



French River Education Center, Inc.  
672 Main Street - Post Office Box 476  
North Oxford, Massachusetts 01537

WWW.FREC.ORG

## ***Middle School (Grades 5-8) Science Teachers.....*** **DO YOU NEED TO EARN YOUR PROFESSIONAL LICENSE?**

**You should know** that the Massachusetts Department of Education (DOE) has approved a number of district based programs throughout the state to offer an alternative pathway to professional license...*one that does not require a Masters degree.*

**Norfolk County Teachers Association (NCTA)** is one such district based program approved by the DOE to offer a *Professional License Program* in, among other areas, **Middle School (Grades 5-8) General Science.**

**French River Education Center (FREC), of North Oxford,** is also an approved DOE site and currently offers four (4) *Professional License Programs:*

~**Early Childhood Education, PreK-2**

~**Elementary Education, Grades 1-6**

~**Teachers of Students with Moderate Disabilities,  
Grades PreK-8; and 5-12**

~**Math, Grades 5-8**

**What do the NCTA and FREC programs have in common?** Each program requires the professional license candidate to take common core advanced content courses in math and literacy as well as 50 hours of mentoring beyond the induction year. Middle school science teachers, however, are required to take a third course--general science/biology—for professional license. **Framingham State College (FSC)** awards the credits for these graduate level courses.

**For your convenience, NCTA and FREC** are collaborating to offer area middle school science teachers the opportunity to earn their professional license in general science with FREC serving as the field site for the delivery of both the common core advanced content courses—literacy and math--and mentoring hours—*while also hosting the general science course with NCTA endorsing the program completers.* *All program courses will be held at Oxford High School.*

### **To be eligible for this program:**

~*you must already hold an initial license in middle school (Grades 5-8) science;*

~*you must be employed as a teacher working in the role of your initial license (general science, grades 5-8); and*

~*you must have completed your induction (mentoring) year or will complete your induction year by June 2010.*



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**FREC**, in collaboration with NCTA and Framingham State College (FSC), is **now accepting registrations** from middle school science teachers for a **January 2010 start** in a convenient, low cost, high quality program that satisfies the DOE's advanced course requirements for professional license.

**As you know...**the Department of Education requires those teachers holding an initial license to earn a professional license in the same field ***within five years of hire***. If you hold an initial license in **middle school science, grades 5-8**, and are looking for a low cost, alternative pathway to professional license, then this program may be of interest to you.

**Should you decide** to enroll in this NCTA/FREC program, you will start this January with the required math course at Oxford High School; take required science course in early July at a site to be determined; then take the required literacy course next September, also at Oxford High School. Each FSC course is worth 4 graduate credits. By the end of December 2010, you will have completed the program requirements for professional license. The DOE also requires that you complete 3 years of teaching in the role of your initial license before mailing your advanced certificate to you.

**Where do I take these courses?** The literacy and math courses are offered by FREC and will be held at Oxford High School one night a week during the September and January semesters respectively, for 15 weeks, from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. The site for the 7 day summer course has yet to be determined. Again, following this schedule, you will complete your professional license requirements in late December 2010. At the conclusion of the program, NCTA will accept a transcript from FREC documenting candidates' completion of the common core courses—literacy and math---as well as the 50 completed mentoring hours—and the summer science course. Upon acceptance and review of the documentation from FREC, NCTA, as the DOE approved site for middle school general science, will endorse successful program completers for professional license.

**Cost?** The NCTA/FREC professional licensure program in middle school general science requires **just** three graduate courses. You pay for each course—current tuition is \$1,000 per course--as you go. Tuition and related expenses, based on current costs, should total approximately \$3,300 for the program. (*NOTE: FSC sets tuition and this could change.*)

**Interested? Want to learn more? Ready to enroll?** If you would like to learn more about how you can earn your professional license in middle school general science after **just** 3 FSC graduate courses, or you are ready to enroll and reserve a space in the 2010 program now, call Mike Fields, FREC, at 508-987-0219, ext. 101, or complete and return the form below. We will contact you once we receive this form.



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**FREC/NCTA Professional Licensure Program: Middle School (Grades 5-8) General Science**

*January 2010  
(Please print clearly)*

*Name:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Telephone (H):* \_\_\_\_\_

*Home Address:* \_\_\_\_\_

*City:* \_\_\_\_\_ *State:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Zip:* \_\_\_\_\_

*School District:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Email address:* \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: French River Education Center, Attn: Mike Fields, PO Box 476, 672 Main St., North Oxford, MA 01537**

**You may also fax to 508-987-1396 attention Mike Fields**