

Turning your Initial Certification into

# Professional Certification

## MASTER'S DEGREE 3 YEARS TEACHING EXPERIENCE MENTORED EXPERIENCE

### Master's Degree:

- Graduate Teacher Education Program leading to a certificate **OR...**
- Master's Degree accepted previously to satisfy requirements for a permanent or professional classroom teaching certificate **OR...**
- Master's Degree in the Initial Certificate content area or related area **OR...**
- Unrelated Master's Degree plus 12 graduate level credits in the content area (or related area) of the Initial Certificate

\*any Liberal Arts & Sciences Master's Degree is acceptable for "generalist" certificates (Early Childhood, Childhood, Middle Childhood, SWD B-2, SWD 1-6, SWD 5-9)

For more information regarding the Master's Degree requirement, go to:

<http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/certificate/relatedmasters.html>

### 3 Years Teaching Experience

- Substitute experience is acceptable (180 days = 1 full year)
- Part-time experience is prorated
- Substitute experience and/or part-time experience should be documented in writing by the district/school
- Experience in a non-public school is acceptable

### Mentored Experience

- Should be mentored if employed more than 40 consecutive days in a public district (including substitute experience)
- Document with Verification of Mentored Experience form
- May be waived if:
  - Teaching for more than two years prior to receiving an Initial Certificate
  - Teaching experience under the Initial Certificate is in a non-public school

For more information regarding mentored experience, go to:

<http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/resteachers/mentoring.htm>