

# Green to Teach Initiative

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State Board of Education, 10/14/2026

Col James Fowley, Military Advisor to the State Board of Education

Monica Goyette, Ed.D., Director, Innovation and Education Excellence

## MISSION

An excellent education for every student every day.



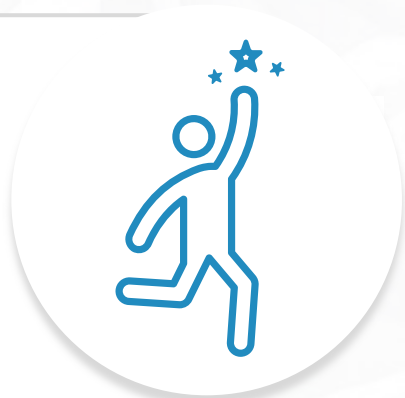
## VISION

All students will succeed in their education and work, shape worthwhile and satisfying lives for themselves, exemplify the best values of society, and be effective in improving the character and quality of the world about them.



## PURPOSE

DEED exists to provide information, resources, and leadership to support an excellent education for every student every day.



# Alaska's Education Challenge

## Five Shared Strategic Priorities

01

Support all students to read at grade level by the end of third grade.

02

Increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs.

03

Close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources.

04

Prepare, attract, and retain effective education professionals.

05

Improve the safety and well-being of students through school partnerships with families, communities, and tribes.

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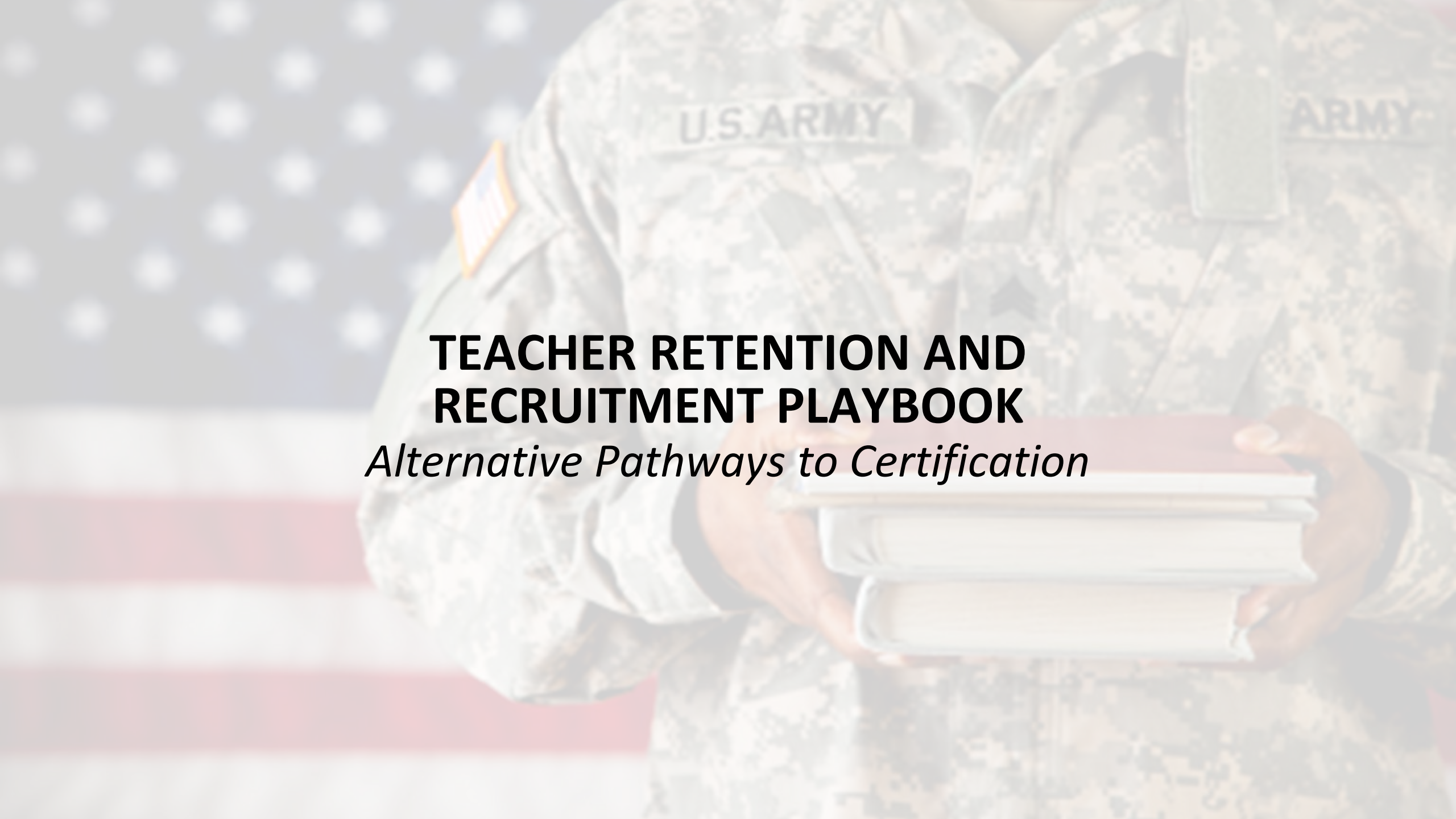
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A U.S. Army soldier in camouflage uniform is shown from the chest down, holding a stack of three books. The soldier's uniform features a "U.S. ARMY" patch on the right chest and an "ARMY" patch on the left chest. The background is a blurred American flag. The text "TEACHER RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT PLAYBOOK" is overlaid in bold black font, and "Alternative Pathways to Certification" is overlaid in a smaller, italicized black font below it.

