

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
Consent Agenda
January 18, 2018

OFFICE OF TEACHING AND LEADING

- I. Revise Part 4: *Licensure Guidelines K-12* to include revisions to the Special, Non-renewable License and the One Year Teacher Intern License
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comment)

Background Information: On November 3, 2017, the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development approved the following proposed license revisions in the *Licensure Guidelines K-12*:

- A. Special, Non-renewable License
- B. One (1) Year Teacher Intern License

The temporary rule and final action is necessary to implement the policy revisions to Part 4: *Licensure Guidelines K-12* for the 2017-2018 school year immediately upon its filing with the Secretary of State in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §25-43-3.113(2)(b)(ii). For a rule to become effective immediately upon its filing, the Board is required to make a finding that the rule only confers a benefit or removes a restriction on the public or some segment thereof.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
Consent Agenda
January 18, 2018

I. A. Special, Non-renewable License

Executive Summary

- I. Special, Non-renewable License for specific traditional teacher preparation program completers
- II. Special, Non-renewable License for prospective non-traditional teacher preparation program completers
- III. Special, Non-renewable License for Adjuncts

The proposed revisions to the Special, Non-renewable License for specific traditional teacher preparation program completers will provide clarity to language in the current policy and establish criteria for the issuance of the license for up to three (3) years.

The proposed revisions to the Special, Non-renewable License for prospective non-traditional teacher preparation program completers will allow the candidate receiving the Year-One Special Non-renewable license a period of one (1) year to meet all entrance requirements for admittance to a Mississippi State Board of Education approved alternate route program. There are no proposed changes to current criteria for the issuance of the license in Year-Two and Year-Three.

The establishment of the Special, Non-renewable License for Adjuncts will provide local school districts in the state of Mississippi with the ability to employ, for up to three (3) years, a candidate with specific knowledge, skills, and experience in an engineering, medical, dental, pharmaceutical, veterinarian, legal, accounting, or instructional program completed at a Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) accepted accredited college or university or any other professional position approved by the MDE.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

Mississippi Department of Education
Special, Non-renewable License for Specific Traditional Teacher Preparation Program Completers

The special, non-renewable license for specific traditional teacher preparation program completers is a one-year license that can only be requested by an employing local school district or an eligible nonpublic school in the state of Mississippi for up to three (3) years for a candidate who has not met all certification requirements under the Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(6)(a), (b), and (c), at the time the application is submitted to the Office of Educator Licensure. The special, non-renewable license for specific traditional teacher preparation program completers provides local school district officials with the ability to employ a candidate who has completed all requirements of a Mississippi State Board of Education approved traditional teacher education preparation program except achieving a passing score on all Mississippi required licensure tests on or after January 1, 2014.

This provisional licensure option provides local school district officials with the ability to employ candidates who possess the potential to earn full educator certification while temporarily addressing the ongoing teacher shortage.

This Special, Non-renewable License type can be requested for a specific traditional teacher preparation program completer who meets one of the following conditions in addition to criteria outlined in the subsequent sections based on application year:

A. Holds at least a bachelor's degree in the endorsement area in which the license is requested from an institution of higher education that was regionally/nationally accredited at the time the degree was conferred;
or

B. Holds at least a bachelor's degree in any area and twenty-one (21) hours of undergraduate and/or graduate level coursework with a grade of "C" or higher in the endorsement area in which the license is requested. Both the degree(s) and the twenty-one (21) hours of undergraduate and/or graduate level coursework must have been earned from an institution of higher education that was regionally/nationally accredited at the time the degree was conferred. Remedial courses (also referred to as compensatory, developmental, or basic skills) will not be recognized for certification purposes and are usually numbered below 100 on the transcript; **or**

C. Holds at least a bachelor's degree in any area from an institution of higher education that was regionally/nationally accredited at the time the degree was conferred and a passing score on the appropriate Mississippi State Board of Education approved licensure Subject Area Assessment in the endorsement area in which the license is requested;

The candidate must meet all licensure requirements for a standard, five (5) year renewable license by the end of the third year.

Specific restrictions apply:

- The license is not transferable between Districts or eligible nonpublic schools. For example, if a candidate is employed one (1) year and wishes to transfer to another school district, the license is no longer valid, unless a new Local District Request Application is received by the Office of Educator Licensure from the local district to which the candidate is transferring. If the educator is nonrenewed by the local school district after the first year, the educator will not be issued a license for another district for the remaining two (2) years.
- The license can only be requested in one (1) endorsement area.
- Additional endorsements will not be added to the special, non-renewable license.

