

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Item**  
**Consent Agenda**  
**July 27, 2023**

**DIVISION OF EDUCATOR LICENSURE**  
**OFFICE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION**

- Q. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: to revise Miss. Admin. Code 7-142: Career and Technical Education Licensure Guidelines to amend licensure Career Pathway, 961 Healthcare and Clinical Services and 989 Polymer Science

Background Information: On July 7, 2023, at its regular meeting, the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Licensure Commission) voted to grant approval to revise existing criteria for obtaining a license in two (2) respective Career and Technical Education (CTE) Career Pathways to educator licensure endorsements. The amended policies would become effective upon receipt of final approval by the Mississippi State Board of Education (SBE). The proposed revisions to criteria for obtaining licensure in the following Career Pathway endorsement areas are outlined as follows:

**A. Endorsement 961 Career Pathway: Healthcare and Clinical Services**

The Office of Secondary Education is requesting approval to amend the educational requirement. Currently, SBE policy requires the educator to hold a valid license with the eligibility to serve as a practicing Registered Nurse (RN). The rationale for the proposed change is that Mississippi local school district officials are having difficulty retaining RNs as teachers. Therefore, it is recommended that current policy be amended to allow the requirement of Registered Nurse be replaced by Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) as one criterion for obtaining a license to teach the courses offered under the Healthcare and Clinical Services Career Pathway.

**B. Endorsement 989 Career Pathway: Polymer Science**

The Office of Secondary Education (OSE) is requesting approval to amend the occupational experience requirement. Currently, SBE policy requires the prospective educator to have at least one year of industry experience related to the subject area. Mississippi local school district officials are having difficulty finding candidates with the industry experience that are willing to change professions. Therefore, in an effort to increase the potential pool of applicants, the OSE requests approval to waive the industry experience

criterion for those teachers that hold a valid license in the area of Chemistry or Physics.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

## 961 Career Pathway: Healthcare and Clinical Services

**This endorsement licenses a person to teach the following secondary courses:**

- 995003 Theory and Applications of Health Sciences I
- 995100 Health Sciences (Core)
- 995101 Healthcare and Clinical Services
- 995102 Health Sciences Core I
- 995103 Health Sciences Core II
- 995104 Healthcare and Clinical Services I
- 995105 Healthcare and Clinical Services II

**Minimum Requirements for this Endorsement:**

### 1. Education

- Applicant must be a ~~Registered Nurse Licensed Practical Nurse or higher~~ who is a graduate of an accredited School of Nursing with a two-year (associate) degree or higher. ~~Consideration is being given to requiring 4-year college degree in the future.~~

### 2. Technology Literacy and Related Assessment of that Competency

- Applicant must validate technology competency by attaining the established minimum score or higher on an assessment approved by the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE). The assessment must be directly related to technology competency required by the grade level and subject matter being taught. Approved assessments for this license are IC3 or other approved MDE substitute.

### 3. Occupational Experience and Related Assessment of that Experience

- Applicants with an associate degree must have at least two years of verifiable occupational experience in the past ten years. Experience must be appropriate to the subject to be taught
- Applicants with a bachelor or higher degree must have at least one year of verifiable occupational experience in the past ten years. Experience must be appropriate to the subject to be taught. *An educator with a standard five – year license may use experience outside of the ten – year timeframe.*
- Applicant must possess and maintain an unrestricted Mississippi Registered Nurse License.
- Applicant must possess and maintain CPR Certification for Health Care Provider Basic Life Support through American Heart Association.

### 4. Teacher Education Preparation and Related Assessment(s) of that Education

- Applicant must enroll immediately in Vocational Instructor Preparation (VIP) program. **(Exception: Those teachers that have a currently valid five-year license or have completed an alternate route program do not have to enroll in VIP.)**
- Applicant must complete the individualized professional development plan (PDP) requirements of the VIP program prior to the expiration date of the three-year Career & Technical license.
- Applicant must successfully complete the Certification of Online Learning (COOL) workshop, module or course approved by MDE.
- Applicant must successfully complete the Healthcare and Clinical Services Certification workshop, module, or course that is approved by the Mississippi Department of Education.

**Note:** If the applicant meets all requirements listed above, that applicant will be issued a 961 endorsement—a five-year license. If the applicant meets the educational and occupational experience requirements, but does not meet all other requirements, the applicant may be issued one (1) three-year endorsement (license), and all requirements stated above must be satisfied prior to the ending date of that license.

## 989 Career Pathway: Polymer Science

This endorsement licenses a person to teach the following secondary courses:

- 994500 Polymer Science I
- 994501 Polymer Science II
- 994502 Introduction to Polymer Science I
- 994503 Introduction to Polymer Science II
- 994504 Advanced Topics in Polymer Science
- 994505 Careers in Polymer Science

### Minimum Requirements for this Endorsement:

#### 1. Education

- Applicant must hold a four-year college degree (bachelor's degree) or higher from an accredited institution of higher education. The degree must be in polymer science, chemistry, or other appropriate field of science and must be approved by MDE program coordinator.

#### 2. Technology Literacy and Related Assessment of that Competency

- Applicant must validate technology competency by attaining the established minimum score or higher on an assessment approved by the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE). The assessment must be directly related to technology competency required by the grade level and subject matter being taught. Approved assessments for this license are IC3 or other approved MDE substitute.

#### 3. Occupational Experience and Related Assessment of that Experience

- Verification of at least one year of occupational experience in the past ten years. This experience must be appropriate to the subject area to be taught. **(Exception: Those teachers that hold a valid license in the area of Chemistry or Physics are not required to have the occupational experience.)**  
*An educator with a standard five – year license may use experience outside of the ten – year timeframe.*
- All successful applicants must hold a bachelor or higher degree in the subject area to be taught. This degree in subject area exempts applicant from any additional occupational competency testing.

#### 4. Teacher Education Preparation and Related Assessment(s) of that Education

- Applicant must enroll immediately in Vocational Instructor Preparation (VIP) program. **(Exception: Those teachers that have a currently valid five-year license or have completed an alternate route program do not have to enroll in VIP.)**
- Applicant must complete the individualized professional development plan (PDP) requirements of the VIP program prior to the expiration date of the three-year Career & Technical license.
- Applicant must successfully complete a Certification for online learning workshop, module, or course that is approved by the Mississippi Department of Education.
- Applicant must successfully complete the Polymer Science Certification workshop, module, or course that is approved by the Mississippi Department of Education.

**Note:** If the applicant meets all requirements listed above, that applicant will be issued a 989 endorsement—a five-year license. If the applicant meets the educational and occupational experience requirements, but does not meet all other requirements, the applicant may be issued one (1) three-year endorsement (license), and all requirements stated above must be satisfied prior to the ending date of that license.