

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

LCB File No. R076-19

October 23, 2019

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

AUTHORITY: §1, NRS 385.080, 391.019, 391.040 and section 3 of Senate Bill No. 100, chapter 166, Statutes of Nevada 2019, at page 888; §2, NRS 385.080 and 391.019; §3, NRS 391.019; §§4 and 5, NRS 391.019 and 391.032; §6, NRS 391.019, 391.021 and 391.032.

A REGULATION relating to educational personnel; revising requirements for obtaining certain licenses to teach; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law authorizes the State Board of Education to adopt regulations to execute its powers and duties as necessary. (NRS 385.080) Existing law also requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other educational personnel. (NRS 391.019) Existing regulations outline various requirements for obtaining a license to teach. (NAC 391.045, 391.050, 391.052, 391.054, 391.0535 and 391.0575)

Section 1 of this regulation requires an applicant for the initial issuance of a license as a teacher or other educational employee to submit with his or her application evidence that the applicant has successfully completed coursework or continuing education regarding parental involvement and family engagement. **Section 1** also requires the Department of Education to take any necessary steps to expedite the processing of an application for a license to teach or an endorsement for an applicant who is (1) a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; (2) the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces; or (3) a veteran of the Armed Forces. **Section 3** of this regulation outlines certain requirements for approving the standards for licensing teachers from a foreign country. **Sections 4 and 5** of this regulation outline certain requirements and restrictions for issuing a license to a teacher licensed to teach in a foreign country. **Section 6** of this regulation consolidates the educational requirements for obtaining an initial license to teach in certain subject areas. **Section 6** also authorizes certain persons to obtain a license as if the person has completed an alternative route to licensure program in this State if the person has completed an alternative route to licensure program in another state.

Section 2 of this regulation authorizes a transcript to be submitted to the Department via electronic mail by a transcript clearinghouse or by the college or university that issues the transcript.

Section 1. NAC 391.045 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.045 1. An applicant for the initial issuance of a license as a teacher or other educational employee must submit with his or her application:

(a) His or her official transcripts;

(b) Evidence that the applicant has successfully completed:

(1) At least 3 semester hours of credit in a course of study regarding education or curricular adaptation for pupils with disabilities; or

(2) ~~Professional development~~ *Professional development* or a continuing education course regarding education or curricular adaptation for pupils with disabilities that is approved by the Department;

~~and~~

(c) *Evidence that the applicant has successfully completed:*

(1) At least 3 semester hours of credit in a course of study regarding parental involvement and family engagement that:

(I) Is consistent with the elements and goals for effective involvement and engagement set forth in NRS 392.457; and

(II) Includes an emphasis on building relationships, outreach to families and developing an appreciation and understanding of families from diverse backgrounds; or

(2) At least 45 contact hours of professional development or continuing education regarding parental involvement and family engagement that is approved by the Department and:

(I) Is consistent with the elements and goals for effective involvement and engagement set forth in NRS 392.457; and

(II) Includes an emphasis on building relationships, outreach to families and developing an appreciation and understanding of families from diverse backgrounds; and

(d) Except as otherwise provided in NAC 391.0565, a fee of \$180, which includes the fees for processing the fingerprints of the applicant by the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The fee does not include the cost of any examination required by NAC 391.036.

2. If the applicant is not eligible for licensure, the fee will not be returned. The applicant must pay another fee if he or she applies again.

3. An applicant for an endorsement to an existing license or for an additional license must submit with his or her application:

(a) Current official transcripts; and

(b) A fee of \$50.

4. The academic credits required to obtain initial licensing or an endorsement to an existing license are not satisfiable by the completion of courses offered by a provider of continuing education, but those courses may be used for the renewal of a license.

5. The Department shall take any necessary steps to expedite the processing of an application for a license or endorsement submitted by a person who is:

(a) A member of the Armed Forces of the United States;

(b) The spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; or

(c) A veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Sec. 2. NAC 391.050 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.050 1. Transcripts must be evaluated in terms of semester hours. A quarter hour equals two-thirds of a semester hour.

2. Transcripts become a part of the applicant's file when a license is issued and will not be returned.

3. Transcripts must ~~have~~ :

(a) *Bear* an original, official seal of the college or university and the signature of the registrar ~~+~~; *or*

(b) *Be submitted to the Department via electronic mail by a transcript clearinghouse or by the college or university that issues the transcript.*

4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a transcript from a foreign country must be evaluated for the type of degree received by the teacher and level of course work taken by the teacher. Such evaluation must be based on a translation of the transcript from an agent of the Department who is approved by the Department to perform such a translation. A transcript from a Canadian college or university must be evaluated pursuant to this subsection only if the transcript is in a language other than English.

Sec. 3. NAC 391.052 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.052 1. The Commission will approve the standards for licensing teachers of another state *or foreign country* for the purposes of subsection 2 of NRS 391.167 if:

(a) The state *or foreign country* in which the teacher earned the previous teaching service is a signatory with this State on the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification Interstate Contract; or

(b) The Department has determined that the state *or foreign country* in which the teacher earned the previous teaching service has standards for licensing a teacher that are similar to the standards for licensing a teacher in this State.