Obtaining the initial Special, Non-renewable License for specific traditional teacher preparation program completers requires completion of the application process as outlined below in the Year One category. Subsequent year requirements addressing verification of progress toward the standard, five (5) year renewable license are specified under the Year Two and Year Three categories.

Year One Documentation Requirements

The employing local school district or eligible nonpublic school must submit the following documentation for each candidate who meets the following criteria to be granted the year one special, non-renewable license:

- a) Standard Mississippi Licensure Application; **and**
- b) Local District Request Packet; **and**
- c) Letter of Request and Justification; **and**
- d) Vita or résumé; **and**
- e) Official, sealed transcript showing completion of a Traditional teacher education preparation program documenting successful completion of student teaching experience with an earned grade of “C” or higher. Transcript must indicate the date on which the degree was conferred; **and**
- f) Official, sealed transcript showing degree conferred in the endorsement area in which the license is requested; **or**
- g) Official, sealed transcript(s) documenting twenty-one (21) hours of undergraduate and/or graduate level coursework with a grade of “C” or higher in the endorsement area in which the license is requested; **or**
- h) Official test score report(s) documenting a passing score on the appropriate Mississippi State Board of Education approved licensure Subject Area Assessment in the endorsement area in which the license is requested.

Year Two Documentation Requirements

The employing local school district or eligible nonpublic school must submit documentation indicating that the special, non-renewable license holder is making sufficient progress toward the completion of requirements for obtaining full state certification. Sufficient evidence includes the following for the specific Traditional teacher education preparation program completer:

- a) Official test score report(s) documenting attempt(s) to achieve a qualifying passing score on all required applicable Mississippi State Board of Education approved testing requirements during the time the year one Special, Non-renewable License was valid; **and**
- b) Standard Licensure Application; **and**
- c) Local District Request Packet; **and**
- d) Letter of Request and Justification.

Year Three Documentation Requirements

The employing local school district or eligible nonpublic school must submit documentation indicating that the special, non-renewable license holder is making sufficient progress toward the completion of requirements for obtaining full state certification. Sufficient evidence includes the following for the specific Traditional teacher education preparation program completer:

- a) Official test score report(s) documenting attempt(s) to achieve a qualifying passing score on all required applicable Mississippi State Board of Education approved testing requirements during the time the year two Special, Non-renewable License was valid; **and**
- b) Standard Licensure Application; **and**
- c) Local District Request Packet; **and**
- d) Letter of Request and Justification.

Mississippi Department of Education
Special, Non-renewable License for Prospective Non-traditional Teacher Preparation Program Completers

The special, non-renewable license for prospective non-traditional teacher preparation program completers is a one-year license that can only be requested by an employing local school district or an eligible nonpublic school in the state of Mississippi for up to three (3) years for a candidate who has not met all certification requirements under the Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(6)(a), (b), and (c), at the time the application is submitted to the Office of Educator Licensure. The special, non-renewable license for prospective non-traditional teacher preparation program completers provides local school officials with the ability to employ a candidate who has the potential to obtain a standard Mississippi teaching license by the completion of a Mississippi State Board of Education approved alternate route teacher education preparation program.

This provisional licensure option provides local school district officials with the ability to employ candidates who possess the potential to earn full educator certification while temporarily addressing the ongoing teacher shortage.

This Special, Non-renewable License type can be requested for a prospective non-traditional teacher preparation program completer who meets one of the following conditions in addition to criteria outlined in the subsequent sections based on application year:

A. Holds at least a bachelor's degree in the endorsement area in which the license is requested from an institution of higher education that was regionally/nationally accredited at the time the degree was conferred;
or

B. Holds at least a bachelor's degree in any area and twenty-one (21) hours of undergraduate and/or graduate level coursework with a grade of "C" or higher in the endorsement area in which the license is requested. Both the degree(s) and the twenty-one (21) hours of undergraduate and/or graduate level coursework must have been earned from an institution of higher education that was regionally/nationally accredited at the time the degree was conferred. Remedial courses (also referred to as compensatory, developmental, or basic skills) will not be recognized for certification purposes and are usually numbered below 100 on the transcript; **or**

C. Holds at least a bachelor's degree in any area from an institution of higher education that was regionally/nationally accredited at the time the degree was conferred and a passing score on the appropriate Mississippi State Board of Education approved licensure Subject Area Assessment in the endorsement area in which the license is requested;

The candidate must meet all licensure requirements for a standard, five (5) year renewable license by the end of the third year.

