



Educational Specialist
Speech Language Pathologist
(SLP) Certification
Information for Potential Applicants

Summer 2015

Who Should Apply?

You should apply if you wish to work in Pennsylvania public PK-12 schools and you fall into one of the three categories listed below:

- Professionally licensed Pennsylvania speech-language pathologists
- ASHA CCC-SLP
- Pennsylvania Educational Specialist Speech-Language Pathologist approved program graduates

Note: Pennsylvania Special Education Speech and Language Impaired Instructional I or II holders do NOT need this certificate. You are already certified.

What are the Similarities and Differences between the Instructional and Educational Specialist Speech Language Pathologist?

- Both perform the same duties working with students
- Both may be evaluated using the Education Specialist rubric
- The instructional certificate holder may be the teacher of record for a self-contained speech and language-impaired student classroom
- The instructional certificate holder may add additional subjects via testing; the educational specialist may not

School SLP Evaluation Comparison

School Speech and Language Pathologist Educational Specialist	Speech and Language Impaired Instructional I
<p>PDE 82-3, Non-Teaching Professional Employee Evaluation (using rubrics that are cross walked with Danielson's Framework for Teaching)</p>	<p><u>PDE 82-3, Non-Teaching Professional Employee Evaluation may be used.</u> The PDE 82-1, Classroom Teacher Rating Form may be <u>used if teaching</u> (teacher of record)</p>
<p>PDE 82-3 Evaluation: 80 percent of evaluation based on observation/practice; 20 percent of evaluation based on school building level score</p> <p>PDE hopes to offer new rubric designed specifically for speech pathologists in 2016.</p>	<p>PDE 82-3 Evaluation (appropriate for most, if not all school speech language pathologists)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>PDE 82-1 (if TEACHING) Evaluation: 50 percent of evaluation based on observation/practice; 15 percent building level score; 20 percent teacher specific rating; and 15 percent elective</p>

How Do I Apply?

1. Register in the PDE Portal at www.education.pa.gov
2. Establish a profile in TIMS
3. Complete and submit your online application
4. Send in required documentation
 - a. Official transcripts in college-sealed envelopes*
 - i. Bachelor's Degree
 - ii. Speech Language Pathology program
 - b. PDE 338 A/C form* (supplied with application) from college where you completed the speech-language program
 - c. Photocopy of current Pennsylvania license and/or ASHA license if applicable

* Collect and mail these to us – do not have them sent from the college. The A form is for out-of-state programs; C form for PA.

How Do I Register in the Portal and Establish My TIMS Profile?

