

# Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item



Agenda Item: P

Date: October 27, 2016

<b>Title</b>	First Review of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure's Recommendation to Amend the <i>Licensure Regulations for School Personnel</i> to Comply with House Bill 261 of the 2016 Virginia General Assembly (Fast Track)		
<b>Presenter</b>	Mrs. Patty S. Pitts, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure		
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:Patty.Pitts@doe.virginia.gov">Patty.Pitts@doe.virginia.gov</a>	<b>Phone</b>	(804) 371-2522

**Purpose of Presentation:**

Action required by state or federal law or regulation.

**Previous Review or Action:**

No previous review or action.

**Action Requested:**

Action will be requested at a future meeting. Specify anticipated date below:  
November 17, 2016

**Alignment with Board of Education Goals: Please indicate (X) all that apply:**

	Goal 1: Accountability for Student Learning
	Goal 2: Rigorous Standards to Promote College and Career Readiness
	Goal 3: Expanded Opportunities to Learn
	Goal 4: Nurturing Young Learners
X	Goal 5: Highly Qualified and Effective Educators
	Goal 6: Sound Policies for Student Success
	Goal 7: Safe and Secure Schools
	Other Priority or Initiative. Specify:

**Background Information and Statutory Authority:**

Goal 5: In promulgating these regulations, the Board of Education is ensuring that the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel* comport with the following legislation passed by the General Assembly.

[House Bill 261](#)

The 2016 General Assembly passed House Bill 261 that requires the Board of Education to provide for the issuance of a provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years, to any former member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the Virginia National Guard who has received an honorable discharge and has the appropriate level of experience or training but does not meet the requirements for a renewable license.

## CHAPTER 389

*An Act to amend and reenact § 22.1-298.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to former members of the Armed Forces of the United States or the Virginia National Guard; provisional teaching licenses.*

[\[H 261\]](#)

Approved March 11, 2016

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § **22.1-298.1** of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ **22.1-298.1**. Regulations governing licensure.

A. As used in this section:

"Alternate route to licensure" means a nontraditional route to teacher licensure available to individuals who meet the criteria specified in the regulations issued by the Board of Education.

"Industry certification credential" means an active career and technical education credential that is earned by successfully completing a Board of Education-approved industry certification examination, being issued a professional license in the Commonwealth, or successfully completing an occupational competency examination.

"Licensure by reciprocity" means a process used to issue a license to an individual coming into the Commonwealth from another state when that individual meets certain conditions specified in the Board of Education's regulations.

"Professional teacher's assessment" means those tests mandated for licensure as prescribed by the Board of Education.

"Provisional license" means a nonrenewable license issued by the Board of Education for a specified period of time, not to exceed three years, to an individual who may be employed by a school division in the Commonwealth and who generally meets the requirements specified in the Board of Education's regulations for licensure, but who may need to take additional coursework or pass additional assessments to be fully licensed with a renewable license.

"Renewable license" means a license issued by the Board of Education for five years to an individual who meets the requirements specified in the Board of Education's regulations.

B. The Board of Education shall prescribe, by regulation, the requirements for the licensure of teachers and other school personnel required to hold a license. Such regulations shall include requirements for the denial, suspension, cancellation, revocation, and reinstatement of licensure. The Board of Education shall revoke the license of any person for whom it has received a notice of dismissal or resignation pursuant to subsection F of § **22.1-313** and, in the case of a person who is the subject of a founded complaint of child abuse or neglect, after all rights to any appeal provided by § **63.2-1526** have been exhausted. Regardless of the authority of any other agency of the Commonwealth to approve educational programs, only the Board of Education shall have the authority to license teachers to be regularly employed by school boards, including those teachers employed to provide nursing education.

The Board of Education shall prescribe by regulation the licensure requirements for teachers who teach only online courses, as defined in § 22.1-212.23. Such license shall be valid only for teaching online courses. Teachers who hold a five-year renewable license issued by the Board of Education may teach online courses for which they are properly endorsed.

C. The Board of Education's regulations shall include requirements that a person seeking initial licensure:

1. Complete professional assessments as prescribed by the Board of Education;
2. Complete study in attention deficit disorder;
3. Complete study in gifted education, including the use of multiple criteria to identify gifted students; and
4. Complete study in methods of improving communication between schools and families and ways of increasing family involvement in student learning at home and at school.

