

**OFFICE OF QUALITY PROFESSIONALS AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**October 18-19, 2012**

**OFFICE OF EDUCATOR LICENSURE**

- 18A. Approval to Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: Approval of Seven Changes to Alternate Route Programs Outlined in the Licensure Guidelines as Recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development

Background Information:

In 2010, a legislative task force, established to study teacher recruitment, recommended that the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) review currently approved alternate route teacher preparation programs and make changes regarding subject areas and uniformity.

In the fall of 2011, the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (the Commission) authorized a subcommittee to study this issue. The subcommittee was comprised of members of the Commission, representatives from all approved alternate route programs, personnel from the Office of Educator Licensure and the Mississippi Teacher Center, and other MDE personnel. Their discussion included all of the steps to licensure, the training through the programs and specific issues involved in each. The subcommittee presented to the Commission seven recommendations for changes to the alternate route programs in July of 2012. On September 7, 2012, the Commission discussed and approved the following seven recommendations:

1. Revise current licensure guidelines, so that all alternate route programs result in a 3-year initial license
2. Delete the MAPQT requirement that an applicant must have a job before a license can be issued
3. Revise requirements of Praxis cut scores required for admission into all alternate route programs, to reflect new cut scores recommended by the Commission and State Board of Education
4. Require that each alternate route program offer the same areas of endorsement for licensure, and add the following areas of endorsement to the current list:

- Health
- Latin
- Library Media
- Physical Science
- Economics
- Chinese

5. Revise TMI guideline to add Art, Music and Physical Education as are included in other routes
6. Revise MAT to include Special Education as in MAPQT and TMI
7. Revise Special Education alternate route licensure from 7-12 to K-12 for all routes - Develop a SPED track for each alternate route program.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

**ONE YEAR THREE YEAR ALTERNATE ROUTE LICENSE**

**MISSISSIPPI ALTERNATE PATH TO QUALITY TEACHERS (MAPQT)**

Areas available: Art, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Chinese, Economics, English, French, German, Health, Home Economics, Latin, Library/Media, Music, Marketing, Mathematics, Physics, Physical Education, Physical Science, Social Studies, Spanish, Speech Communications, Special Education 7-12 K-12

License	Requirements	Validity	To Convert to a Five Year Alternate Route Educator License
Class A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally/nationally accredited institution of higher learning</li> <li>2. Pass Praxis I (Pre-Professional Skills Test-PPST)</li> <li>3. Pass Praxis II Specialty Area Test</li> <li>4. Acquire admission to the MAPQT Program. (See Appendix H or <a href="http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/licensure/alternate_path.html">www.mde.k12.ms.us/licensure/alternate_path.html</a>) Complete 90 clock hours of training (times and dates determined by offering college)</li> <li><del>5. Secure a teaching position</del></li> <li>6. *Apply for the One Three Year Educator License – Alternate route</li> </ol>	1-year	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete New Teacher Practicums (Saturdays during first year of teaching)</li> <li>2. Pass evaluation by local school district after first year of teaching</li> <li>3. Complete a local school district mentoring program during first year of teaching</li> <li>4. Apply for a Five Year Alternate Route License</li> </ol>

***\*This license requires an online recommendation from the alternate route program. Once the online recommendation is made, the educator should apply for the license online.***

**ONE- THREE YEAR ALTERNATE ROUTE LICENSE**

**TEACH MISSISSIPPI INSTITUTE**

**Areas available: Art, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Chinese, Economics, English, French, German, Health, Home Economics, Latin, Library/Media, Marketing, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Physical Science, Physics, Social Studies, Spanish, Speech Communications, Special Education 7-12 K-12**

License	Requirements	Validity	To Convert to a Five Year Alternate Route Educator License
Class A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hold a bachelor's degree (non-education) from a regionally/ nationally accredited institution of higher learning</li> <li>2. Pass Praxis I (Pre-Professional Skills Test-PPST)</li> <li>3. Pass Praxis II Specialty Area Test</li> <li>4. Acquire admission to the Teach MS Institute Program (See Appendix H or <a href="http://www.mde.k.12.ms.us/ed_licensure/alternate_path.html">www.mde.k.12.ms.us/ed_licensure/alternate_path.html</a>)</li> <li>5. Complete an eight week training session (see Note) Or eight week online program (times and dates determined by offering colleges/universities)</li> <li>6. *Apply for the <del>One</del> <u>Three</u> Year Educator License – Alternate Route</li> </ol>	4-year	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Completion of one year internship period with mentoring and induction program in local school district</li> <li>2. Secure recommendation by school district for continued licensure</li> <li>3. Apply for a Five Year Alternate Route License</li> </ol> <p><i>Note: <del>This program requires 12 hours of coursework which may be applied toward completing a master's degree.</del></i></p> <p><i><u>The eight week university program requires 12 hours of coursework which may be applied toward completing a master's degree.</u></i></p>

***\*This license requires an online recommendation from the alternate route program. Once the online recommendation is made, the educator should apply for the license online.***

**THREE YEAR ALTERNATE ROUTE LICENSE**

**MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING**

**Areas available: Art, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Chinese, Economics, English, French, German, Health, Home Economics, Latin, Library/Media, Music, Marketing, Math, Physics, Physical Education, Physical Science, Social Studies, Spanish, Speech Communications, Special Education K-12, Elementary Education (4-6 grades)**

License	Requirement	Validity	To Convert to a Five Year Alternate Route License
Class A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hold a bachelor's degree (non-education) from a regionally/ nationally accredited institution of higher learning</li> <li>2. Pass Praxis I (Pre-Professional Skills Test-PPST)</li> <li>3. Pass Praxis II Specialty Area Test</li> <li>4. Apply for entrance into MAT Program (See Appendix H for information)</li> <li>5. Complete 6 hours of pre-teaching courses in an approved MAT Program</li> <li>6. *Secure Verification of Program Completion</li> <li>7. Apply for a Three Year Educator License – Alternate Route</li> </ol>	3 years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Secure a teaching position</li> <li>2. Complete 6 additional hours of coursework to include supervised internship</li> <li>3. Secure Verification of Program Completion</li> <li>4. Apply for a Five Year Alternate Route License</li> </ol>

***\*This license requires an online recommendation from the alternate route program. Once the online recommendation is made, the educator should apply for the license online.***