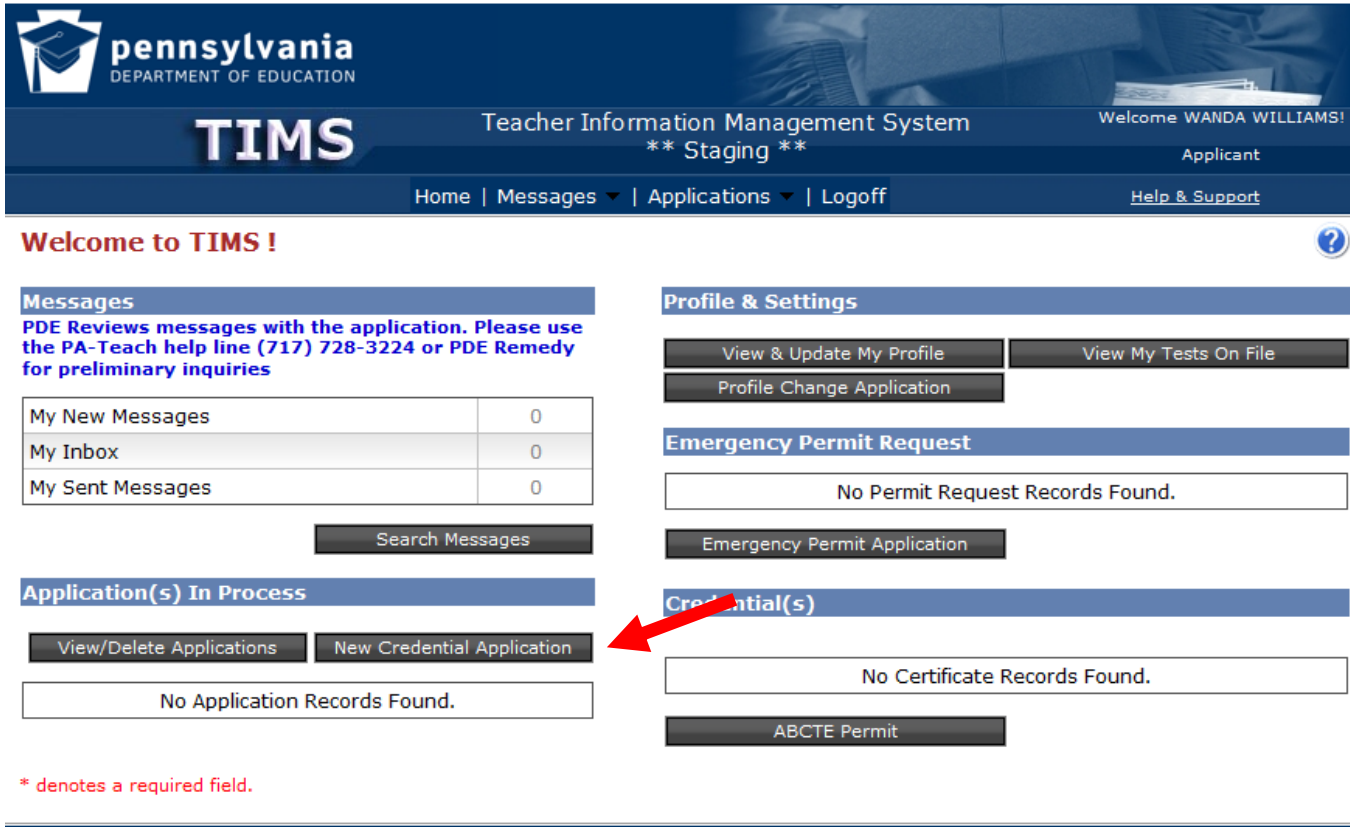
1. Navigate to www.education.pa.gov
 2. Select the *Teachers & Administrators* menu in the upper right corner
 3. Click on the Certifications link
 4. Click on the green-highlighted TIMS Certification Application System link
 5. Click on the *Assistance with TIMS* link
 6. Click on the [Getting Started with TIMS](#) (PDF) link in the User Guides section
- Note – you only register one time. Follow steps 1 to 4 to access your established TIMS profile.

Educational Specialist - SLP



The screenshot shows the Pennsylvania Department of Education website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following categories: EARLY LEARNING, K-12, POSTSECONDARY & ADULT, and TEACHERS & ADMINISTRATORS. A red arrow points to the TEACHERS & ADMINISTRATORS menu item, which is currently expanded to show a list of sub-items: CERTIFICATION PREPARATION, CERTIFICATIONS, SCHOOL FINANCES, ACT 48 AND PERMS, EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS, PIMS, and MORE... Below the navigation bar is a search bar with the placeholder text "Enter Search Term Here". The main content area features a large banner with the Pennsylvania Department of Education logo and the text "TOM WOLF, GOVERNOR | PEDRO A. RIVERA, ACTING SECRETARY". To the right of the banner is a sidebar with social media links for TWITTER, SCHOOLS THAT TEACH, and EDUCATION BUDGET. Below the banner are three main content columns: PDE PARTNERS (listing State Library, State Board of Education, and Professional Standards & Practices Commission), NEWS (listing several recent news items), and SCHOOLS THAT TEACH (featuring a photo of a group of students and a banner for www.SchoolsThatTeach.com). At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with navigation links for PDE Online Services, PDE Quick Links, About PDE, and Help & Contact Info. The footer also includes a search bar, a plus sign icon, and icons for Agencies, Privacy Policy, Settings, Share, and Tech Help.

