

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

LCB File No. R089-99

September 2, 1999

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

AUTHORITY: §§1-12, NRS 391.019.

Section 1. Chapter 391 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this regulation.

Sec. 2. 1. *A person may receive a limited endorsement to teach American Sign Language in kindergarten through grade 12 if:*

(a) The applicant:

(1) Holds a bachelor's degree;

(2) Has completed at least 6 semester hours of course work in professional education and the methods of teaching from a regionally accredited college or university of which at least 3 semester hours of credit must have been earned in the methods of teaching basic subjects, including, without limitation, literacy or language arts, mathematics, science and social studies; and

(3) Has completed at least 12 semester hours of course work in American Sign Language from a regionally accredited college or university; or

(b) The applicant holds:

(1) An American Sign Language Teachers Association Certificate issued by the American Sign Language Teachers Association;

(2) An Interpreting Certificate issued by the National Association for the Deaf that is at least a level 4 certificate;

(3) A Certificate of Interpretation or Certificate of Transliteration issued by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf; or

(4) A certificate as a certified deaf interpreter issued by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.

2. A limited endorsement to teach American Sign Language issued pursuant to this section is valid for 3 years and is not renewable. To continue to teach American Sign Language, the holder of a limited endorsement must complete the requirements for an endorsement to teach American Sign Language during the period of the limited endorsement.

3. The holder of a limited endorsement to teach American Sign Language may teach only the language set forth in the endorsement.

Sec. 3. 1. *A person may receive an endorsement to teach American Sign Language in kindergarten through grade 12 if:*

(a) The applicant:

(1) Holds a bachelor's degree;

(2) Has completed at least 12 semester hours of course work in professional education and the methods of teaching from a regionally accredited college or university of which at least 6 semester hours of credit must have been earned in the methods of teaching basic subjects, including, without limitation, literacy or language arts, mathematics, science and social studies; and

(3) Has completed at least 24 semester hours of course work in American Sign Language from a regionally accredited college or university; or

(b) The applicant holds:

(1) An American Sign Language Teachers Association Certificate issued by the American Sign Language Teachers Association;

(2) An Interpreting Certificate issued by the National Association for the Deaf that is at least a level 4 certificate;

(3) A Certificate of Interpretation or Certificate of Transliteration issued by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf; or

(4) A certificate as a certified deaf interpreter issued by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.

2. The holder of an endorsement to teach American Sign Language may teach only the language set forth in the endorsement.

Sec. 4. 1. *The superintendent of public instruction may issue a license and any endorsement to a person who holds a National Board Certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards if:*

(a) The person holds a license or certificate from another state; and

(b) The grade levels and subject areas for which the license or certificate issued by that state are the same as the grade levels and subjects areas for which the person requests a license in this state.

2. A person issued a license pursuant to this section is not required to comply with the provisions of NAC 391.036.

Sec. 5. NAC 391.036 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.036 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section ~~§~~ *and section 4 of this regulation*, an applicant who applies for an initial license must pass a competency test that has been approved by the commission, at the level of competence specified by the commission, in:

- (a) Basic reading, writing and mathematics;
- (b) Principles and methods of teaching; and
- (c) The subject matter of the initial area of endorsement on the license or the area of endorsement necessary for the applicant's area of assignment at the time of testing.

2. The superintendent of public instruction may exempt an applicant from any of the tests required by subsection 1 if the applicant:

- (a) Has retired from teaching in this state;
- (b) Held a special license, or a license to teach elementary or secondary education which:
 - (1) Has expired within the 3 years immediately preceding the date on which his application was submitted;
 - (2) Was free from any conditions that the applicant pass a competency test; and
 - (3) Authorized the applicant to teach in the same grade level and subject area for which he is applying to receive an initial license;
- (c) Was required, for the issuance of his expired license, to complete courses of study and experience which are substantially equivalent to the courses of study and experience required for the issuance of an initial license; and
- (d) Otherwise satisfies the requirements for the issuance of an initial license.