2. The Commission will not give credit to a teacher pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 391.167 for previous teaching service earned in a program of homeschooling.

3. As used in this section, “previous teaching service” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 391.167.

Sec. 4. NAC 391.054, as amended by LCB File Number R102-17 and R107-17, is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.054 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the Superintendent of Public Instruction may issue a license to teach special education to a person who is licensed and endorsed to teach special education in any other state *or foreign country* and may issue a license with any other endorsement to a person who is licensed or certified in a state *or foreign country* that has entered into an interstate certification contract with the State of Nevada through the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification if:

(a) The applicant holds a *valid* license or certificate issued by the other state ~~{}~~ *or foreign country*;

(b) The applicant ~~{holds}~~ :

(1) Holds a bachelor’s *or more advanced* degree from an institution accredited by a regional accrediting association ; *or*

(2) Holds a bachelor’s or more advanced degree from an institution in a foreign country that the Department has determined to be equivalent to a degree from a regionally accredited institution in the United States, based upon a review and evaluation of the transcripts of that institution pursuant to NAC 391.050; and {has}

(3) Has completed any postbaccalaureate studies required in this State for the issuance of a license;

(c) The license or certificate issued by the other state is not:

(1) A temporary permit, an emergency, alternative or provisional license or a credential to teach multiple subjects;

(2) A license or certificate for which completion of a bachelor's or higher degree is unnecessary; *or*

~~(3) [A license or certificate for which completion of professional education course work through a college or university accredited by a regional accrediting association is unnecessary; or~~

~~—(4)]~~ A letter or other form of authorization from another state or a county, city, school district or department of education in another state which entitles the person to teach in the same capacity as a licensed teacher on a temporary basis; *and*

(d) The grade levels and subject areas covered by the license or certificate issued by the other state are the same as the grade levels and subject areas for which the applicant is seeking licensure in this State. ~~}; and~~

~~—(e) The applicant has satisfactorily taught in the other state, in an assignment similar to the assignment for which licensure is sought in this State, during at least 3 out of the 5 years immediately preceding the application for licensure in Nevada.]~~

2. If the applicant has not complied with the requirements of NAC 391.036 at the time he or she applies for a license pursuant to this section, the Superintendent of Public Instruction may only issue a provisional license to the applicant. The provisional license is not renewable.

Sec. 5. NAC 391.0535 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.0535 The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall not issue a license pursuant to this chapter to a person who holds a license or certificate to teach issued by another state *or foreign*

country that is suspended, revoked or otherwise restricted pursuant to a disciplinary action in the other state ~~†~~ *or foreign country*.

Sec. 6. NAC 391.0575 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.0575 *1.* A person who is issued a provisional license pursuant to NAC 391.057 may apply for an initial license to teach secondary education or to teach pupils enrolled in a program of early childhood education or in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12 , inclusive, in a specific area listed in subsection 1 of NAC 391.0573, as applicable, if the applicant:

~~††~~ *(a)* Successfully completes at least ~~††~~ *14* semester credits of course work in pedagogy provided by a qualified provider for a program for an alternative route to licensure, consisting of ~~†~~ *at least:*

- ~~—(a) Three semester credits in a course of study regarding classroom management, which may include, without limitation, instruction concerning adolescent growth and development;~~
- ~~—(b) Three semester credits in a course of study regarding English as a second language, which may include, without limitation, instruction concerning methods and materials for teaching English as a second language, theories for the acquisition of a second language, testing and evaluation of pupils studying English as a second language and developing a curriculum for pupils studying English as a second language;~~
- ~~—(c) Three semester credits in a course of study regarding curriculum and instruction, which may include, without limitation, multicultural education and instruction concerning the use of technology in education, methods for teaching the integration of technology in secondary education, pedagogy and the teaching of literacy and language arts;~~
- ~~—(d) Three semester credits in a course of study regarding assessment, which may include, without limitation, instruction concerning educational psychology and tests and measurement;~~

~~—(e) Three semester credits in a course of study regarding education or curricular adaptation for pupils with disabilities; and~~

~~—(f) :~~

(1) Three semester credits in the methods and materials:

~~{(1)}~~ *(I) For teaching in the applicant's desired area of licensure at the secondary grade level; or*

~~{(2)}~~ *(II) For teaching pupils enrolled in a program of early childhood education or in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12 , inclusive, in a specific area listed in subsection 1 of NAC 391.0573; and*

(2) Any other courses in education approved by the Commission at the grade level for which the applicant is seeking licensure;

~~{2}~~ *(b) Submits proof satisfactory to the Superintendent of Public Instruction that the applicant 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*

~~{3}~~ *(c) Pays the required fee pursuant to NAC 391.045.*

2. A person who has completed the equivalent of an alternative route to licensure program in another state may obtain a license as if such person has completed an approved alternative route to licensure program of this State if he or she is:

(a) A member of the Armed Forces of the United States;

(b) The spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; or

(c) A veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States.