

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

LCB File No. R026-20

May 4, 2020

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

AUTHORITY: §§1, 3 and 4, NRS 391.019; §2, NRS 391.019 and 391.032; §5, NRS 391.019, 391.037 and 391.038.

A REGULATION relating to education; requiring teachers to meet certain requirements to receive certain endorsements; requiring a provider of an alternative route to licensure program to include certain coursework in the program; requiring an institution which wishes to offer a course of study or training for the education of teachers to include certain coursework in the program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations relating to the licensure of teachers and other educational personnel. (NRS 391.019) The Commission must also adopt regulations providing for the licensure of persons who obtain a license pursuant to an alternative route to licensure. (NRS 391.032) Existing law also requires the Commission to adopt regulations to approve a course of study or training offered by an educational institution to qualify a person to be a teacher. (NRS 391.037, 391.038)

Existing regulations authorize a person to receive an endorsement to teach computer technology-based applications and computational thinking if he or she meets certain requirements. (NAC 391.202) **Section 1** of this regulation changes that endorsement to be an endorsement to teach introductory computer science. **Section 1** also expands the types of license a person may hold to receive the endorsement.

Existing regulations outline the requirements a person must meet to receive an endorsement to teach pupils who are participating in the Jobs for America’s Graduates program in Nevada. (NAC 391.253) **Section 3** of this regulation authorizes a person to receive such an endorsement if he or she meets certain basic requirements and: (1) holds a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university; (2) has at least 4 years of certain professional experience; or (3) receives approval to receive the endorsement from the Executive Director of Jobs for America’s Graduates. **Section 3** further outlines the requirements a person must meet to receive approval from the Executive Director.

Existing regulations provide for a person to receive an English language acquisition and development endorsement if he or she meets certain requirements. (NAC 391.237) Existing regulations outline the requirements for a program for an alternative route to licensure to receive approval from the Commission. (NAC 391.461) Existing regulations also outline the requirements for a course of study and training for the education of teachers to receive approval from the Superintendent of Public Instruction. (NAC 391.557) **Section 4** of this regulation requires a program for an alternative route to licensure to include certain coursework related to language acquisition theory and English language development, while **section 5** of this regulation requires the same of a course of study and training for the education of teachers or other educational personnel. **Section 2** of this regulation requires a person who is enrolled in a program for an alternative route to licensure or a course of study or training for the education of teachers to take certain coursework related to language acquisition theory and English language development. **Section 2** authorizes a person enrolled in such a program that does not offer the required coursework to still receive an English language acquisition and development endorsement if he or she is enrolled in such a program: (1) to receive a license for early childhood or elementary education before July 1, 2021; or (2) to receive a license for middle school or junior high school or secondary education before July 1, 2022.

Section 1. NAC 391.202 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.202 To receive an endorsement to teach *introductory* computer ~~technology-based applications and computational thinking~~ *science* that includes issues relating to information technology, tools for productivity, communication and research and computational thinking ~~in~~ *in kindergarten through grade 12*, a person must have 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 must have completed 9 semester hours of course work, consisting of:

1. Three semester hours of coursework in a course of study that covers methods for teaching computer science;
2. Three semester hours of coursework in a course of study that covers concepts in computer science; and
3. Three semester hours of coursework in a course of study that covers methods for teaching computer applications which include, without limitation:

- (a) Word processing and the use of spreadsheets;
- (b) Communication and collaboration tools;
- (c) Internet research tools;
- (d) Internet safety; and
- (e) Proper keyboarding techniques.

Sec. 2. NAC 391.237 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.237 1. ~~[(e)]~~ *Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (l) of subsection 1 of NAC 391.461 and paragraph (i) of subsection 1 of NAC 391.557, to* receive an English language acquisition and development endorsement, a person must have:

(a) A valid elementary, secondary or special license, a valid license to teach special education, *a valid license to teach pupils in a program of early childhood education* or a valid license to teach middle school or junior high school education;

(b) Completed at least 3 semester hours of credit in each of the following areas of study:

- (1) Language acquisition theory and English language development practices;
- (2) Methods and curriculum for teaching English learners; and
- (3) Assessment and evaluation of English 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 learners in prekindergarten and elementary school; or

(2) Policies, critical issues and best practices for English 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 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.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 1, a person who is enrolled in a program for an alternative route to licensure or an approved course of study or training for the education of teachers or other educational personnel that does not offer the coursework outlined in paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of subsection 1, may still receive an English language acquisition and development endorsement:

(a) If he or she is enrolled in a program to earn a license to teach elementary education or to teach pupils in a program of early childhood education before July 1, 2021; or

(b) If he or she is enrolled in a program to earn a license to teach middle school or junior high school education or secondary education before July 1, 2022.

Sec. 3. NAC 391.253 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.253 1. A person who holds an endorsement to teach pupils who are participating in the Jobs for America's Graduates program in Nevada may teach pupils in grades 6 to 12, inclusive, who are enrolled in a course provided by Jobs for Nevada's Graduates, Inc. Such a person shall not teach other pupils for whom a separate license or endorsement is required to teach unless he or she holds the required license or endorsement.