3. An applicant is exempt from the requirement to pass a competency test in basic reading, writing and mathematics if he submits to the department:

(a) Official documentation which indicates that he passed, at the level of competency specified by the commission:

(1) “The Pre-Professional Skills Tests” in reading, mathematics and writing, prepared and administered by the Educational Testing Service; or

(2) “The ~~[State]~~ *California* Basic *Educational* Skills ~~[Proficiency]~~ Test,” prepared and administered by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing;

(b) Evidence that he holds a license to teach that was issued by another state and has completed 3 years of full-time teaching within the immediately preceding 5 years in the subject area for which he is applying to receive an initial license in this state;

(c) Evidence that he has received a master’s or more advanced degree from a regionally accredited college or university, the receipt of which required the passage of “The General Records Examination,” prepared and administered by the Educational Testing Service, or its equivalent;

(d) An official transcript which indicates that he achieved at least a 3.0 grade-point average in his undergraduate studies and evidence that he has taken “The General Records Examination,” prepared and administered by the Educational Testing Service, and received a score of at least 420 on the verbal portion of the examination, 460 on the quantitative portion of the examination and 430 on the analytical portion of the examination; or

(e) Evidence that he completed, with a grade of B or better, a course of study in a subject area approved by the commission or the director of licensure for the department.

4. An applicant is exempt from the requirement to pass a competency test in principles and methods of teaching if he:

(a) Submits to the department official documentation which indicates that he passed, at the level of competency specified by the commission, “The Professional Knowledge Test,” prepared and administered by the Educational Testing Service;

(b) Submits to the department evidence that he holds a license that was issued by another state and has completed 3 years of full-time teaching within the immediately preceding 5 years in the subject area for which he is applying to receive an initial license in this state;

(c) Is applying for a license with an endorsement in an area for which training in the principles and methods of teaching is not required; or

(d) Is applying for an elementary endorsement and submits to the department evidence that he passed, at the level of competency specified by the commission, “The Elementary Education: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Test” and “The Elementary Education: Content Area Exercises Test,” both prepared and administered by the Educational Testing Service.

5. An applicant is exempt from the requirement to pass a competency test in the subject matter of endorsement if he:

(a) Submits to the department official documentation which indicates that he previously passed, at the level of competency specified by the commission, the competency test in that subject matter;

(b) Is applying for an initial license with an endorsement in an area for which no competency tests have been approved by the commission;

(c) Is applying for an endorsement to teach pupils who have speech and language impairments and submits to the department official documentation which indicates that he has received a certificate of clinical competence from the ~~American Speech and Hearing Association;~~ *American Speech-Language-Hearing Association;* or

(d) Is applying for an endorsement in home economics and submits to the department official documentation which indicates that he satisfactorily completed “The National Family and Consumer Sciences Examination,” prepared and administered by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

6. If a competency test in a subject matter has been reviewed by the commission for less than 1 year but is not yet approved, an applicant must take the test, but is not required to pass the test at a level of competence specified by the commission.

7. An applicant who fails to comply with the provisions of this section may not apply for a renewable license.

8. The tests required by subsection 1 will be administered three times each year at locations and times established by the commission.

Sec. 6. NAC 391.057 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.057 1. The ~~[board will]~~ *superintendent of public instruction shall* issue a conditional license to teach elementary education to pupils who are enrolled in a program of bilingual education, ~~[or]~~ a conditional license to teach secondary education *or a conditional license to teach pupils in kindergarten through grade 12 who have specific learning disabilities, emotional disturbances or mental retardation and mild to moderate needs for assistance and intervention in their educational processes* to a person who submits an application which is accompanied by proof satisfactory to the ~~[board]~~ *superintendent of public instruction* that the applicant:

(a) Holds a bachelor’s degree with a major in a field other than education from a postsecondary institution that is regionally accredited;

(b) Passed the competency test in basic reading, writing and mathematics that is required by NAC 391.036 or is eligible for an exemption from that test; and

(c) Has a negative report of an X-ray film of his chest or a tuberculin test which was completed within the 12 months immediately preceding the date on which he submitted his application.

2. In addition to the requirements of subsection 1 , an applicant for a conditional license:

(a) To teach elementary education to pupils who are enrolled in a program of bilingual education, must pass the examination required by subsection 1 of NAC 391.242, if an examination is available.

