

ARCLMS

Alternate Route to Certification for Library Media Specialists



Apply for 2026-27! Register for an information session: aces.org/arclms

ARCLMS is an advanced educator preparation program approved by the CT State Board of Education. Certified CT teachers who complete the program of study will earn cross-endorsement #062, School Library Media Specialist, and are eligible for employment as a library media specialist in any CT public school.

To be considered for admission, candidates must:

- Hold a valid CT Provisional *or* Professional Educator teaching certificate
- Be employed by a CT PK-12 school or school district during the program of study

Instruction is a blend of online synchronous and asynchronous learning, and in-person collaborative learning.



In-Person Learning

- Dive into program administration in the school library setting
- Hands-on practice and application of learning
- Networking, collaboration, and collegiality with fellow program participants



Synchronous Online Learning

- Live interaction via Zoom with instructors and fellow learners
- Immediate feedback and answers to questions
- Engaging small group breakout rooms designed to grow and share learning



Asynchronous Online Learning

- Independent and self-paced sessions accessed online
- Engaging mix of videos, articles, and resources
- Online discussions and tasks designed to fully engage learners in library media study

Application deadline is July 31, 2026. Cohorts are open until filled.

Visit aces.org/arclms or scan the QR code for full details, schedule, & application.



2026-27 ARCLMS SCHEDULE

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM EXPERIENCES

EXPERIENCE	DESCRIPTION	HRS
Instruction	Weekly, in-person or online (synchronous/asynchronous).	152
Practicum Experiences	Application of learning in the school library environment that includes field experiences, collaboration with a library media specialist, and program management.	36
Professional Learning	Independent professional learning in a self-identified area in need of further development (examples include technology, literacy, curriculum topics, innovative programming).	20
Embedded Professional Practice	Most program assignments require work to be completed outside of planned instruction. These tasks include an extensive literature review, book promotion, research projects, learning and application of technology, and demonstration of learning through written reflections aligned to program standards. Participants should anticipate spending approximately 4-6 hours per week on program-related work <i>in addition to</i> participating in instructional sessions, and completing practicum and professional learning requirements. <i>Time spent may vary for each learner.</i>	4-6 per week

INSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

- Nine (9) in-person sessions – four (4) in the school library setting to provide essential hands-on learning
- Online sessions are designated synchronous or asynchronous
 - Synchronous = Online interaction in real-time via Zoom
 - Asynchronous = Online interaction completed independently (not in real-time)
- Access to all session content is through the learning management system
- Participants must attend all in-person and synchronous online sessions, complete all asynchronous online sessions, and engage fully as professionals in all session content
- Synchronous online sessions are held on Saturdays and participants are asked to hold the 8:30 am-2:30 pm (6 hours) time period for program work that includes a blend of synchronous instruction, group collaboration, and independent work time
- Asynchronous online sessions are approximately 4 hours of independent learning and participants are not required to access the session at a specific time – materials are available by date listed
- This schedule may be adjusted as needed to best meet the needs of the program and/or participants

**** Virtual Orientation Session: Saturday, 8/22/2026, 9-10 am ****

In-Person Sessions - Saturdays 8:30 am-2:30 pm*		
ACES, 205 Skiff Street, Hamden, CT	Berlin High School, Berlin, CT	EO Smith High School, Storrs, CT
9/19/2026, 10/3/2026, 10/24/2026, 11/14/2026, 11/21/2026	3/13/2027, 3/27/2027	4/24/2027, 5/8/2027

Synchronous (Zoom) Online Sessions - Saturdays 8:30 am-2:30 pm
1/9/2027, 1/23/2027, 2/6/2027

Asynchronous Online Sessions - Independent
9/26/2026, 10/10/2026, 10/17/2026, 10/31/2026, 11/7/2026, 12/5/2026, 12/12/2026, 12/19/2026, 1/2/2027, 1/16/2027, 1/30/2027, 2/13/2027, 2/20/2027, 2/27/2027, 3/6/2027, 3/20/2027, 4/3/2027, 4/10/2027, 5/1/2027

*In-person sessions may be subject to change due to a variety of reasons. ACES makes every effort to inform participants as soon as possible if scheduling or location changes occur.