

Office of Educator Background Credentialing

What does “Clear Credential” mean?

Effective January 1, 2025, in accordance with [LA R.S. 17:8.9](#) the LA Department of Education’s Certification & Background Credentialing office requires a criminal background check for certification. For individuals required to have certification, LDOE will send the person for a criminal background check (CBC) when they apply for issuance, renewal, advancement, or certification modification. This is completely separate from the background check run for employment purposes pursuant to LA R.S. 17:15 and is separate from the Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC) for employment in an early learning center. The CBC required for certification does not expire and results in the issuance of a “Clear Credential” record verifiable on www.teachlouisiana.net.

What does it mean?

- It is a record created for a person who underwent a criminal background check (CBC) for certification under LDOE’s service code, 27N5HQ, and was found to have no [disqualifying offenses](#).
- The CBC is run with the applicant’s authorization allowing the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Louisiana State Police (LSP) to share all criminal history information.
- The CBC is securely transmitted to LDOE within hours to up to three weeks after the applicant's fingerprinting. Background Credentialing specialists retrieve and review the CBC. If no disqualifying convictions are present, the “Clear Credential” record is issued or added to an existing certification record.
 - If the individual has any outstanding sanctions, those have been reviewed by BESE, and the individual is cleared for certification
 - LDOE will receive rapbacks where subsequent arrests and convictions are reported.
 - No action is taken based on an arrest; only convictions result in certification sanction.

The “Clear Credential” is not a certificate and does not validate educational credentials or eligibility to teach, lead, or serve in Louisiana schools.