

K-12 teachers must have a bachelor’s degree. In addition, public school teachers must have a state-issued certification or license. All states also require completing a teacher preparation program and supervised experience in teaching.

Below is a link to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing with resources available for those who have not yet completed a teacher prep program, but are interested in teaching elementary students. http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/creds/iMS-5.html

With additional education or certification, teachers may become school counselors, librarians, or instructional coordinators. Some become assistant principals or principals, both of which generally require additional education in education administration or leadership.

Duties of an Elementary Teacher

* Plan Lessons that teach students subjects, such s reading and math; and other study and social skills
* Evaluate students’ abilities, strengths and weaknesses
* Teach students in large classrooms or small group lessons
* Communicate with parents on child’s progress
* Prepare students for standardized tests
* Develop and enforce classroom rules
* Cooperate with colleagues – fellow educators, principals, community leaders, etc.

How to Become an Elementary School Teacher:

**Elementary School Teachers**

WHAT DOES AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER DO?

Elementary teachers enrich the lives of their students and act as a facilitators or coaches to help students learn and apply important concepts. Many teachers use hands-on approach, including props, to help students understand abstract concepts, solve problems and develop critical thinking skills. Elementary teachers often teach multiple subjects such as reading, science and social studies. While students are away from the classroom, teachers plan lessons, grade assignments, or meet with other teachers and staff. For more information visit the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Occupational Outlook Handbook at http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

WHAT DOES AN ELEMENTARY TEACHER MAKE?

The median annual wage of registered nurses was $51,380 in 2010.