How Do I Apply in TIMS?



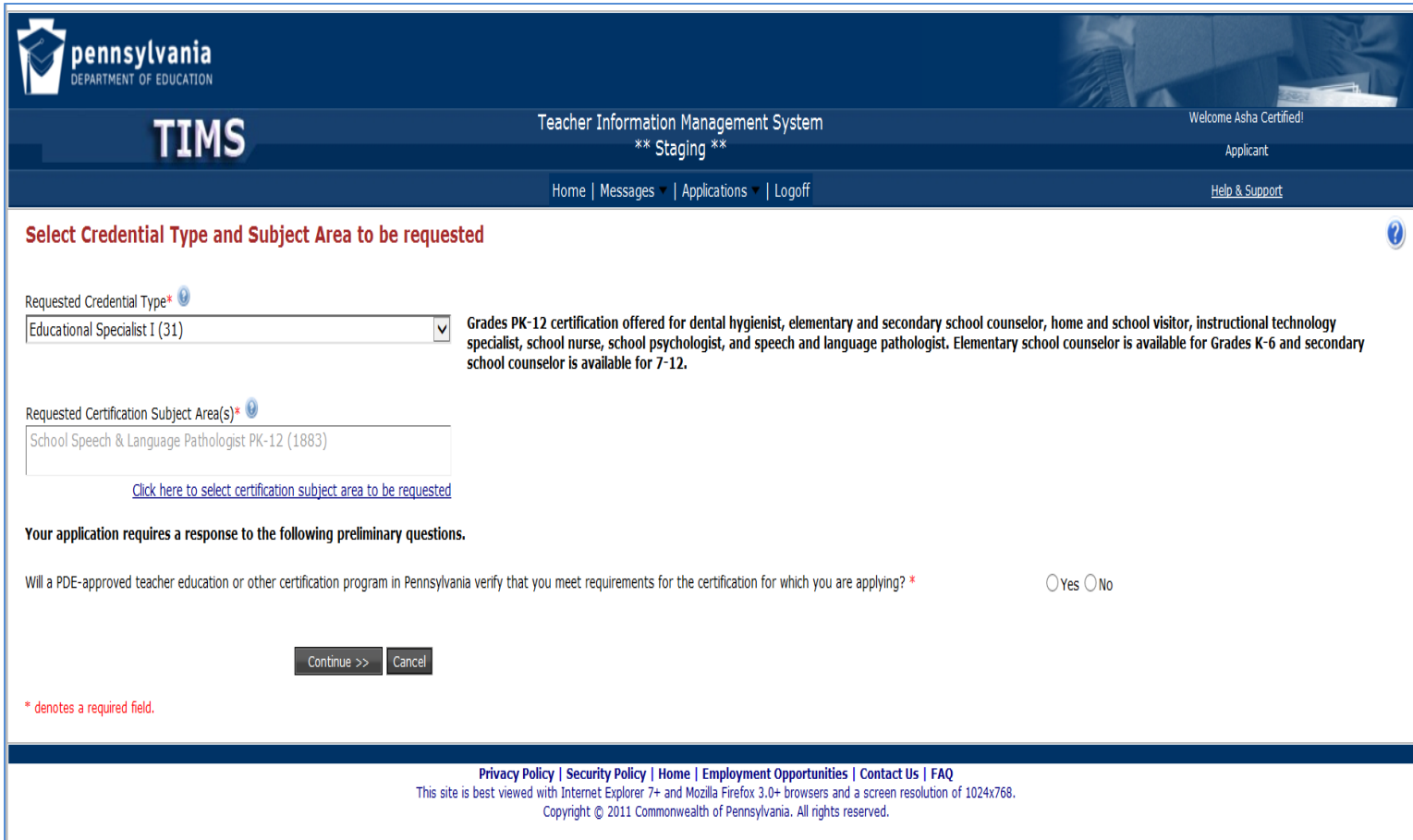
The screenshot shows the TIMS interface for user Wanda Williams. The header includes the Pennsylvania Department of Education logo, the TIMS title, and navigation links for Home, Messages, Applications, and Logoff. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Welcome to TIMS !** (with a help icon)
- Messages**: A table showing message counts and a search button.