2. ~~For~~ *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, to* receive an endorsement to teach pupils who are participating in the Jobs for America's Graduates program in Nevada, a person must:

(a) ~~Hold a bachelor's degree;~~

~~(b)~~ Successfully complete a training program approved by the Department; ~~and~~

~~(c)~~ *(b)* Secure an offer of employment from the Executive Director of Jobs for Nevada's Graduates, Inc., the board of trustees of a school district, the governing body of a charter school or the principal of an achievement charter school ~~;~~ *and*

(c) Show that he or she:

(1) Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university;

(2) Has at least 4 years of professional experience as a:

(I) Social worker;

(II) Case manager;

(III) Qualified trainer; or

(IV) Parole or probation officer; or

(3) Has approval to receive an endorsement to teach pupils who are participating in the Jobs for America's Graduates program in writing from the Executive Director of Jobs for America's Graduates.

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, to receive approval from the Executive Director of Jobs for America's Graduates pursuant to subparagraph (3) of paragraph (c) of subsection 2, a person must:

(a) Hold a valid substitute teaching license in this State; or

(b) Show proof of at least 4 years of experience as a qualified professional in a related field.

4. A person may be exempted from the requirements of subsection 3 to receive approval from the Executive Director of Jobs for America's Graduates if:

(a) The person holds a valid special license or provisional special license with an endorsement as a substitute teacher in this State;

(b) The offer of employment secured by the person pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 is for a position within:

(1) A school district whose enrollment of pupils is 9,000 or less; or

(2) Any geographic area of this State for which the Executive Director of Jobs for America's Graduates certifies in writing that no other qualified person is available to fill; and

(c) The Executive Director of Jobs for America's Graduates has given written approval for such an exemption.

Sec. 4. NAC 391.461 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.461 1. An institution of higher education or any other provider that operates independently of an institution of higher education which wishes to offer a program for an

alternative route for the licensure of teachers and administrators in this State must apply to the Commission on a form prescribed by the Department for approval to become a qualified provider of such a program. The application must include, without limitation:

- (a) The name and location of the applicant;
- (b) The name of the program;
- (c) If the applicant is accredited, the name of the regional accrediting body and the accreditation status of the applicant;
- (d) If the applicant is a private postsecondary educational institution, as defined in NRS 394.099, evidence that the applicant is licensed to operate by the Commission pursuant to chapter 394 of NRS;
- (e) A description of the budget of the program;
- (f) The areas of licensure for which the applicant will offer the program;
- (g) A description of the program, which must include, without limitation:
 - (1) The way in which the elements of the program will comply with the requirements of this chapter and chapter 391 of NRS;
 - (2) The application and review process for persons to enroll in the program, including, without limitation, a copy of all forms that will be used in the process; and
 - (3) The supervised, school-based experiences the applicant will provide as required by NRS 391.019, including, without limitation:
 - (I) The name of each school and school district that will participate in the supervised, school-based experience;

(II) The length of time for which a student will be required to participate in the supervised, school-based experience, including, without limitation, any orientation that the student must complete;

(III) The manner by which students will be mentored by a postprobationary teacher and evaluated during the supervised, school-based experience;

(IV) How the supervised, school-based experience will promote the effectiveness of teachers; and

(V) A copy of all forms that will be used for the supervised, school-based experience process;

(h) A list of all staff members for the program, the roles and responsibilities of each person and his or her credentials;

(i) A statement of the estimated time it will take a student enrolled in the program to complete the program, which must allow for completion of the program within 2 years but not more than 3 years;

(j) A description of the manner by which the applicant will evaluate the success or failure of each student enrolled in the program and track the progress of each such student, including a copy of all forms that will be used for the evaluation and tracking;

(k) A description of how the applicant will evaluate the success of the program, which must include the information required for the evaluation pursuant to NRS 391.039; ~~and~~

(l) *The proposed course work for the course of study and training, which must include, without limitation, the courses described in paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of subsection 1 of NAC 391.237; and*

(m) Any other information required by the Department or the Commission.

2. Upon receipt of an application for approval as a qualified provider pursuant to subsection 1, the Commission will appoint a review team to review the application consisting of:

- (a) Two members of the Commission selected by the Commission;
- (b) The Secretary to the Commission; and
- (c) Two employees of the Department selected by the Secretary to the Commission.

3. The review team shall:

- (a) Examine the application;
- (b) Determine whether to recommend that the Commission grant its approval of the application; and
- (c) Submit its recommendation to the Commission.

4. The Commission will review the recommendation of the review team submitted pursuant to subsection 3 and provide to the applicant written notice of its approval or denial. The Commission may grant provisional approval to an applicant pursuant to subsection 5. If the Commission denies an application, the applicant may correct any deficiencies identified in the notice of denial and resubmit the application for review by the Commission.