# **TEACHER RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT PLAYBOOK**

*Alternative Pathways to Certification*

# State Board of Education Resolution

## Resolution 01-2025

*Brought forward by Col Fowley | Adopted on January 22, 2025*

- Supports development and implementation of the Green to Teach pathway
- Aligns with Board direction to expand alternative certification options
- Recognizes military personnel, veterans, and spouses as a key talent pipeline
- Modeled after the former Troops to Teachers program
- Builds on DEED's prior Alaska Transition to Teaching (AKT2) program
- Addresses teacher shortages
- Affirms DEED's authority to approve certification pathways and programs

# Historical Overview

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Green to Teach builds on the former federal Troops to Teachers program

- A federal initiative started in 2001
- Funded by the United States (U.S.) Department of War
- U.S. Department of Education provided grant funding to establish the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE)
- Discontinued due to lack of funding

# Entry Pathways

## Two routes to an Alaska classroom placement

### Pathway 1

#### *Department of War SkillBridge Program*

- Available to active-duty service members in their final months of service
- Apply through the Department of War SkillBridge program
- Continue receiving military pay and benefits during the placement

### Pathway 2

#### *Direct District Placement*

- Available to veterans and military spouses
- Apply for internship or placement opportunities at the district level

# Candidate Requirements

## Requirements candidates must complete to earn Alaska teacher certification

- Secure an internship with an approved Alaska school district
  - *Pilot Districts:*
    - Anchorage School District (Direct Entry + Skill Bridge Approved)
    - Juneau School District (Direct Entry Approved)
    - Valdez City Schools (Direct Entry Approved)
- Receive pre-approval from DEED
- Enroll with ABCTE and complete required coursework
- Complete a 12–15 week placement with the district
- Meet all DEED certification requirements for initial teacher licensure

# Next Steps

## Expanding district participation and SkillBridge approval statewide

### Statewide Expansion

- Conduct targeted outreach to districts near military installations Invite additional districts to join the pilot and expand placement opportunities
- Support districts in becoming approved SkillBridge providers

### SkillBridge Application Process

- Two application windows each year: October and April
- Approval timeline: approximately 2–3 months

# Resources

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## Information and application materials for candidates and districts

- [DEED Green to Teach Website](#)
- [Candidate Checklist](#)
- [Candidate Preapproval Form](#)
- [American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence](#)

# Contacts

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Monica Goyette, Ed.D., Director, Innovation and Education Excellence

*Department of Education and Early Development*

[monica.goyette@alaska.gov](mailto:monica.goyette@alaska.gov)

907.269.0497

Col James Fowley, Alaska Air National Guard

*Military Advisor to the Alaska State Board of Education*

[james.fowley@alaska.gov](mailto:james.fowley@alaska.gov)

# Stay Connected

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education.alaska.gov



@alaskaDEED



907.465.2800

Teacher Certification: 907.465.2831