

### **R7-2-604. Definitions**

In R7-2-604 through R7-2-604.05, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “Accreditation” means a professional preparation institution’s recognition by a national or regional agency or organization acknowledged for meeting identified standards or criteria.
2. “Alternative educator preparation program” means a program designed for individuals who are working as a PreK through 12 teacher or administrator while certified under an alternative teaching certificate or interim administrative certificate. Alternative educator preparation programs may have substantially different program sequences, designs, and/or formats than that of a traditional education preparation program.
3. “Biennial report” means a report submitted every two years to the Department by all Arizona State Board approved professional preparation institutions for each approved educator preparation program.
4. “Biennial status letter” means correspondence issued by the Department to the professional preparation institution within 30 days upon completion of the review of the biennial report, indicating the status of the educator preparation program(s).
5. “Board approved program” means a course of study that is approved by the Board and meets all relevant standards for teachers, administrators, school guidance counselors, or school psychologists.
6. “Capstone experience” means a culminating professional experience in a PreK through 12 setting. This experience may include student teaching or internships in administration, counseling, or school psychology, or alternative path PreK through 12 teaching.
7. “Classroom-based educator preparation program” means a program administered through a school district or charter school that is approved pursuant to R7-2-604.05.
8. “Educator preparation program” means a traditional or alternative educator preparation program that prepares PreK through 12 teachers, administrators, school counselors, and school psychologists for an institutional recommendation for an Arizona certificate.
9. “Field experience” means scheduled, directed, structured, supervised, frequent experiences in a PreK through 12 setting that occurs prior to the capstone experience. Field experiences must assist educator candidates in developing the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to ensure all students learn, and provide evidence in meeting standards described in the Board approved professional teaching standards or professional administrative standards, and relevant Board approved academic standards.
10. “Institutional recommendation” means a form developed by the Department and issued by a professional preparation institution, that indicates an individual has completed a Board approved educator preparation program.
11. “Internship” means significant opportunities for candidates to practice and develop the skills identified in relevant state and national standards as measured by substantial and sustained work in real settings, appropriate for the certificate the candidate is seeking, performed under the direction of a supervising practitioner and a program supervisor.
12. [“Locally based school leadership preparation program” means a program administered through a school district or charter school that is approved pursuant to R7-2-604.06.](#)

- ~~12.~~ 13. “National standards” means written expectations for meeting a specified level of performance that are established by, but not limited to, the following organizations: Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Program (CACREP), Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), Council for Exceptional Children. (CEC), The National Educational Leadership Preparation (NELP), Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (InTASC), Professional Standards for Educational Leadership (PSEL), International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) or Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC).
- ~~13.~~ 14. “Probationary educator preparation program” means a program with at least one deficiency identified in the biennial status letter issued by the Department, as a result of a Department review of the biennial report. Programs with the same deficiency(s) in two consecutive biennial status letters are subject to revocation of Board approval. A deficiency may include, but is not limited to, stakeholder surveys, completer data and student achievement data.
- ~~14.~~ 15. “Professional preparation institutions” means organizations that include, but are not limited to, universities and colleges, school districts, not for profit organizations, professional organizations, private businesses, charter schools, and regional training centers that oversee one or more educator preparation programs.
- ~~15.~~ 16. “Program completer” means a student who has met all the professional program institution’s requirements of a Board approved educator preparation program necessary to obtain an institutional recommendation.
- ~~16.~~ 17. “Program supervisor” means an educator from the professional preparation institution under whose supervision the candidate for licensure practices during a capstone experience. The program supervisor’s professional work experiences must be relevant to the license the candidate is seeking. Program supervisors must also have adequate training from the professional preparation institution.
- ~~17.~~ 18. “Review Team” means a committee that reviews educator preparation programs seeking Board approval that consists of representatives from the Department and at least three of the following entities: institutions under the jurisdiction of the Arizona Board of Regents, Arizona private institutions of higher education, Arizona community colleges, other organizations with a Board approved educator preparation program, professional educator associations, PreK through 12 administrators from local education agencies, National Board Certified Teachers, and a graduate or representative from an Arizona **alternative** educator preparation program. For alternative educator preparation program applications, the review team shall include at least one graduate or representative from an Arizona alternative educator preparation program.
- ~~18.~~ 19. “Student teaching” means a minimum of 12 weeks of rigorous field-based experiences, appropriate for the certificate the candidate is seeking, performed under the direction of a supervising practitioner and a program supervisor. The student teaching placement must be appropriate for the certification that the applicant is seeking.

