



Nevada Department of Education Initial IRC Application

Special Education Interim Route to Certification (IRC) endorsements allow an existing licensed educator (Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle School, Secondary, Special Education, and Special teaching licenses) to receive an endorsement in Special Education (Adapted Physical Education*, Autism, Early Childhood Developmentally Delayed, Generalist, Hearing Impairments, Intellectual Disabilities, or Visual Impairments) and be placed in a Special Education assignment while they are completing the coursework requirements for that endorsement area. They must also complete two years of teaching in that assignment area and receive effective evaluations from their employer for those two years.

* The Adapted Physical Education endorsement requires the applicant to hold a bachelor's or master's degree in adapted physical education, physical education, or special education, **or** hold a valid Nevada teaching license with an endorsement to teach Physical Education, Physical Education and Health, or Special Education-Generalist (NAC 391.343) at the time of the initial IRC application.

IRC Application Process

- The applicant will contact district Human Resources for the IRC agreement form.
- The teacher and building principal will sign the IRC agreement form.
- A District HR representative will sign a form and provide email instructions to the teacher on how to apply.
- Applicant will submit Additional Endorsement application for Special Education Endorsement listed on IRC form.

Instructions to apply for the IRC endorsement in OPAL

1. [Sign in to your OPAL account.](#)
2. From the **Online Services** menu, select the link titled:

[Add additional endorsement\(s\) to an existing license](#)

3. Complete all tabs of the application
 - a. On the **Experience tab**, locate the section titled "*B&I or CTE Work Experience/Occupational Licenses/National Board Certificates/ARL Certificates & Evaluations*" Choose **ARL/IRC evaluations** from the drop down menu. Upload your signed **IRC agreement form**.
 - b. On the **License tab**,
 - i. select the *License Kind* **Special Education - IRC**. Do not select Special Education. It must be **Special Education -IRC**.
 - c. Select the endorsement on your IRC agreement form.
4. Complete application and pay the additional endorsement application fee.

Additional Information for IRC endorsements:

- The IRC endorsement will be issued with a three-year provision. You will have three years to complete all required course work and two years of effective teaching in the assignment area.
- If you cease to be employed in the assignment related to the IRC endorsement with the employer you entered into the IRC agreement with, the employer must contact the Office of Educator Licensure within 15 days and the IRC endorsement will become invalid. You may receive a new IRC endorsement if:
 - You apply within one year after the date the IRC endorsement was issued.
 - You resume employment in the IRC endorsement area.
 - You enter into an agreement with the previous or a new employer.
 - You submit a new application for an IRC endorsement. This may be for the same IRC endorsement or a different IRC endorsement.
- You may only change your IRC endorsement (either the area or the employer you enter into the IRC agreement with) as described above one time.
- If you complete all requirements for the IRC endorsement and convert it to a standard Special Education endorsement, you may enter into a new IRC agreement with your employer for another Special Education area.

Endorsements requiring specific degrees (see table on Page 3)

Endorsements requiring specific degrees

Requirement Category	NAC 391.340: Teaching Hearing Impairments	NAC 391.390: Teaching Visual Impairments	NAC 391.367: Teaching Adapted Physical Education
Completion of Approved Program	Completion of a program of preparation for teaching pupils who have hearing impairments approved by the Commission	Completion of a program of preparation for teaching pupils who have visual impairments approved by the Commission	Completion of a program of preparation for teaching adapted physical education approved by the Commission
Out-of-State License/Certificate	Hold a license or certificate issued by another state with an endorsement to teach pupils who have hearing impairments	Hold a license or certificate issued by another state with an endorsement to teach pupils who have visual impairments	Hold a license or certificate issued by another state with an endorsement to teach adapted physical education to pupils who have disabilities
Specific Degree and Experience	Hold a bachelor's or master's degree in the education of pupils who have hearing impairments AND completed 8 semester hours of student teaching or equivalent field experience	Hold a bachelor's or master's degree in the education of pupils who have visual impairments AND completed 8 semester hours of student teaching or equivalent field experience	Hold a bachelor's or master's degree in adapted physical education AND have completed a practicum, student teaching, equivalent field experience, or 1 year of verifiable teaching experience in adapted physical education
Other Specific Qualifications	Hold a certificate from the Council on Education of the Deaf.	N/A	Hold a bachelor's or master's degree in physical education or special education, OR hold a valid Nevada teaching license with an endorsement to teach Physical Education, Physical Education and Health, or Special Education-Generalist (NAC 391.343) AND specific coursework and experience.