Specific restrictions apply:

- The license is not transferable between Districts or eligible nonpublic schools. For example, if a candidate is employed one (1) year and wishes to transfer to another school district, the license is no longer valid, unless a new Local District Request Application is received by the Office of Educator Licensure from the local district to which the candidate is transferring. If the educator is nonrenewed by the local school district after the first year, the educator will not be issued a license for another district for the remaining two (2) years.
- The license can only be requested in one (1) endorsement area.
- Additional endorsements will not be added to the special, non-renewable license.

Obtaining the initial Special, Non-renewable License for prospective non-traditional teacher preparation program completers requires completion of the application process as outlined below in the Year One category. Subsequent year requirements addressing verification of progress toward the standard, five (5) year renewable license are specified under the Year Two and Year Three categories.

Year One Documentation Requirements

The employing local school district or eligible nonpublic school must submit the following documentation for each candidate who meets the following criteria to be granted the year one special, non-renewable license:

- a) Standard Mississippi Licensure Application; **and**
- b) Local District Request Packet; **and**
- c) Letter of Request and Justification; **and**
- d) Vita or résumé; **and**
- e) Official, sealed transcript showing completion of at least bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education that was regionally/nationally accredited at the time the degree was conferred; **and**
- f) Official, sealed transcript showing degree conferred in the endorsement area in which the license is requested; **or**
- g) Official, sealed transcript(s) documenting twenty-one (21) hours of undergraduate and/or graduate level coursework with a grade of "C" or higher in the endorsement area in which the license is requested; **or**
- h) Official test score report(s) documenting a passing score on the appropriate Mississippi State Board of Education approved licensure Subject Area Assessment in the endorsement area in which the license is requested.

Year Two Documentation Requirements

The employing local school district or eligible nonpublic school must submit documentation indicating that the special, non-renewable license holder is making sufficient progress toward the completion of requirements for obtaining full state certification to be granted the year two special, non-renewable license:

- a) Official test score report(s) documenting achievement of qualifying passing scores on all required applicable Mississippi State Board of Education approved testing requirements; **and**
- b) Official letter of unconditional acceptance to a Mississippi State Board of Education approved non-traditional teacher preparation program from the appropriate State Board approved program provider. The Mississippi teacher preparation program provider must ensure that the candidate has met all minimum admission requirements prior to enrolling the candidate in the non-traditional teacher preparation program-- Official letter must be completed by the Dean of Education or Certification Officer; **and**
- c) Standard Licensure Application; **and**
- d) Local District Request Packet; **and**
- e) Letter of Request and Justification.

Year Three Documentation Requirements

The employing local school district or eligible nonpublic school must submit documentation indicating that the special, non-renewable license holder is making sufficient progress toward the completion of requirements for obtaining full state certification to be granted the year three special, non-renewable license:

- a) Official test score results from attempt(s) to meet all testing requirements during the time the year two Special, Non-renewable License was valid (*only applicable if year two license was held during 2017-2018 school year*); **and/or**
- b) Official letter of unconditional acceptance into a Mississippi State Board of Education approved non-traditional educator preparation program from the appropriate State Board approved program provider. The

Mississippi educator preparation program provider must ensure that candidate has met all minimum admission requirements prior to enrolling the candidate in the non-traditional educator preparation program-
- Official letter must be completed by the Dean of Education or Certification Officer (*only applicable if year two license was held during 2017-2018 school year*); **and**

- c) Official, sealed transcript showing required course(s) status as “in progress” or “completed” with an earned grade of “C” or higher. Evidence of program progress and/or completion must reflect acceptable forms of documentation based on the specific non-traditional educator preparation program being completed; **and**
- d) Standard Licensure Application; **and**
- e) Local District Request Packet; **and**
- f) Letter of Request and Justification.

