

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE COMMISSION ON
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION**

LCB File No. R140-15

February 4, 2016

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~[omitted material]~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1 and 2, NRS 391.019.

A REGULATION relating to education; eliminating the endorsement to teach English as a second language; providing for an English language acquisition and development endorsement and an endorsement as a specialist in English language acquisition and development; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations prescribing the qualifications for licensing educational personnel. (NRS 391.019) Existing regulations authorize a person who has received certain education to receive an endorsement to teach English as a second language. (NAC 391.237) This regulation eliminates that endorsement and instead authorizes a person who has received certain education to receive an English language acquisition and development endorsement. This regulation also establishes the education required to receive such an endorsement. Finally, this regulation: (1) creates an endorsement as a specialist in English language acquisition and development; and (2) authorizes a person who has completed the requirements for an English language acquisition and development endorsement and received certain additional education to receive such an endorsement.

Section 1. NAC 391.237 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.237 1. To receive an *English language acquisition and development* endorsement ,
~~[to teach English as a second language,]~~ a person must have:

- (a) A valid elementary, secondary or special license, a valid license to teach special education, or a valid license to teach middle school or junior high school education; ~~[and]~~
- (b) Completed at least 3 semester hours of credit in each of the following areas of study:

(1) ~~[Methods and materials for teaching]~~ *Language acquisition theory and* English ~~[as a second]~~ language ~~[;]~~ *development practices;*

(2) ~~[Theories for the acquisition of a second language;]~~ *Methods and curriculum for teaching English language learners; and*

(3) ~~[Testing]~~ *Assessment* and evaluation of ~~[pupils studying]~~ English ~~[as a second language; and]~~

———~~(4) Developing a curriculum for pupils studying English as a second language.]~~ *language learners;*

(c) Completed at least 2 semester hours of credit in one of the following areas of study:

(1) Policies, critical issues and best practices for English language learners in prekindergarten and elementary school; or

(2) Policies, critical issues and best practices for English language learners in secondary school; and

(d) Completed at least 1 semester hour of credit of practicum, which must include, without limitation, at least 25 hours of experience working in the classroom.

2. To receive an endorsement as a professional teacher of English as a second language, a person must have completed the requirements for an *English language acquisition and development* endorsement ~~[to teach English as a second language]~~ *as described in subsection 1* and:

(a) Hold a master's degree; and

(b) Have 3 years of experience as a teacher.

3. *To receive an endorsement as a specialist in English language acquisition and development, a person must:*

- (a) Have completed the requirements for an English language acquisition and development endorsement as described in subsection 1; and*
- (b) Have completed at least 3 semester hours of credit in each of the following areas of study:*
- (1) Foundations in education in cultural and linguistic diversity; and*
 - (2) Cultural and linguistic diversity program leadership.*

4. Requirements for the successful completion of a course of study in which a person is enrolled are in addition to the requirements to receive an endorsement.

Sec. 2. A person who, on the effective date of this regulation, possesses a valid endorsement to teach English as a second language that was granted before the effective date of this regulation by the Superintendent of Public Instruction:

- 1. Shall be deemed to hold an English language acquisition and development endorsement issued by the Superintendent pursuant to NAC 391.237, as amended by section 1 of this regulation; and
- 2. May continue to renew the endorsement as if the endorsement were an English language acquisition and development endorsement issued by the Superintendent pursuant to NAC 391.237, as amended by section 1 of this regulation.