately while taking two years of coursework to become certified. Certifications include Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Special Education, secondary Math, secondary Science, secondary English Language Arts, or secondary World Languages. Classes are all online. SLPS pays the cost of tuition. **Contact Cassi Sweeney at cagcn2@umsl.edu or check out coe.umsl.edu for more information.**

Post Bachelor's Degree: Certification Programs

Eligibility Requirements for post-Bachelor's SLPS-Sponsored Certification Programs:

1. Undergraduate degree
2. Minimum cumulative GPA in all undergraduate and graduate coursework of 2.75
3. Acceptance into university's certification program
4. Passing of required licensure exams
5. Hiring in an SLPS school
6. Final approval by SLPS Human Resources Team for sponsorship

The scholarship priority deadline for acceptance to these universities is March 1st.

Please reach out to the contacts above for more information!

"Stepping Stones to Teaching" St. Louis Community College

Our program with St. Louis Community College allows selected **non-certified staff members with less than 60 college credits** hours to earn their Associate of Arts in Teaching while working as full-time school-based employees in SLPS. Ideal program participants have less than thirty credits remaining to reach their Associate degree, and then must apply to a 4-year program (such as the program with Lincoln) after completion of their Associate degree to finish required coursework for teacher certification. Classes are mostly online, with some in-person coursework available during summer sessions. SLPS pays the cost of tuition for 6-12 credit hours for each semester of participation. Admission to this program ends in March for June classes, May for August classes, and October for January classes. Limited scholarship slots are available. **Email Recruitment@SLPS.org with the subject line "Stepping Stones" for more information.**

Eligibility Requirements:

- ▶ Minimum 2.0 GPA from any previous undergraduate coursework
- ▶ Minimum 1 full prior semester of full-time employment in SLPS with at least 92% attendance
- ▶ Cleared background check on file with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- ▶ Acceptance into STLCC
- ▶ Final approval by SLPS Human Resources Team for sponsorship

"Para to Pro: Fast Track to Certification" Lincoln University

The fast-track program with Lincoln University allows selected **non-certified staff members with over 60 college credit hours** to complete their Bachelor's degree in Education with certification in either **Elementary Education** or **Special Education** in just two years. Classes are completely online, and participants must be staffed in a full-time substitute teacher of record role. SLPS pays the cost of tuition. Cohorts start every January, with admission ending the preceding September. Limited scholarship slots are available. **Email Recruitment@SLPS.org with the subject line "Para to Pro" for more information.**

Eligibility Requirements:

- ▶ Minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA in all previous undergraduate courses
- ▶ Minimum 60 college credit hours including the Missouri CORE 42 courses for transfer
- ▶ At least 2 years of prior experience as a teacher aide, paraprofessional, library aide, or substitute teacher
- ▶ Minimum 1 full prior semester of full-time employment in SLPS with at least 92% attendance
- ▶ Cleared background check on file with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- ▶ Acceptance into Lincoln University
- ▶ Final approval by SLPS Human Resources Team for sponsorship