

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

LCB File No. R120-99

October 20, 1999

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

AUTHORITY: §§1-7, 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. *Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person must hold a special license or endorsement issued pursuant to section 3 or 4 of this regulation before teaching in a program of instruction for prekindergarten pupils conducted by a public school or a private school licensed pursuant to chapter 394 of NRS.*

2. The provisions of this section do not apply to a person who:

(a) Holds an elementary license pursuant to the provisions of NAC 391.095;

(b) On July 1, 2002, is employed full time teaching pupils in such a program; and

(c) After July 1, 2002, is continuously employed full time teaching pupils in such a program.

Sec. 3. *To receive a special license or endorsement to teach pupils from birth through kindergarten, a person must hold a bachelor's degree or graduate degree from an accredited college or university and must:*

1. Have completed a program of preparation to teach such pupils that is approved by the board;

2. Hold a license to teach such pupils that was issued by another state and approved by the commission;

3. Hold an elementary license, or a secondary license that is endorsed with a major in child care, and:

(a) Have experience teaching pupils under 6 years of age that consists of:

(1) Eight semester hours of student teaching;

(2) One year of verifiable experience teaching pupils in a program of early childhood education conducted by a public school or a private school that is licensed pursuant to chapter 394 of NRS at the conclusion of which the person was eligible for reemployment; or

(3) An equivalent field experience or practicum conducted by an accredited college or university; and

(b) Have completed at least 12 semester hours of courses in early childhood education, of which:

(1) Six semester hours must consist of courses in any of the following subjects:

(I) Early childhood curriculum;

(II) Emergent language and literacy; or

(III) Play theory and creativity; and

(2) Any additional semester hours must consist of courses in any of the subjects listed in subparagraph (1) or in any of the following subjects:

(I) Child development from birth to age 8;

(II) Diversity in young children;

(III) Introduction to early childhood education;

(IV) Positive discipline and guidance for young children; or

(V) Working with families with young children;

4. If the person holds a bachelor's degree or graduate degree in child development or early childhood education, have experience teaching pupils under 6 years of age that consists of:

(a) Eight semester hours of student teaching;

(b) One year of verifiable experience teaching pupils in a program of early childhood education conducted by a public school or a private school licensed pursuant to chapter 394 of NRS at the conclusion of which the person was eligible for reemployment; or

(c) An equivalent field experience or practicum conducted by an accredited college or university; or

5. Have completed at least 35 semester hours of courses in early childhood education for children who are developing typically and atypically, consisting of:

(a) Six semester hours in child development and learning, with the content of the courses covering diversity in culture, language and ability;

(b) Fifteen semester hours in early childhood curriculum and program implementation, of which:

(1) Six semester hours must be in:

(I) Emergent language and literacy; or

(II) Integrated curriculum; and

(2) Nine semester hours must be in any of the following subjects:

(I) Curriculum for infants and toddlers;

(II) Early childhood classroom management;

(III) Emergent mathematics and science;

(IV) Play theory and creativity;

(V) Positive discipline and guidance for young children; or

(VI) Strategies for working with children with disabilities;

(c) Three semester hours in family and community relations, including working with families;

(d) Three semester hours in assessment and evaluation for early childhood education; and

(e) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, 8 semester hours of student teaching involving pupils in at least two different age groups, such as pupils under 3 years of age and pupils from 3 to 5 years of age. At least 1 semester hour must involve pupils with and without disabilities. In lieu of completing eight semester hours of student teaching, a person may have 1 year of verifiable experience teaching pupils under 6 years of age in a program of early childhood education conducted by a public school or a private school licensed pursuant to chapter 394 of NRS at the conclusion of which the person was eligible for reemployment.