D. In addition, such regulations shall include requirements that:

1. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license demonstrate proficiency in the use of educational technology for instruction;
2. Every person seeking initial licensure and persons seeking licensure renewal as teachers who have not completed such study shall complete study in child abuse recognition and intervention in accordance with curriculum guidelines developed by the Board of Education in consultation with the Department of Social Services that are relevant to the specific teacher licensure routes;
3. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license shall receive professional development in instructional methods tailored to promote student academic progress and effective preparation for the Standards of Learning end-of-course and end-of-grade assessments;
4. Every person seeking renewal of a license shall complete all renewal requirements, including professional development in a manner prescribed by the Board, except that no person seeking renewal of a license shall be required to satisfy any such requirement by completing coursework and earning credit at an institution of higher education;
5. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license shall provide evidence of completion of certification or training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators. The certification or training program shall be based on the current national evidence-based emergency cardiovascular care guidelines for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator, such as a program developed by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross. The Board shall provide a waiver for this requirement for any person with a disability whose disability prohibits such person from completing the certification or training;
6. Every person seeking licensure with an endorsement as a teacher of the blind and visually impaired shall demonstrate proficiency in reading and writing Braille; and

7. Every teacher seeking an initial license in the Commonwealth with an endorsement in the area of career and technical education shall have an industry certification credential in the area in which the teacher seeks endorsement. If a teacher seeking an initial license in the Commonwealth has not attained an industry certification credential in the area in which the teacher seeks endorsement, the Board may, upon request of the employing school division or educational agency, issue the teacher a provisional license to allow time for the teacher to attain such credential.

E. The Board's regulations shall require that initial licensure for principals and assistant principals be contingent upon passage of an assessment as prescribed by the Board.

F. The Board shall establish criteria in its regulations to effectuate the substitution of experiential learning for coursework for those persons seeking initial licensure through an alternate route as defined in Board regulations.

G. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Board (i) may provide for the issuance of a provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years, pursuant to subdivision D 7 or to any person who does not meet the requirements of this section or any other requirement for licensure imposed by law and (ii) shall provide for the issuance of a provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years, to any former member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the Virginia National Guard who has received an honorable discharge and has the appropriate level of experience or training but does not meet the requirements for a renewable license...

#### **Summary of Important Issues:**

As required in House Bill 261 of the 2016 Virginia General Assembly, the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel* must be revised to provide for the issuance of a provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years, to any former member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the Virginia National Guard who has received an honorable discharge and has the appropriate level of experience or training but does not meet the requirements for a renewable license.

On September 19, 2016, the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure approved a recommendation to the Board of Education to amend the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel* to comport with House Bill 261. Attached is a copy of the proposed amendments to the regulations.

#### **Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:**

The administrative processes required in promulgating these regulations will be absorbed within existing resources.

#### **Timetable for Further Review/Action:**

The proposed amendments to the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel* will be presented to the Board of Education for final review on November 17, 2016. The timetable for further action will be governed by the requirements of the Administrative Process Act. The Department of Education will notify school divisions of the revisions to the regulations when they become final, pursuant to the requirements of the Administrative Process Act.

#### **Superintendent's Recommendation:**

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education receive for first review the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure's recommended amendments to the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel*.

# **ATTACHMENT**

**Proposed Amendments to the *Licensure  
Regulations for School Personnel*  
8VAC20-22-10 et seq.**

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE *LICENSURE REGULATIONS FOR SCHOOL  
PERSONNEL TO CONFORM TO HOUSE BILL 261 OF THE  
2016 GENERAL ASSEMBLY***

**8VAC20-22-90. Alternate Routes to Licensure.**

A. Career switcher alternate route to licensure for career professions. An alternate route is available to career switchers who seek teaching endorsements preK through grade 12 with the exception of special education.

1. An individual seeking a Provisional License through the career switcher program must meet the following prerequisite requirements:

- a. An application process;
- b. A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
- c. The completion of requirements for an endorsement in a teaching area or the equivalent through verifiable experience or academic study;
- d. At least five years of full-time work experience or its equivalent; and
- e. Virginia qualifying scores on the professional teacher's assessments as prescribed by the Board of Education.

2. The Provisional License is awarded at the end of Level I preparation. All components of the career switcher alternate route for career professions must be completed by the candidate.

3. The Level I requirements must be completed during the course of a single year and may be offered through a variety of delivery systems, including distance learning programs. If an employing agency recommends extending the Provisional License for a second year, the candidate will enter Level III of the program. Career switcher programs must be certified by the Virginia Department of Education.

a. Level I preparation. Intensive Level I preparation includes a minimum of 180 clock hours of instruction, including field experience. This phase includes, but is not limited to, curriculum and instruction, including technology, reading, and other specific course content relating to the Standards of Learning, differentiation of instruction, classroom/behavior management, instructional design based on assessment data, and human growth and development.

b. Level II preparation during first year of employment.

(1) Candidate seeks employment in Virginia with the one-year Provisional License.

(2) Continued Level II preparation during the first year of employment with a minimum of five seminars that expand the intensive preparation requirements listed in subdivision 3 a of

this subsection. The five seminars will include a minimum of 20 cumulative instructional hours. A variety of instructional delivery techniques will be utilized to implement the seminars.

(3) One year of successful, full-time teaching experience in a Virginia public or accredited nonpublic school under a one-year Provisional License. A trained mentor must be assigned to assist the candidate during the first year of employment. Responsibilities of the mentor include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) Collaborate with the beginning teacher in the development and implementation of an individualized professional development plan;
- (b) Observe, assess, coach, and provide opportunities for constructive feedback, including strategies for self-reflection;
- (c) Share resources and materials;
- (d) Share best instructional, assessment, and organizational practices; classroom and behavior management strategies; and techniques for promoting effective communication; and
- (e) Provide general support and direction regarding school policies and procedures.