(b) To teach secondary education, must pass a competency test which has been approved by the commission in the subject matter of the area for which he will be employed to teach or provide to the department proof that he is eligible for an exemption from that test.

(c) To teach pupils in kindergarten through grade 12 who have specific learning disabilities, emotional disturbances or mental retardation and mild to moderate needs for assistance and intervention in their educational processes, must have earned at least 9 semester hours of credit in courses relating to special education from a regionally accredited postsecondary institution.

3. A conditional license to teach elementary education to pupils who are enrolled in a program of bilingual education , ~~or~~ to teach secondary education ~~or~~ *or to teach pupils in kindergarten through grade 12 who have specific learning disabilities, emotional disturbances or mental retardation and mild to moderate needs for assistance and intervention in their educational processes:*

(a) Authorizes the holder of the license to teach in a county school district or a private school that is licensed pursuant to chapter 394 of NRS, if the school district or private school has received the approval of the department to hire the holder of the license pursuant to NAC 391.058;

(b) Becomes valid on the date on which the holder of the license is employed by a school district or private school pursuant to NAC 391.058;

(c) Is valid for 3 years; and

(d) Is not renewable.

4. A person who holds a conditional license to teach elementary education to pupils who are enrolled in a program of bilingual education shall, within 2 years after *he begins* his employment with a school district or private school pursuant to NAC 391.058, provide to the school district or private school proof that he has completed at least 12 semester hours of credit which is ~~[necessary]~~ *required* for the issuance of an initial license to teach elementary education with a bilingual endorsement, excluding any credit that he has received for student teaching.

5. A person who holds a conditional license to teach secondary education shall, within 2 years after *he begins* his employment with a school district or private school pursuant to NAC 391.058, provide to the school district or private school proof that he has completed at least 9 semester hours of credit which is ~~[necessary]~~ *required* for the issuance of an initial license to teach secondary education, excluding any credit that he has received for student teaching.

6. *A person who holds a conditional license to teach pupils in kindergarten through grade 12 who have specific learning disabilities, emotional disturbances or mental retardation and mild to moderate needs for assistance and intervention in their educational processes shall, within 2 years after he begins his employment with a school district or private school pursuant*

to NRS 391.058, provide to the school district or private school proof that he has completed at least 18 semesters hours of credit, excluding any credit earned for student teaching, which is required for the issuance of an initial license to teach pupils in kindergarten through grade 12 who have specific learning disabilities, emotional disturbances or mental retardation and mild to moderate needs for assistance and intervention in their educational processes.

7. A person who holds a conditional license must complete the requirements for the issuance of an initial license to teach elementary education with a bilingual endorsement , ~~or~~ to teach secondary education *or to teach pupils in kindergarten through grade 12 who have specific learning disabilities, emotional disturbances or mental retardation and mild to moderate needs for assistance and intervention in their educational processes* within the 3 years that his conditional license is valid. If the licensee submits to the department copies of at least five evaluations issued pursuant to NRS 391.3125 which indicate that his performance has been satisfactory, the holder of the conditional license is not required to complete the 8 semester hours of supervised teaching required for the issuance of an initial license and the department shall reduce the number of hours that he is required to complete for the issuance of an initial license accordingly.

Sec. 7. NAC 391.058 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.058 1. A school district or a private school that is licensed pursuant to chapter 394 of NRS must apply to the department before it employs a person who holds a conditional license that was issued pursuant to NAC 391.057. The application must be in writing and include:

(a) Proof that the school district or private school has advertised in good faith its desire to fill a vacancy in the position of an unconditionally licensed teacher to teach elementary education to pupils who are enrolled in a program of bilingual education or an unconditionally licensed

teacher to teach secondary education in the subject area and at the grade level in which there is a vacancy ~~[;]~~, *or an unconditionally licensed teacher to teach pupils in kindergarten through grade 12 who have specific learning disabilities, emotional disturbances or mental retardation and mild to moderate needs for assistance and intervention in their educational processes;*

(b) An affidavit stating that despite the required advertisement the school district or private school was not successful in hiring an unconditionally licensed teacher to teach elementary education to pupils who are enrolled in a program of bilingual education or an unconditionally licensed teacher to teach secondary education in the subject area and at the grade level in which there is a vacancy ~~[;]~~, *or an unconditionally licensed teacher to teach pupils in kindergarten through grade 12 who have specific learning disabilities, emotional disturbances or mental retardation and mild to moderate needs for assistance and intervention in their educational processes;* and

(c) A written assurance that the school district or private school will, if required by statute or regulation, continue its efforts to hire unconditionally licensed educational personnel.