Sec. 4. *To receive a special license or endorsement to teach pupils from birth through the second grade, a person must hold a bachelor's degree or graduate degree from an accredited college or university and must:*

1. Have completed a program of preparation to teach such pupils that is approved by the board;

2. Hold a license to teach such pupils that was issued by another state and approved by the commission;

3. Hold an elementary license, or a secondary license that is endorsed with a major in child care, and:

(a) Have experience teaching pupils under 6 years of age that consists of:

- (1) Eight semester hours of student teaching;*
 - (2) One year of verifiable experience teaching pupils in a program of early childhood education conducted by a public school or a private school licensed pursuant to chapter 394 of NRS at the conclusion of which the person was eligible for reemployment; or*
 - (3) An equivalent field experience or practicum conducted by an accredited college or university;*
- (b) Have completed at least 6 semester hours of courses in early childhood education, consisting of courses in any of the following subjects:*
- (1) Early childhood curriculum;*
 - (2) Emergent language and literacy; or*
 - (3) Play theory and creativity; and*
- (c) Have completed at least 6 additional semester hours of courses in any of the courses described in paragraph (b) or in any of the following subjects:*
- (1) Child development from birth to age 8;*
 - (2) Diversity in young children;*
 - (3) Introduction to early childhood education;*
 - (4) Positive discipline and guidance for young children; or*
 - (5) Working with families with young children; or*
- 4. Have completed at least 35 semester hours of courses in early childhood education for children who are developing typically and atypically consisting of:*
- (a) Six semester hours in child development and learning, with the content of the courses covering diversity in culture, language and ability;*

(b) Twelve semester hours in early childhood curriculum and program implementation that include at least one course in each of the following subjects:

- (1) Language and literacy;*
- (2) Mathematics and science;*
- (3) Social studies; and*
- (4) Strategies for working with children with disabilities;*

(c) Three additional semester hours in early childhood curriculum and program implementation, consisting of courses in any of the following subjects:

- (1) Curriculum for infants and toddlers;*
- (2) Early childhood classroom management;*
- (3) Integrated curriculum;*
- (4) Play theory and creativity;*
- (5) Positive discipline and guidance for young children; or*
- (6) Technology;*

(d) Three semester hours in family and community relations, including working with families;

(e) Three semester hours in assessment and evaluation for early childhood education; and

(f) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, 8 semester hours of student teaching involving pupils in at least two different age groups, one of which must have included pupils in the first or second grade and one of which must have included pupils of any age from birth through kindergarten. At least one of the groups must have included pupils with and without disabilities. In lieu of completing eight semester hours of student teaching, a person may have 1 year of verifiable experience teaching pupils under 6 years of age in a program of early

childhood education conducted by a public school or a private school licensed pursuant to chapter 394 of NRS at the conclusion of which the person was eligible for reemployment.

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

391.036 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, 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 Basic Skills Proficiency}~~ *California Basic Educational Skills* 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,}”~~ *Graduate Record Examinations,*” 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,}”~~ *Graduate Record Examinations,*” 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 ~~or~~; *or*

(e) Is applying for a special license to teach pupils from birth through kindergarten pursuant to section 3 of this regulation.

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]~~ *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 *Certification* 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 391.098 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.098 1. To receive an endorsement on an elementary license, a person must complete 12 semester hours of credit within the area of the endorsement, except that:

(a) An endorsement for English requires the completion of 3 semester hours of courses in advanced composition, descriptive grammar and speech.

(b) An endorsement to teach pupils who are enrolled in a program of bilingual education requires the applicant to pass the examination required by subsection 1 of NAC 391.242, if an examination is available.

2. The board recognizes the following subjects for an endorsement on an elementary license:

- (a) Art.
- (b) Computers and technology relating to the use of computers.
- (c) English.
- (d) Health.
- (e) Mathematics.
- (f) Literacy.
- (g) Science.
- (h) Social studies.
- (i) ~~Early childhood education.~~
- ~~(j)~~ Physical education.
- ~~(k)~~ (j) Bilingual education.
- ~~(h)~~ (k) Music.

3. An endorsement on an elementary license is not required to teach in kindergarten through eighth grade. The provisions of this subsection do not prohibit a school district from requiring a specific endorsement on an elementary license as a requirement for employment with that district.

Sec. 7. 1. This section and sections 1, 3, 4 and 5 of this regulation become effective upon filing with the secretary of state.

2. Sections 2 and 6 of this regulation become effective on July 1, 2002.