NOTE: Educator preparation program providers shall ensure that candidates have met all requirements in effect at the time the application for admission to a Mississippi State Board of Education approved non-traditional educator preparation program is received. Requirements include, but are not limited to, the following: **(To obtain the most accurate and up-to-date requirements, please visit the Educator Licensure Section at www.mde.k12.ms.us/k12.org/OEL)**

- a) The candidate must hold at least a bachelor’s degree from an institution of higher education that was regionally/nationally accredited at the time the degree was conferred;
and
- b) The candidate must present official score report(s) from the appropriate testing vendor documenting earned passing qualifying scores on all required non-traditional educator preparation program admission and licensure tests such as, Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators*, or minimum score of Twenty-one (21) ACT equivalent, Praxis Subject Assessment(s)** in the area in which the educator license is sought, and Foundations of Reading Assessment (if applicable to area of certification sought) ***.

*Candidate must have achieved the Mississippi State Board of Education’s approved Minimum Passing Score requirement for Reading, Writing, and Mathematics prior to non-traditional program admission.

**Candidate must have achieved the Mississippi State Board of Education’s approved Minimum Passing Score requirement for test(s) in the area in which the educator license is sought prior to non-traditional program admission.

***Candidate must have achieved the Mississippi State Board of Education’s approved Minimum Passing Score requirement for Foundations of Reading assessment prior to non-traditional program admission for Elementary Education (4-6) certification.

Meeting all testing requirements is but one criterion for completing the multi-step educator licensure process for obtaining full state certification in the state of Mississippi. Please visit the Educator Licensure Section of the MDE website to obtain the most accurate and up to date information.

Mississippi Department of Education
Special, Non-renewable License for Adjunct Teachers

The special, non-renewable license for Adjunct Teachers is a one-year license that can only be requested by an employing local school district or an eligible nonpublic school in the state of Mississippi for up to three (3) years for a candidate who has not met all certification requirements under the Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(6)(a), (b), and (c), at the time the application is submitted to the Office of Educator Licensure. This licensure option provides local school district officials with the ability to employ candidates who possess the potential to earn full educator certification while temporarily addressing the ongoing teacher shortage.

The special, non-renewable license for Adjunct Teachers can be requested for an individual who meets one of the following pre-conditions in addition to criteria outlined in the subsequent sections:

- a) Specific knowledge, skills, and experience in an engineering, medical, dental, pharmaceutical, veterinarian, legal, accounting, or any other professional position approved by the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE); **or**
- b) Instructional experience at a Mississippi Department of Education accepted accredited college or university; **and**
- c) Who is eligible to provide instruction in one or more of the following certification fields:
English, Reading, Mathematics, Science, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Earth/Space Science, History, Psychology, Geography, Social Studies, Economics, Art, Music, Behavioral Science, foreign language fields, **and** the fields of Dance and Drama.

Requirements. To be eligible for the Special, Non-renewable License for Adjunct Teachers, the applicant must be employed by a Mississippi local educational agency (LEA):

(a) Option 1 - Academic Content Areas. The individual must:

- 1. Hold at least a Master's degree or higher in any area from an institution of higher education that was regionally/nationally accredited at the time the degree was conferred; **and**
- 2. Verify a minimum of two (2) years of relevant occupational experience; **and**
- 3. Hold the appropriate professional licensure for the profession or field of instructional experience; **or**
- 4. Have a passing score on the appropriate Mississippi State Board of Education Subject Assessment approved for licensure in the endorsement area in which the license is requested; **and**
- 5. Be assigned a mentor/coach from the same LEA who holds a standard renewable license in the same general subject area(s) in which the licensee is teaching.

(b) Option 2 - Performing Arts fields: Dance, Drama, Music, and Art. The individual must:

- 1. Hold at least a bachelor's degree or higher in the endorsement area in which the license is requested from an institution of higher education that was regionally/nationally accredited at the time the degree was conferred; **and**
- 2. Verify a minimum of two (2) years of relevant occupational experience; **and**
- 3. Hold the appropriate professional licensure for the profession or field of instructional experience; **or**

4. Have a passing score on the appropriate Mississippi State Board of Education Subject Assessment approved for licensure in the endorsement area in which the license is requested; **and**
5. Be assigned a mentor/coach from the same LEA who holds a standard renewable license in the same general subject area(s) in which the licensee is teaching.

Validity.

- (a) The Special, Non-renewable License for Adjunct Teachers is valid for one (1) year and may be issued for up to two (2) additional years if the Adjunct Teacher receives annually, a successful rating as measured on the Mississippi Educator and Administrator Professional Growth System.
- (b) The Special, Non-renewable License for Adjunct Teachers will not be converted to any other type of license issued by the Mississippi Department of Education. Should the Adjunct Teacher desire to obtain a standard five (5) year license, all current requirements of a Mississippi State Board of Education approved Traditional or Non-traditional teacher education preparation program must be met.