- ~~19~~. 20. “Supervising practitioner” means a standard certified educator, currently employed by a local education agency, private agency or other PreK through 12 setting who supervises the candidate during a capstone experience. Supervising practitioners must have:
- a. A minimum of three full years of experience relevant to the license the candidate is seeking.
  - b. A current classification of highly effective or effective pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 15-341(A)(41), 15-189.06, when applicable.
  - c. Adequate training from the professional preparation institution.
- ~~20~~. 21. “Traditional educator preparation program” means a program that includes courses, field experiences, and a capstone experience that is designed to prepare preservice PreK through 12 teachers, administrators, school counselors, and school psychologists.”

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**R7-2-604.02. Educator Preparation Program Approval Procedures**

- A. Professional preparation institutions with no Board approved educator preparation programs, seeking initial approval for an educator preparation program shall submit to the Department the information necessary to conduct a readiness review of the professional preparation institution. The Department shall prescribe forms to assist professional preparation institutions with providing all information required as part of the readiness review process. The required information, includes the following:
1. An institutional profile demonstrating program and financial stability, a description of the educator preparation program seeking approval, a listing of national or regional accreditations the institution's governance and administrative structures and student demographic data.
  2. A description of the professional preparation institution's vision, mission, philosophy and goals, and a description of how this information is shared with students, relevant staff and other relevant stakeholders.
  3. Data regarding the professional preparation institution's relevant staff, including the following:
    - a. Demographic data relating to the relevant staff for each educator preparation program seeking approval, including, at a minimum, educational degrees, staff to student ratio, experience teaching in a PreK through 12 setting, and, if available, ethnicity and gender data.
    - b. Definitions of titles and clarification of roles of individuals responsible for courses, seminars, or modules of study; field experiences; capstone experiences; and administration.
    - c. A description of the professional preparation institution's employment policies, including procedures for determining staff assignments, evaluation procedures and professional development opportunities and requirements.
- B. The Department shall provide professional preparation institutions written notification, within 60 days of receiving readiness review materials, either indicating readiness to submit educator preparation programs for review or specifying any deficiencies. The institution has 30 days from receipt of the notice to supply the Department with all required information regarding identified deficiencies.
- C. The Department shall initiate a review of the specific educator preparation programs being considered for Board approval. The Department shall prescribe forms to assist institutions with providing all information required as part of the educator preparation programs review. Professional Preparation Institutions with accreditation may submit accreditation documentation to be considered as part of the review process. To facilitate this review, institutions shall provide the Department with the following:
1. A description of the educator preparation programs being considered for Board approval. This shall include, at a minimum, the criteria for student entry into the program; a summary of the program courses, seminars, or modules of study; field experiences; and capstone experiences. The professional preparation institution must verify that it requires