My New Messages	0
My Inbox	0
My Sent Messages	0
- Application(s) In Process**: Buttons for "View/Delete Applications" and "New Credential Application", with a message "No Application Records Found."
- Profile & Settings**: Buttons for "View & Update My Profile", "View My Tests On File", and "Profile Change Application".
- Emergency Permit Request**: A message "No Permit Request Records Found." and a button for "Emergency Permit Application".
- Credential(s)**: A message "No Certificate Records Found." and a button for "ABCTE Permit".

A red arrow points to the "New Credential Application" button. A legend at the bottom left states: "* denotes a required field."

What Is In the Application?



The screenshot shows the TIMS (Teacher Information Management System) application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Pennsylvania Department of Education logo, the text "TIMS Teacher Information Management System", and a user greeting "Welcome Asha Certified! Applicant". Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links for "Home", "Messages", "Applications", and "Logoff", along with a "Help & Support" link. The main content area is titled "Select Credential Type and Subject Area to be requested" and contains two dropdown menus. The first dropdown is labeled "Requested Credential Type*" and is set to "Educational Specialist I (31)". The second dropdown is labeled "Requested Certification Subject Area(s)*" and is set to "School Speech & Language Pathologist PK-12 (1883)". To the right of the first dropdown, there is a text block explaining that the certification is for dental hygienist, elementary and secondary school counselor, home and school visitor, instructional technology specialist, school nurse, school psychologist, and speech and language pathologist. Below the dropdowns is a link to "Click here to select certification subject area to be requested". A section titled "Your application requires a response to the following preliminary questions." contains a question: "Will a PDE-approved teacher education or other certification program in Pennsylvania verify that you meet requirements for the certification for which you are applying? *". This question has radio buttons for "Yes" and "No". At the bottom of the form are "Continue >>" and "Cancel" buttons. A red asterisk note indicates that fields marked with an asterisk are required. The footer of the page contains links for "Privacy Policy", "Security Policy", "Home", "Employment Opportunities", "Contact Us", and "FAQ", along with a note about browser compatibility and copyright information.

Select Credential Type and Subject Area to be requested

Requested Credential Type*
Educational Specialist I (31) Grades PK-12 certification offered for dental hygienist, elementary and secondary school counselor, home and school visitor, instructional technology specialist, school nurse, school psychologist, and speech and language pathologist. Elementary school counselor is available for Grades K-6 and secondary school counselor is available for 7-12.

Requested Certification Subject Area(s)*
School Speech & Language Pathologist PK-12 (1883)
[Click here to select certification subject area to be requested](#)

Your application requires a response to the following preliminary questions.

Will a PDE-approved teacher education or other certification program in Pennsylvania verify that you meet requirements for the certification for which you are applying? * Yes No

* denotes a required field.

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Security Policy](#) | [Home](#) | [Employment Opportunities](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [FAQ](#)
This site is best viewed with Internet Explorer 7+ and Mozilla Firefox 3.0+ browsers and a screen resolution of 1024x768.
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How Do I Select the Credential Type and Subject Area for the Educational Specialist Certificate?

1. Select Educational Specialist I (31) as the Credential Type
2. Select School Speech & Language Pathologist PK-12 (1883) as the Subject Area
3. Answer the preliminary question:
 - a. Yes only if you completed an approved Pennsylvania Educational Specialist School Speech & Language Pathologist PK-12 program
 - b. No if you completed an
 - i. Out-of-state clinical program leading to state and/or ASHA certification (not a school program)
 - ii. Pennsylvania clinical program leading to state and/or ASHA certification (not a school program)

How Do I Select the Credential Type and Subject Area for the Instructional Certificate?

