

**OFFICE OF CHIEF OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**April 21, 2016**

**OFFICE OF EDUCATOR LICENSURE**

10. Action: Approval to change the requirements for participants in alternate route programs to pass the Praxis Core and Praxis II assessments [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comment)

Background Information: The American Board Certification for Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) is currently recognized as an alternate route program for teaching in Mississippi. At the present time, *Licensure Guidelines K-12* do not require candidates of this program to take the Praxis II exam.

On January 29, 2016, the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development voted that the ABCTE teacher candidates should adhere to all assessment requirements for approved alternate route programs in the state of Mississippi. Effective July 1, 2016, all teacher candidates who enroll in the ABCTE must meet Mississippi alternate route assessment requirements in order to receive licensure.

This item references Goal 4 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2016-2020 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

Note: The one (1) public comment received was not relevant to the SBE item approved for the APA process.

<b>APPENDIX H</b>	
<b>ALTERNATE ROUTE FOR TEACHERS (CONTINUED)</b>	
<b>American Board Certification for Teacher Excellence Passport to Teaching</b>	
<b>Subject Areas of Licensure</b>	Biology, Chemistry, English, Math, Physics (7-12)
<b>Program Entrance Requirements</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bachelor's degree from a regionally/nationally accredited institution of higher learning</li> <li>2. Twenty-one (21) ACT equivalent or achieve the nationally recommended passing score on the Praxis CORE (Core Academic Skills for Educators); AND</li> <li>3. No less than 2.75 GPA on content coursework in the requested area of certification or passing Praxis II scores at or above the national recommended score provided that the accepted cohort of candidates of the institution's teacher education program meets or exceeds a 3.0 GPA on pre-major coursework.</li> <li>4. Praxis II (Specialty Area Test)</li> <li>5. Enroll in ABCTE program</li> <li>6. Assessments in subject area and pedagogy</li> <li>7. Assignment of advisor and prescribed individual study profile</li> <li>8. ABCTE Passport to Teaching exam</li> <li>9. Apply for 1-year license</li> </ol>
<b>Requirements for Initial One Year Alternate Route License</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ABCTE Passport to Teaching Certificate</li> <li>2. Letter from school district stating commitment to employ</li> </ol> <p><i>ABCTE offers a one year alternate route license</i></p>
<b>Location and Contact Information</b>	<p><b>American Board Certification for Teacher Excellence</b>  <b>1225 19<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Suite 400</b>  <b>Washington, D.C. 20036</b>  <b>Website: <a href="http://www.abcte.org">www.abcte.org</a></b>  <b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:contact@abcte.org">contact@abcte.org</a></b>  <b>Phone: 1-877-669-2228</b></p>
<b>Requirements for Five Year Alternate Route License</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One-year teaching internship with mentoring (<i>mentoring must be by National Board Certified teacher or MDE trained mentor certified in same subject area or mentor can complete the ABCTE approved mentor training</i>)</li> <li>2. Must complete training in one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAPQT 3-week summer training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MS Public Broadcasting (MPB) E-Learning online professional development course</li> <li>• MAT 6 hours of initial graduate university courses earned by an approved Mississippi alternate route program (<i>can be applied to master's degree</i>)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Fees</b>	<p>Fee to ABCTE for initial assessment and fee for exam  Fee for mentor  Fee for training varies per selection</p>