- courses, seminars, or modules of study necessary to obtain a full Structured English Immersion endorsement if required for the certificate the candidate is seeking.
2. A description of the field experience and capstone experience policies for the educator preparation programs being considered for Board approval. The review team shall verify that the field experience and capstone experience includes evidence of engagement in the application of relevant standards as articulated in the Board approved professional teaching standards or professional administrative standards and relevant national standards. Educator preparation programs applying for approval in school psychology and guidance counseling shall only be required to demonstrate compliance with applicable national standards.
  3. Evidence that candidates are provided instruction and practice in how to gather, evaluate, and synthesize multiple data sources and how to effectively use data in educational and classroom instructional decisions.
  4. Provide the Department with evidence that candidates are provided instruction and practice in how to appropriately integrate technology when working with students.
  5. A description of the assessment plan for measuring each candidate's competencies as they progress through courses, seminars, or modules of study and field experiences to ensure readiness for a capstone experience. The plan shall require, at a minimum, that candidates demonstrate competencies as articulated in the Board approved professional teaching standards or professional administrative standards, relevant Board approved academic standards, and relevant national standards. The plan shall also describe processes for utilizing performance-based assessments and for providing candidates with necessary remediation. Programs applying for approval in school psychology and guidance counseling shall only be required to demonstrate compliance with relevant national standards.
  6. A description of the procedures used to monitor and evaluate the operation, scope and quality of the educator preparation program being considered for approval. This shall include the use of internal and external evaluations, and may include stakeholder surveys, program completion employment information, and PreK through 12 student achievement data.
  7. An educator preparation program matrices demonstrating that program course, seminar, or module assessments, field experiences and capstone experiences measure candidates' success in meeting the Board approved professional teaching standards or professional administrative standards, and relevant national standards. Educator preparation programs applying for approval in school psychology and guidance counseling shall only be required to demonstrate compliance with relevant national standards.
  8. [A plan for how the education preparation program will notify and assist program participants and partner schools if the educator preparation program closes.](#)
- D.** The Department may schedule and conduct an onsite visit upon completion of the educator preparation programs review for professional preparation institutions seeking initial approval. The onsite visit may include; a tour of the professional preparation institution; a review of documentation and related evidence; and interviews of relevant staff, educator candidates,

and local education agency, private agency or other PreK through 12 administrators who employ program completers.

- E. Upon completion of the review, and onsite review if applicable, the Department shall, within 90 days, provide the professional preparation institution with a program report of the Department's findings. This report shall cite any evidence showing deviation from each relevant standard Board approved professional teaching standard, professional administrative standard, and relevant national standard that applies to the educator preparation program. The professional preparation institution shall have 30 days from receipt of the Department's program report to submit a response addressing any identified deficiencies.
- F. Based upon the Department's program report, the Department shall recommend to the Board that the educator preparation program be approved or denied.
- G. The Board may grant educator preparation program approval for a period not to exceed six years or deny program approval.
- H. Within 60 days of the Board's action, a professional preparation institution may request reconsideration of the Board's decision to deny an educator preparation program.
- I. Professional preparation institutions with Board approval shall make available to the public a statement indicating the valid period for which the educator preparation program has been approved.
- J. Professional preparation institutions with Board approved educator preparation programs shall comply with the reporting requirements established by Title II of the Higher Education Act (P.L. 110-315).
- K. Each approved professional preparation institution shall submit a biennial report with the Department documenting educator preparation program activities for the previous two years. The biennial report shall include the following:
  - 1. A description of any substantive changes in courses, seminars, modules, assessments, field experiences or capstone experiences in Board approved educator preparation programs;
  - 2. Electronic access to relevant educator preparation program information;
  - 3. The name, title and original signature of the certification officer for the professional preparation institution;
  - 4. Relevant data on the educator preparation program, relevant staff, and candidates, which may include, but is not limited to, stakeholder surveys, completer data, and student achievement data required as a condition of initial or continuing program approval.
- L. The Department shall provide annual updates to the Board and make ~~publically~~ publicly available information summarizing the biennial reports to include, but not limited to, program status, deficiencies, and commendations.
- M. Board approved educator preparation programs shall provide their program completers with an institutional recommendation for issuance of the appropriate Arizona certification within 45 days.
- N. To maintain Board educator preparation program approval, the professional preparation institution shall be in continuous operation and training candidates in accordance with its mission and program objectives, fulfill all reporting requirements, and maintain compliance with all applicable local, state, tribal and federal requirements.

- O. The Department shall provide a timeline for professional preparation institutions to submit educator preparation programs for approval.
- P. Professional preparation Institutions seeking renewal of educator preparation program approval shall submit the required preliminary documents for review at least six month prior to the program expiration date.