1. Select Instructional I (61) as the Credential Type
2. Select Special Education – Speech/Language Impaired PK-12 (9265) as the Subject Area
3. Answer the preliminary question:
 - a. Yes only if you completed an approved Pennsylvania Instructional Special Education – Speech/Language Impaired PK-12 program
 - b. No if you completed an out-of-state Instructional program leading to the out-of-state school certification

What Else is in the Application?

1. Background Questions – no paperwork required unless you have a YES answer
2. Demographic Details – fill in the blanks; provide at least one phone number; use a personal email (not work or school)
3. Education Details – you must add your bachelor’s degree; other questions are based on your speech-language program information
4. Certification Details – do not add ASHA, Pennsylvania state license or out-of-state license unless they are educational certificates (you will submit your license copies later)
5. Work Experience Details – skip this section

What Else is in the Application?

6. Proof Items Details – you can upload a completed [PDE 338 A](#) if you attended an out-of-state college or [PDE 338 C](#) if you attended a Pennsylvania clinical program before it was approved as an Educational Specialist program
7. Application Summary – review (and correct), check the Code of Conduct boxes, proceed to submit
8. Payment Processing and Application/Request Submission
 - a. Visa or MasterCard credit card or Money Order
 - b. Application fee is non-refundable
 - i. \$125 for Pennsylvania Educational Specialist program completers
 - ii. \$185 for all others

The application remains incomplete until submitted

What Else Should I Know?

If I am state licensed, have ASHA CCC-SLP, do I still need to obtain certification for working in schools?

Yes.

If I have an Instructional I or II in Special Education Speech and Language Impaired do I still need to obtain the new certification?

No, and your application will not be processed.

Do I need to activate my Instructional certificate if I have not completed Act 48 requirements or do I have the option to apply for the new certification?

You should activate your Instructional certificate. The new certificate would also be inactive if you have an inactive Instructional certificate.

What Else Should I Know?

How long is the Educational Specialist certificate valid?

The certificate is valid for six years of service (not calendar years).

What do I need to convert to a Level II?

Three years of successful service and 24 post-baccalaureate credits (and yes, your master's program credits count).

Is there any continuing education requirement?

Yes, you must earn 180 Act 48 hours every five years even if you aren't working to keep your certificate active.

What Else Should I Know?

Is this fee of \$185 a one time charge or do I need to renew the certification with fees?

There is a one-time application fee for the level I and another for the level II. There are no renewal fees.

Do I need to pass the Praxis II test?

Not if you provide a copy of a Pennsylvania Department of State issued Speech Language Pathologist or ASHA license.

Is my out-of-state license accepted?

Out-of-state license holders are encouraged to obtain the Pennsylvania license before applying for the Educational Specialist certificate.

What Else Should I Know?

When will Pennsylvania have Approved Programs?

All existing Instructional Programs Providers have a short approval process for the new program and should begin offering Educational Specialist programs soon.

Where can I find a list of Approved Certification Programs in PA?

Check the website: [Approved Certification Programs](#)

Are there any Approved Certification Programs in PA?

Yes, there are Instructional and Educational Specialist programs. Providers may offer both programs.

How Do I Obtain Help from the Division of Certification Services?

1. Review the Teachers and Administrators >> Certifications section of the www.education.pa.gov website
2. Submit a [Service Ticket](#) for a written response within one or two business days. Include your PPID, application ID and specific questions.
3. Contact us via telephone or chat on business days:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Tuesday 12:00 PM (noon) – 4:00 PM
Thursday 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (noon)

Phone: 717 728-3224 (717 PA-TEACH) or [Chat with certification staff](#) using the link on the Certifications website



Questions?

For more information on the Educational Specialist SLP please visit PDE's website at www.education.pa.gov

The mission of the department is to academically prepare children and adults to succeed as productive citizens. The department seeks to ensure that the technical support, resources and opportunities are in place for all students, whether children or adults, to receive a high quality education.