(4) Upon completion of Levels I and II of the career switcher alternate route to licensure program and submission of a recommendation from the Virginia educational employing agency, the candidate will be eligible to apply for a five-year, renewable license. Renewal requirements for the regular license will be subject to current regulations of the Board of Education.

c. Level III preparation, if required.

(1) Post preparation, if required, will be conducted by the Virginia employing educational agency to address the areas where improvement is needed as identified in the candidate's professional improvement plan; and

(2) Upon completion of Levels I, II, and III of the career switcher alternate route to licensure program and submission of a recommendation from the Virginia educational employing agency, the candidate will be eligible to receive a five-year renewable license.

4. Verification of program completion will be documented by the certified program provider and the division superintendent or designee.

5. Certified providers implementing a career switcher program may charge a fee for participation in the program.

B. An alternate route is available to individuals employed by an educational agency who seek teaching endorsements preK through grade 12. Individuals must complete the requirements for the regular, five-year license within the validity period of the provisional license.

1. An individual seeking a license through this alternate route must have met the following requirements:

- a. Are entering the teaching field through the alternate route to licensure upon the recommendation of the Virginia employing educational agency;
- b. Hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university with the exception of individuals seeking the Technical Professional License;
- c. Have met requirements for the endorsement area; and
- d. Need to complete an allowable portion of professional studies and licensure requirements.

2. The professional studies requirements for the appropriate level of endorsement sought must be completed. A Virginia educational agency may submit to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for approval an alternate program to meet the professional studies requirements. The alternate program must include training (seminar, internship, coursework, etc.) in human growth and development, curriculum and instructional procedures (including technology), instructional design based on assessment data, classroom and behavior management, foundations of education and reading.

3. One year of successful, full-time teaching experience in the appropriate teaching area in a Virginia public or accredited nonpublic school must be completed. A fully licensed experienced teacher must be available in the school building to assist the beginning teacher employed through the alternate route.

C. Alternate route in special education. The Provisional License is a three-year nonrenewable teaching license issued to an individual employed as a special education teacher in a public school or a nonpublic special education school in Virginia who does not hold the appropriate special education endorsement. To be issued the Provisional License through this alternate route, an individual must:

1. Be employed by a Virginia public or nonpublic school as a special educator and have the recommendation of the employing educational agency;
2. Hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
3. Have an assigned mentor endorsed in special education; and
4. Have a planned program of study in the assigned endorsement area, make progress toward meeting the endorsement requirements each of the three years of the license, and have completed coursework in the competencies of foundations for educating students with disabilities and an understanding and

application of the legal aspects and regulatory requirements associated with identification, education, and evaluation of students with disabilities. A survey course integrating these competencies would satisfy this requirement. The Provisional License through this alternate route shall not be issued without the completion of these prerequisites.

D. Alternate programs at institutions of higher education or Virginia school divisions. Alternate programs developed by institutions of higher education (i) recognize the unique strengths of prospective teachers from nontraditional backgrounds and (ii) prepare these individuals to meet the same standards that are established for others who are granted a license through an alternate route.

E. Experiential learning. Individuals applying for an initial license through the alternate route as prescribed by the Board of Education must meet the following criteria to be eligible to request experiential learning credits in lieu of the coursework for the endorsement (teaching) content area:

1. Hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
2. Have at least five years of documented full-time work experience that may include specialized training related to the endorsement sought; and
3. Have met the qualifying score on the content knowledge assessment prescribed by the Board of Education.

The criteria do not apply to teachers of special education and elementary education (preK-3 and preK-6).

F. Alternate route for a former member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the Virginia National Guard who has received an honorable discharge. An alternate route is available to military veterans who have received an honorable discharge and who are seeking a Provisional (Veteran) License. Individuals must complete the requirements for the five-year license within the validity period of the Provisional (Veteran) License.

An individual seeking a Provisional License through the veteran alternate route must meet the following requirements:

- a. Are entering the teaching field through the alternate route to licensure upon the recommendation of the Virginia employing educational agency. If the veteran is not employed, a statement of the individual's eligibility for a Provisional (Veteran) License will be provided.
- b. Hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university with the exception of individuals seeking the Technical Professional License; and
- c. Have met the appropriate level of experience or training required for the teaching endorsement area. The veteran may meet the endorsement requirements by passing a rigorous academic subject test prescribed by the Board of Education, if applicable. This testing option does not apply to individuals who are seeking an early/primary preK-3 or elementary education preK-6

endorsement or who are seeking a technical professional license, vocational evaluator license, pupil personnel services license, school manager license, or division superintendent license.

d. Every teacher seeking an initial license in the Commonwealth with an endorsement in the area of career and technical education shall have an industry certification credential in the area in which the teacher seeks endorsement. If a teacher seeking an initial license in the Commonwealth has not attained an industry certification credential in the area in which the teacher seeks endorsement, the Board may, upon request of the employing school division or educational agency, issue the teacher a provisional license to allow time for the teacher to attain such credential.