5. If the Commission grants an applicant provisional approval, the applicant may offer the program for an alternative route to licensure described in the application for the period prescribed by the Commission. The applicant must remove all the provisions under which the approval was issued before the expiration of the provisional approval. If the applicant removes the provisions within the prescribed time, the Commission will grant nonprovisional approval to the applicant as a qualified provider. Provisional approval is valid for 2 years after the date on which the Commission granted provisional approval. If an applicant does not remove all the provisions within the prescribed time, the provisional approval is automatically revoked.

6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, if an applicant is approved as a qualified provider pursuant to this section, the approval is valid for 2 years after the date of approval. To continue the approval, the qualified provider must submit an application for renewal before the expiration of the approval to the Commission on a form prescribed by the Department. If the application for renewal is approved by the Commission, the renewal is valid for 2 years after the date of the approval.

7. If a qualified provider intends to offer a program for an alternative route to licensure for an area of licensure that is different from the area of licensure for which the qualified provider has been approved, the qualified provider must submit a new application pursuant to subsection 1 to offer a program for an alternative route to licensure for that area of licensure.

8. Each qualified provider must be evaluated on an annual basis pursuant to NRS 391.039. The Department shall:

- (a) Present the results of the evaluation to the Commission; and
- (b) After the results have been presented to the Commission, post the evaluation on the Department's Internet website.

9. Each qualified provider shall cooperate with the Commission and the Department in the evaluation of the effectiveness of this section and NAC 391.057.

Sec. 5. NAC 391.557 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.557 1. An institution which wishes to offer a course of study and training for the education of teachers or other educational personnel which is designed to provide the education required for the issuance of an elementary, secondary or special license, a license to teach special education or a license to teach pupils in a program of early childhood education, renewal of such a license or an endorsement in a field of specialization must file with the Superintendent of

Public Instruction, at least 180 calendar days before the first date of instruction, an application for approval of the course of study and training. The application must include:

- (a) The name and location of the institution;
- (b) A copy of the articles of incorporation or charter for the institution;
- (c) Proof of the financial solvency of the institution, including financial resources available to the institution in this State;
- (d) If the institution is accredited, as that term is defined in NRS 394.006, information concerning the accreditation;
- (e) The proposed operating budget for the course of study and training;
- (f) A description of the governance of the institution, including the name of the chief administrative officer of the institution, and the system established for accountability of the course of study and training at the institution;
- (g) A description of the course of study and training, including:
 - (1) If the course is designed for teachers:
 - (I) A description of the course's compliance with the standards for new teachers developed by the Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium, as set forth in the *Model Core Teaching Standards: A Resource for State Dialogue* adopted pursuant to NAC 391.556; and
 - (II) Documentation which verifies that the course uses a performance-based assessment of its candidates;
 - (2) If the course is designed for educational personnel other than teachers, a description of the course's compliance with the standards established by a nationally recognized association for the professional specialization for which the applicant seeks the approval of the Board; and

(3) If applicable, a description of the course's compliance with subsection 9 of NAC 391.558;

(h) The qualifications a person must hold to provide instruction for the course of study and training;

(i) The proposed course work for the course of study and training ~~§~~, *which must include, without limitation, the courses described in paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of subsection 1 of NAC 391.237;*

(j) A written statement that describes the manner in which the course of study and training addresses the standards of content and performance established by the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools pursuant to NRS 389.520; and

(k) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, a written assessment plan that describes the:

- (1) Conceptual framework for the course of study and training;
- (2) Knowledge and skills that a student who is enrolled in the course of study and training must demonstrate;
- (3) Manner by which the course of study and training will be assessed and evaluated;
- (4) Field experience and clinical practice offered by the course of study and training;
- (5) Diversity of the population of students who participate in the course of study and training; and
- (6) Performance and development of the faculty who provide instruction for the course of study and training.

↪ If an institution is accredited by the ~~§National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education;~~ *Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation*, the institution may submit

written proof of such accreditation in lieu of the written assessment plan required by this paragraph.

2. Upon receipt of an application for approval of a course of study and training which is designed to provide the education required for issuance of an elementary, secondary or special license, a license to teach special education or a license to teach pupils in a program of childhood education, renewal of such a license or an endorsement in a field of specialization, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall notify the Board that an application has been received.

3. The Department shall develop a manual that:

(a) Assists in the development of a written assessment plan required by paragraph (k) of subsection 1;

(b) Describes the process for approval of a course of study and training; and

(c) Includes:

(1) The procedures acceptable to the Department to assess the results of students in a course of study and training based upon the standards developed by the Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium, as set forth in the *Model Core Teaching Standards: A Resource for State Dialogue* adopted pursuant to NAC 391.556;

(2) The standards of nationally recognized professional associations of educational personnel other than teachers, as applicable; and

(3) The program standards adopted by the ~~National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education~~ *Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation*.

↪ The Department shall maintain a copy of the manual and, upon the request of an institution, the Department shall provide a copy of the manual to the institution.