

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
Consent Agenda
December 16, 2021

DIVISION OF EDUCATOR LICENSURE
DIVISION OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION

- I. Approval to revise Miss. Admin. Code 7 – 4: *Licensure Guidelines K-12* to establish a new K-6 Elementary Education supplemental endorsement as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments)

Background Information: On September 10, 2021, the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development (Licensure Commission) granted approval to establish a new K-6 Elementary Education supplemental endorsement. The Division of Educator Preparation requests approval to establish an Elementary Education K-6 supplemental endorsement that would allow a practicing educator who holds a valid five-year standard renewable license and has at least three (3) years of successful teaching experience to add an Elementary Education K-6 endorsement to their existing license by completion of a Mississippi State Board of Education approved K-12 Reading supplemental endorsement: Early Literacy I, Early Literacy II, Integrating Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum, and Diagnosing and Assessing Reading Difficulties (12 hours); STEM methods (3 hours); and earn a passing score on the State Board approved licensure assessment for teaching reading (i.e., Foundations of Reading).

The public comment period was open from October 28, 2021 through 5:00 p.m. November 22, 2021 with public comments received. Based on the comments received, the MDE recommends revising the proposed policy to allow all holders of a valid standard five-year Mississippi license to add the proposed Elementary Education (K-6) supplemental endorsement by completing the requirements as outlined above. The recommended revision is not substantial and poses a benefit to all educators that hold a valid standard five-year Mississippi license.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

Summary of Administrative Procedures Act (APA) Comments

Approval to revise Miss. Admin. Code 7 – 4: Licensure Guidelines K-12 to establish a new K-6 Elementary Education supplemental endorsement as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development.

The Office of Teaching and Leading received the following APA comments regarding the establishment of a new K-6 Elementary Education supplemental endorsement.	
Summary of Comment	MDE Response
<p>Bridgette Muhammad – I would like to voice my comment on the proposed K-6 licensure endorsement. I think this is a wonderful idea. For years we have been feeling locked in with our staff once they are able to secure a 5-year alternate route license, and then we can only place them in grades 4 or 5 because they have the license acquired in grades 7-12. We are losing a lot of our k-3 teachers due to retirement and we are finding that we don't have suitable replacements. We have teacher who are excellent teachers working daily with the younger students this year on the 5 year license that they were able to acquire due to COVID-19 amendments, but who are not licensed in the K-6 area. If there was a way to get them endorsed in K-6 while they are still working on the newly acquired 7-12 license is just what we have been looking for.</p> <p>However, the passing of a new assessment may be an unnecessary hurdle. Most of the teachers who do have the 7-12 license have those licenses in the first place due to the fact that they have been unsuccessful in passing the PRAXIS in the past. I am concerned that the assessment may create the same barrier as before. I would ask that the assessment be piloted at first and see what the pass/fail participation rate is before making a mandatory cut score for passing.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>	<p>No Change – Licensure assessment requirement is consistent with all other licensure-track educator preparation program criteria.</p>
<p>Alicia Tinsley – I am writing in regards to the K-6 Endorsement. I agree, there is a shortage in Elementary Teachers. The endorsement is although a great way to fill the Gap in Elementary Teachers although the requirements are kind of overwhelming. My concern are the teachers who already have a licensure in Secondary Education like myself. I have a B.S in General Studies with Education courses. So I already have a lot Elementary Education courses which I had to switch to General Studies because I couldn't pass the Praxis Exam. What about Teachers like that? Would we have to go through the entire process to receive the K-6 Endorsement. I am currently teaching 2nd Grade under Emergency License, and I would love to stay in 2nd grade.</p>	<p>No change – Statement of support. However, the question regarding eligibility for program completion must be determined by the educator preparation provider at the time of program admission.</p>