**R7-2-604.03. Alternative Educator Preparation Program Approval Process**

- A. An organization that includes, but is not limited to, universities under the jurisdiction of the Arizona Board of Regents, community colleges in this state, private postsecondary institutions licensed by this state, school districts, charter schools, professional organizations, nonprofit organizations, private entities and regional training centers that oversee one or more educator preparation program which wishes to offer a program for an alternative route for the certification of teachers and administrators in this State shall apply to the Department of Education for review to become an approved provider of such a program. The Department of Education shall convene a review team to review the application, using a rubric approved by the Board, and submit a recommendation to the Board. The application shall include:
  - 1. The name and location of the applicant;
  - 2. The name of the program;
  - 3. If the applicant is accredited, the name of the regional accrediting body and the accreditation status of the applicant;
  - 4. If the applicant is a private postsecondary educational institution, evidence that the applicant is licensed to operate by the State Board of Private Postsecondary Education pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3021;
  - 5. A description of the budget of the program;
  - 6. A list of all staff members responsible for the administration of the program, the roles and responsibilities of each person and his or her credentials;
  - 7. The areas of certification for which the applicant will offer the program;
  - 8. A description of the program, which shall include:
    - a. The way in which the elements of the program will comply with the requirements of this Section and R7-2-602, R7-2-603 as applicable and A.R.S. § 15-501.01;
    - b. The application and review process for persons to enroll in the program, including a copy of all forms that will be used in the process;
    - c. A summary of the program courses, seminars, or modules of study; and
    - d. The supervised, school-based experiences the applicant will provide, including:
      - i. The name of each school and school district that will participate in the supervised, school-based experience, evidenced by a letter or other communication from the school or school district that demonstrates interest in participating;
      - ii. The length of time for which a candidate will be required to participate in the supervised, school-based experience, including any orientation that the candidate must complete;
      - iii. The manner by which candidates will be mentored by an effective or highly effective teacher and evaluated during the supervised, school-based experience;

- iv. How the supervised, school-based experience will promote the effectiveness of teachers and administrators, as appropriate; and
  - v. A copy of all forms that will be used for the supervised, school-based experience process;
9. If available, data on the efficacy of its preparation program which may include stakeholder surveys, completer data, and student achievement data;
  10. A statement of the estimated time it will take a candidate enrolled in the program to complete the program, which shall allow for completion of the program within one year but not more than three years;
  11. A description of the manner by which the applicant will evaluate the success or failure of each candidate enrolled in the program and track the progress of each such candidate, including a copy of all forms that will be used for the evaluation and tracking;
  12. A description of how the applicant will evaluate the success of the program, which must include the information required for the evaluation pursuant to R7-2-604.02(K)(4);
  - [13. A plan for how the education preparation program will notify and assist program participants and partner schools if the educator preparation program closes.](#)
- B.** Upon receipt of an application for approval as an approved provider pursuant to subsection (A), the Department of Education shall convene a review team that shall:
1. Examine the application;
  2. Determine whether to recommend that the State Board of Education grant its approval of the application based upon the requirements of this Section and the Board-approved rubric without any additional requirements; and
  3. Submit its recommendation to the State Board of Education within 90 days of receipt of the application.
- C.** The State Board of Education shall review the recommendation of the review team and provide to the applicant written notice of its approval or denial. The State Board of Education may grant provisional approval to an applicant pursuant to subsection (D). If the State Board of Education denies an application, the applicant may correct any deficiencies identified in the notice of denial and resubmit the application for review by the Department within 30 days of the denial. The review team shall review the resubmitted application and submit its recommendation to the Board within 60 days of receipt of the resubmitted application.
- D.** If the State Board of Education grants an applicant provisional approval, the applicant may offer the program for an alternative route to certification described in the application for the period prescribed by the State Board of Education. 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 State Board of Education will grant nonprovisional approval to the applicant as an approved provider. Provisional approval is valid for two years after the date on which the State Board of Education granted provisional approval. If an applicant does not remove all the provisions within the prescribed time, the provisional approval is automatically revoked.
- E.** Except as otherwise provided in subsection (D), if an applicant is approved as an approved provider pursuant to this Section, the approval is valid for six 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 Department of Education. If the application for renewal is approved by the State Board of Education, the renewal is valid for six years after the date of the approval.

