

## **Frequently Asked Questions about the Secondary Teacher Certification**

**1. What grades will I be able to teach with a secondary license?**

With a secondary license you are eligible to teach grades 7-12. You are required to have at least one content area endorsement with the secondary license. The content area is the subject you will teach (ie. English, art, math).

**2. Can I add more endorsements to my license?**

Yes. With your first endorsement, you must have 30 undergraduate credits in the subject area on a college transcript (typically, this is the candidates undergraduate major) or 12 graduate credits in the subject area, and you must pass an NMTA content area test in the same subject area. You can add additional endorsements, with either 24 credits in the content area or by taking the NMTA content area test.

**3. What is the field experience/student teaching course like?**

During the Field Experience course, to be taken during your final semester, candidates must spend a minimum of 150 hours in a classroom working with students: individually, in small groups, and leading whole class lessons. This does require flexibility in scheduling or a leave of absence from a day-time job.

**4. Can I get a job before I finish the SFCC Teacher Academy coursework?**

Yes. Candidates in the Teacher Academy are eligible to apply for an intern license with the NMPED (NM Public Education Department). Once you receive an intern license you have 3 years to complete all licensure requirements (including coursework and NMTA testing) and apply for a Level 1 license. If you are hired to teach on an intern license, you will be the lead teacher of a class and will receive standard entry-level pay.