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<p>J. Bradley Brumfield – I support the addition of this supplemental endorsement. Elementary positions are routinely difficult for me to fill in my district due to lack of appropriately-licensed applicants. That said, we sometimes utilize teachers with the 7-12 endorsements to teach down to grade 5 in a departmentalized manner in order to fill vacancies. I think adding this endorsement option is LONG overdue. It'll give, otherwise stuck in secondary education educators, a track to elementary education without a second bachelor's degree or master's degree program.</p>	<p>No change – Statement of Support.</p>
<p>Donna Shea – <u>Concerning: Miss. Admin. Code 7 – 4: Part 4: Licensure Guidelines K-12 to establish a new K-6 Elementary Education supplemental endorsement as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development</u></p> <p>Could this be amended as such?:</p> <p>The Division of Educator Preparation requests approval to establish an Elementary Education K-6 supplemental endorsement that would allow a practicing secondary educator (7-12) who holds a valid five-year standard renewable license and has at least three (3) years of successful teaching experience to add an Elementary Education K-6 endorsement to their existing license by completion of a Mississippi State Board of Education approved K-12 Reading supplemental endorsement: Early Literacy I, Early Literacy II, Integrating Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum, and Diagnosing and Assessing Reading Difficulties (12 hours); STEM methods (3 hours); and earn a passing score on the State Board approved licensure assessment for teaching reading (i.e., Foundations of Reading).</p> <p>CODE AREA</p> <p>111 Computer Applications (K-12) 114 Driver Education (7-12) 120 Elementary Education (K-6) (can only be added to a standard five-year (7-12) license)</p> <p>It would seem that this should be available to any practicing educator who holds a valid five-year standard renewable license and has at least three (3) years of successful teaching experience who makes a “C, or better” in the required 15</p>	<p>Recommend Revision – MDE recommends revising the proposed policy to allow any holder of a valid Mississippi standard educator license to add the Elementary Education K-6 supplemental endorsement by completion of the proposed requirements.</p>

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hours and earns a passing score on the Foundations of Reading. I am not sure why it would be limited to a secondary (7-12) licensed educator.	
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**APPENDIX A:
SUPPLEMENTAL ENDORSEMENTS ADDED TO A VALID MISSISSIPPI LICENSE
(CONTINUED)**

**Supplemental Endorsements that may be Added to a Three-Year or Five-Year License by
Completion of an Approved Program**

(Institutional Program Verification required)

<u>CODE</u>	<u>AREA</u>
111	Computer Applications (K-12)
114	Driver Education (7-12)
120	Elementary Education (K-6) (can only be added to a valid standard five-year license)
143	Health Education (K12)
146	Wellness and Physical Activity (K-6)
150	Nursery-Grade 1 (N-1)
154	Mathematics (7-12)
174	Reading (K-12)
177	English as a Second Language (K-12)
182	Physical Science (7-12)
193	Economics (7-12)
206	Emotional Disability (K-12)
207	Gifted (K-12)
208	Hearing Impaired (K-12)
218	Visually Impaired (K-12)
221	Mild/Moderate Disability (K-12)
222	Severe Disability (K-12) added to 221 only
223	Mild/Moderate Disability (K-8) added to elem. only
224	Mild/Moderate Disability (7-12) added to secondary or special subject license only
314	Career Technical Guidance (added only to 436)
405	Business Management (7-12)
411	Business Technology (7-12)

- 440 Library/Media (K-12)
901 Mathematics (7-8)
931 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) (K-12)

The following may be added by completion of MDE-approved Math & Science Partnerships

Added to Elementary or Special Education licenses only:

901 or 905 Math (7-8) 904 or 908 Science (7-8)

The following may be added by completion of MDE-approved Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Course: 929 – SREB Math Ready (7-12); 930 – SREB Literacy Ready (7-12)

The following may be added to a valid standard license only by completion of MDE-approved CTE program 937 – Computer Science (K-6) 933 – Computer Science (7-12)

935 – Exploring Computer Science* (7-12) (added to 933 Computer Science (7-12) Only)

983 – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics* (7-12) (added to 933 Computer Science (7-12) Only)

***Can only be added to 933 Computer Science endorsement that was obtained by completion of MDE-approved CTE program in the area of Computer Science (7-12)**

The following may be added to a valid standard license by completion of MDE-approved Mississippi Council on Economic Education (MCEE) Course: 193 – Economics (7-12); 941 – Personal Finance (7-12); 942 – College and Career Readiness (7-12)

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937 – Computer Science (K-6) 933 – Computer Science (7-12)

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