- F. If an approved provider intends to offer a program for an alternative route to certification for an area of certification that is different from the area of certification for which the qualified provider has been approved, the qualified provider must submit a new application pursuant to subsection (A) to offer a program for an alternative route to certification for that area of certification.
- G. An approved provider shall provide its program completers with an institutional recommendation for issuance of the appropriate Arizona alternative path certification within 45 days. An approved provider seeking renewal of its program approval shall submit the required renewal application for review at least 90 days prior to the program expiration date.
- H. Each qualified provider must submit a report once every two years which includes:
  - 1. A description of any substantive changes in courses, seminars, modules or assessments in the Board approved educator preparation programs;
  - 2. The name, title and original signature of the certification officer for the professional preparation institution; and
  - 3. Relevant data on the educator preparation program, relevant staff, and candidates, which may include, but is not limited to, stakeholder surveys, completer data, and student achievement data required as a condition of continuing program approval.
- I. The Department shall:
  - 1. Present the results of the report to the State Board of Education; and
  - 2. After the results have been presented to the State Board of Education, post the report on the Department's website.
- J. Each qualified provider shall cooperate with the State Board of Education and the Department in the evaluation of the effectiveness of this Section.

#### **R7-2-604.05. Classroom-Based Alternative Preparation Program Approval Process**

- A. A school district or charter school may apply to the ~~Department of Education~~ [Board](#) for approval as a classroom-based alternative preparation program provider. The ~~application, on a form prescribed by the~~ Department, ~~shall include the following~~ [shall facilitate the Board approval process and prescribe an application form that shall include the following](#):
  - 1. The name of the program [and the school district or charter school applying](#);
  - 2. The areas of certification for which the applicant will offer the program;
  - 3. Verification that individuals enrolled in the program will have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, [or will meet all of the following criteria](#):
    - a. [Will be currently enrolled in an accredited public or private postsecondary institution's bachelor's degree program](#);
    - b. [Will not be a contracted or permanent full-time teacher or teacher of record for any classroom of students, except those enrollees may be employed by the school district or charter school; and](#)
    - c. [Will not regularly instruct students without the presence of a full-time teacher, certificated teacher, instructional coach or instructional mentor unless the individual possesses other means of certification](#).

4. Verification that individuals to be enrolled in the program will meet the background requirements and have a valid fingerprint card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-534;
5. ~~Individuals enrolled in the program possess:-~~
  - a. ~~An emergency teaching certificate; or~~
  - b. ~~An alternative teaching certificate.~~
  - c. ~~Individuals enrolled at a charter school classroom-based alternative preparation program are not required to possess a certificate.~~
4. ~~Data supporting the efficacy of its teacher preparation program, which may include stakeholder surveys, completer data and student achievement data. The school district or charter school may contract with a third party provider to provide the classroom-based alternative preparation program and may use that program's efficacy data to meet this requirement.~~
6. A list of all staff members responsible for administering the program and the roles and responsibilities of each person;
7. A description of the program, which shall include the following:
  - a. A program sequence or training schedule; and
  - b. Information regarding the mentoring and coaching of teacher candidates.
8. The school district or charter school may provide information on professional expectations, professional requirements, or student achievement requirements that exceed expectations and requirements of this section, including requiring candidates to complete specified coursework or trainings.
9. A plan for how the program will notify and assist program participants if the program or school closes.
- B. ~~A review team shall review the application and make a recommendation to the Board as prescribed in R7-2-604.03(B) through (E) and shall submit biennial reports prescribed in R7-2-604.03(H).~~ Upon receipt of an application for approval as a classroom-based preparation program provider, the Department shall convene a review team that shall:
  1. Examine the application;
  2. Determine whether to recommend that the Board grant its approval of the application based upon the requirements of this Section and a Board-approved rubric; and
  3. Submit its recommendation to the State Board of Education within 90 days of receipt of the application.
- C. ~~An approved provider shall provide its program completers with an institutional recommendation for issuance of the appropriate Arizona alternative pathway certification within 45 days.~~ The State Board of Education shall review the recommendation of the review team and provide to the applicant written notice of its approval or denial.
- D. ~~Upon successful completion of a classroom-based alternative preparation program, an individual may apply for the appropriate Arizona Classroom-Based Standard Teaching certificate.~~ If the Board denies an applicant for program approval, the applicant may correct any deficiencies identified in the notice of denial and resubmit the application for review by the Department within 30 days of the denial. The review team shall review the resubmitted

application and submit its recommendation to the Board within 60 days of receipt of the resubmitted application.