2. A superintendent of a school district or an administrator of a private school shall assign an unconditionally licensed teacher to provide assistance, guidance and training to each person it hires *to teach elementary education to pupils who are enrolled in a program of bilingual education or to teach secondary education* pursuant to this section. Before *such* a person ~~[who holds a conditional license]~~ may begin teaching, he must complete at least 3 weeks of training and orientation under the supervision of the unconditionally licensed teacher who has been assigned to assist him pursuant to this subsection.

3. *A superintendent of a school district or an administrator of a private school shall assign a postprobationary teacher who is unconditionally licensed pursuant to NAC 391.343 to*

provide assistance, guidance and training to each person the school district or private school hires to teach pupils in kindergarten through grade 12 who have specific learning disabilities, emotional disturbances or mental retardation and mild to moderate needs for assistance and intervention in their educational processes. Before such a person may begin teaching, he must complete at least 3 weeks of training and orientation under the supervision of the unconditionally licensed teacher who has been assigned to assist him pursuant to this subsection. The teacher who is assigned to the conditionally licensed teacher pursuant to this subsection must be present at each meeting concerning an individual education plan that the conditionally licensed teacher is required to attend.

4. A school district or private school shall, in consultation with a postsecondary institution which is regionally accredited and which offers courses of study and training for the education of teachers, develop a plan for each person that it hires pursuant to this section which includes:

- (a) Provisions for the evaluation of the person;
- (b) A description of the courses of study and training that the person is required to complete within the 3 years that his conditional license is valid; and
- (c) Any other training that the school district or private school considers necessary.

~~[4.]~~ 5. Each school district or private school which employs a person pursuant to this section shall cooperate with the commission and the department in the evaluation of the effectiveness of this section and NAC 391.057.

Sec. 8. NAC 391.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.060 1. Upon application, the department will issue a license for the specified number of years to a person with:

- (a) A bachelor's degree or less, for 5 years.

- (b) A master's degree and 3 years of verified teaching experience, for 6 years.
- (c) A specialist's degree and 3 years of verified teaching experience, for 8 years.
- (d) A doctoral degree and 3 years of verified teaching experience, for 10 years.

(e) A National Board Certification issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, for 10 years. If the National Board Certificate expires less than 10 years after the date of application, the license is valid for the period of the certificate.

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A license specified in this subsection is renewable.

2. Except as otherwise provided in ~~[subsection 3]~~ *this section* and NAC 391.057, a license expires on the holder's date of birth in the year of expiration.

3. A provisional license that is renewable becomes invalid on the date of expiration of the provision. If the holder of such a license provides evidence to the department of his completion of the course work required to satisfy the provision, the department will remove the provision and the license remains valid until the date of expiration of the license.

4. An endorsement becomes invalid on the date that the license to which it is attached expires.

Sec. 9. NAC 391.065 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.065 The educational prerequisites for renewal of a license are as follows:

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a license that is renewable may be renewed if its holder earns 6 semester hours of credit or the equivalent during the term of the license.

2. The holder of a license issued on a specialist's or doctor's degree *or a National Board Certification* must show evidence of professional growth in the area of endorsement during the term of the license.

Sec. 10. NAC 391.075 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.075 1. Credits for renewal may be earned by:

(a) Attending a course at, or taking a correspondence course given by, an accredited college or university, attending any state or national conference which has been approved by the department to offer credit for continuing education or taking an in-service course offered by the department or a continuing education course offered by a provider who is approved by the commission if the course or conference:

(1) Is directly related to the person's current license or will enhance the effectiveness of the person's teaching;

(2) Is in a subject for which shortages of personnel, as determined by the board, exist; or

(3) Is part of an approved program leading to an advanced degree;

(b) Engaging in foreign or domestic travel which is directly related to the area of licensure of the person and is approved not less than 30 days before departure by the department; or

(c) Completing courses given by a provider of continuing education who is approved by the commission.