Note: It is the responsibility of the LEA to assure that Adjunct License holders are assigned only within the subject field(s) associated with the license.

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
Consent Agenda
January 18, 2018**

I. B. One (1) Year Teacher Intern License

Executive Summary

The proposed name change (from Intern License to Pre-service License) and revisions to current criteria of the One (1) Year Teacher Intern License will provide a statewide structure to organize procedures related to pre-service teachers once admitted to a state approved educator preparation program. Such procedures are designed to:

- I. Protect the health, safety, and general welfare of students and educators;
- II. Provide opportunities for pre-service teachers to practice/demonstrate knowledge and skills;
- III. Standardize the criminal background check process across the state for pre-service teachers eliminating those who are not eligible or suited to the profession;
- IV. Assist pre-service educators in understanding the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics, Standards of Conduct and hold them accountable under the Code; and
- V. Require attainment of the Pre-Service License for anyone participating in field experiences and student teaching in Mississippi schools (to include candidates in Mississippi and out-of-state educator preparation programs).

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

<p style="text-align: center;">Mississippi Department of Education Pre-Service Teacher License</p>

Proposal: Pre-Service Teacher License to Replace the current One Year Teacher Intern License

Pre-Service Teacher License

The Pre-Service Teacher License provides a statewide structure to organize procedures related to pre-service teachers once admitted to state-approved teacher preparation programs. Such procedures are designed to:

- (a) Protect the health, safety, and general welfare of students and educators;
- (b) Provide opportunities for pre-service teachers to practice/demonstrate knowledge and skills;
- (c) Standardize the criminal background check process across the state for pre-service teachers eliminating those who are not eligible or suited to the profession;
- (d) Assist pre-service teachers in understanding the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics, Standards of Conduct and hold them accountable under the Code; and
- (e) Require attainment of the Pre-Service Teacher License for anyone participating in field experiences and student teaching in Mississippi schools (to include candidates in Mississippi and out-of-state educator preparation programs).

Requirements.

To qualify for the Pre-Service Teacher License:

- (a) An applicant must be admitted to a teacher preparation program in the state of Mississippi or any other U.S. state which meets the following requirements:

- 1. Leads to licensure in a teaching field; and
- 2. Requires participation in field experiences or clinical practice including student teaching, residency work or any other program requirements in Mississippi schools;

- (b) The educator preparation provider (EPP) shall request the Pre-Service Teacher License on behalf of the applicant according to procedures outlined in the Mississippi Educator Licensure Guidelines compendium;

- (c) An applicant shall submit appropriate documentation indicating cleared criminal background check;

NOTE: The Pre-service Teacher License is not intended for individuals who hold a valid provisional or standard Mississippi license in a teaching field, or an expired Mississippi renewable standard license in a teaching field.

Validity. The Pre-Service Teacher License is valid for five (5) years, with the following exceptions:

- (a) Invalidated upon program completion;
- (b) Rescinded if an individual withdraws, transfers or is removed from a program:
 - 1. Previously-enrolled candidates who withdraw, transfer, or are removed from an educator preparation program and are subsequently re-admitted to the program or admitted to a different educator preparation program are eligible for the Pre-Service Teacher License:
 - (i) Under these circumstances the five (5)-year validity period begins again upon re-admission and issuance of the new license. Requirements (a), (b) and (c), listed above, must be met after re-admission to the educator preparation program in order to reissue the Pre-Service Teacher License; and

(c) May be extended at the request of the EPP.

NOTE: Pre-Service Teacher License holders are in-field to participate in supervised field experience, clinical practice, student teaching, or residency work consistent with the grade levels of certification sought. Individuals holding valid Mississippi Licenses in teaching fields are also in-field to participate in these activities. These experiences provide license holders with an intensive and extensive culminating activity. License holders are immersed in the learning community and provided opportunities to develop and demonstrate competence in the professional roles for which they are preparing. Holding a Pre-Service Teacher License, even upon successful completion of an educator preparation program, does not automatically result in movement to the standard renewable license.

Future Additions to Requirements Section:

Complete the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics – Module/Assessment, with the following exception:

Applicants who have been continuously enrolled in the same educator preparation program since Month-Day-Year, or earlier are exempt from this requirement. Note: the term “enrolled” is defined as admitted to a program and actively taking coursework;