2. One credit will be given for the completion of 15 hours of:

(a) Course work at a college or university accredited by a regional accrediting association;

(b) In-service courses offered by the department; or

(c) Classroom instruction in continuing education or attendance at a conference for which continuing education credits may be earned, if the provider and the course or conference have been approved by the department at least 15 days before the course or conference commences.

Two credits will be given for 6 weeks of travel, one credit for 1 month. No credit will be allowed for travel of less than 1 month.

3. A person holding a master's degree or a more advanced degree may receive ~~no~~ *not* more than 2 credits by conducting a seminar or workshop or by teaching at the college or university level, if the seminar, workshop or course being taught is in the area of licensure of the person.

4. A holder of a special license to teach occupational education may earn a maximum of two credits for 160 or more hours of full-time continuous employment in the occupational field in which he teaches and is licensed. The credit for employment must be approved by the department or a university or college.

5. *A person is entitled to receive 6 credits for the completion of the requirements for the National Board Certification upon the submission of a copy of the official assessment scores issued to that person by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. A person is not required to be a holder of a National Board Certification to receive such credits.*

6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, this section does not apply to the renewal of a special license for a limited endorsement in occupational education.

Sec. 11. NAC 391.315 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.315 *1.* To qualify for an endorsement to serve as a school psychologist, a person must:

~~(1)~~ *(a)* Have accomplished each of the following:

~~(a)~~ *(1)* Hold a graduate degree from an accredited institution;

~~(b)~~ *(2)* Have preparation in school psychology;

~~(c)~~ *(3)* Have successfully completed the areas of study listed in NAC 391.316;

~~(d)~~ *(4)* Have earned 60 semester hours of graduate credits in the areas of study listed in

NAC 391.316 and 391.317; and

~~[(e)]~~ (5) Have completed an internship in school psychology as provided in NAC 391.319;

~~[(2)]~~ (b) Hold a certificate as a nationally certified school psychologist issued by the National School Psychology Certification System of the National Association of School Psychologists; or

~~[(3)]~~ (c) Have completed a program approved by the board which prepares a person to be a school psychologist.

2. To renew an endorsement to serve as a school psychologist, the holder of the endorsement must:

(a) Comply with the provisions of NAC 391.065; or

(b) Hold a certificate of renewal as a nationally certified school psychologist issued by the National School Psychology Certification System of the National Association of School Psychologists.

Sec. 12. NAC 391.370 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.370 1. Before teaching pupils, ages 3 to 21, inclusive, who have speech and language impairments, a person must hold an endorsement issued pursuant to this section.

2. To receive the endorsement, the person must:

(a) Have completed a program of preparation for teaching pupils who have speech and language impairments, which has been approved by the board;

(b) Hold a certificate of clinical competence in speech from the ~~[American Speech and Hearing Association]~~ *American Speech-Language-Hearing Association* or an equivalent license from the board of examiners for audiology and speech pathology;

(c) Hold a license or certificate, issued by another state, with an endorsement to teach pupils who have speech and language impairments;

(d) Hold a bachelor's or master's degree in the area of speech and language impairments, and have 8 semester hours of student teaching, a clinical practicum, equivalent field experience or 1 year of verifiable teaching experience with pupils who have speech and language impairments;
or

(e) Have completed a bachelor's or master's degree and:

(1) Have completed 8 semester hours in student teaching of pupils who have speech and language impairments, a clinical practicum with ~~[such]~~ *those* pupils, equivalent field experience with ~~[such]~~ *those* pupils or 1 year of verifiable teaching experience with ~~[such]~~ *those* pupils; and

(2) Have completed at least 28 semester hours of course work, including course work in the following areas:

(I) Audiology;

(II) Methods for the assessment and treatment of the disorders of articulation, fluency, voice and language;

(III) The development of normal speech and language;

(IV) Science of speech and voice;

(V) Phonetics;

(VI) Introduction to special education or the education of pupils who have disabilities;

and

(VII) Parental involvement in programs for pupils who have disabilities.