E. If the Board approves an applicant as a classroom-based preparation program provider, the approval is valid for six years after the date of approval. To continue as a program provider, the school district or charter school shall apply for renewal before the expiration of its current approval. If the application for renewal is approved by the Board, the renewal is valid for six years after the date of the approval.

F. Approved classroom-based alternative preparation program providers shall submit a new application pursuant to subsection (A) to offer a program in an additional certification area.

G. Each qualified provider shall submit a report once every two years that includes:

1. A description of any substantive changes in courses, seminars, modules or assessments in the Board approved classroom-based preparation programs;
2. The name, title and original signature of the certification officer for the approved program provider;
3. Relevant data on the educator preparation program, relevant staff, and candidates, which may include, but is not limited to, stakeholder surveys, completer data, and student achievement data required as a condition of continuing program approval.

H. Classroom-based preparation program providers shall provide program completers with an institutional recommendation for the appropriate Classroom-Based Standard Teaching Certificate within 45 days of program completion.

#### **R7-2-604.06 Locally Based School Leadership Preparation Program Approval Process**

A. A school district or charter school may apply to the Board for approval as a locally based school leadership preparation program provider. The Department shall administer the Board approval process and prescribe an application form, which shall include the following:

1. The name of the program and the school district or charter school applying;
2. A list of all staff members responsible for administering the program and the roles and responsibilities of each person;
3. The areas of certification for which the applicant will offer the program;
4. A description of the program, which shall include the following:
  - a. A program sequence or training schedule; and
  - b. Information regarding the learning experiences, mentoring and coaching of school leader candidates.
5. Evidence supporting the efficacy of the school district's or charter school's preparation program. A school district or charter school may contract with a third party provider to provide or assist in the preparation in the preparation program and may use that program's efficacy evidence to meet this requirement.
6. Verification that individuals enrolled in the program will have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution;
7. Verification that individuals enrolled in the program will meet the background requirements and have a valid fingerprint card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-534.

8. A plan for how the program will notify and assist program participants if the program or school closes.

**B. Upon receipt of an application for approval as a locally-based school leadership preparation program provider, the Department shall convene a review team that shall:**

1. Examine the application;

2. Determine whether to recommend that the Board grant its approval of the application based upon the requirements of this Section and a Board-approved rubric; and

3. Submit its recommendation to the State Board of Education within 90 days of receipt of the application.

**C. The State Board of Education shall review the recommendation of the review team and provide to the applicant written notice of its approval or denial.**

**D. If the Board denies an applicant for program approval, the applicant may correct any deficiencies identified in the notice of denial and resubmit the application for review by the Department within 30 days of the denial. The review team shall review the resubmitted application and submit its recommendation to the Board within 60 days of receipt of the resubmitted application.**

**E. If the Board approves an applicant as a locally based school leadership preparation program provider, the approval is valid for six years after the date of approval. To continue as a locally based school leadership program provider, the school district or charter school shall apply for renewal before the expiration of its current approval. If the application for renewal is approved by the Board, the renewal is valid for six years after the date of the approval.**

**G. Locally based leadership program providers shall provide program completers with an institutional recommendation for the appropriate locally based pathway standard administrative certificate within 45 days of program completion.**

**R7-2-607. General Certification Provisions**

- A.** The evaluation to determine qualification for certification shall not begin until an institutional recommendation or application for certification and official transcripts, and the appropriate fees have been received by the Department. Course descriptions, verification of employment, and other documents may also be required for the evaluation.
- B.** Unless otherwise specified, a standard certificate shall be issued for 12 years and may be issued with deficiencies. Applicants may receive a standard certificate with the following deficiencies of requirements to be completed within three years: research-based phonics; reading instruction including for students with dyslexia; professionalism and ethics; and U.S. and Arizona Constitutions. If an applicant fails to meet these requirements within the prescribed time period, the Department of Education or the Board shall temporarily suspend the standard certificate, but the suspension is not considered a disciplinary action and the individual shall be allowed to correct the deficiency within the remaining time of the standard certification.
- C.** The effective date of a new certificate shall be the date the evaluation is completed by the Department. The effective date of a renewed certificate shall be the date the evaluation for renewal is completed by the Department.
- D.** Unless otherwise specified, all certificates and provisional endorsements issued for three years or less shall expire on the date of issuance in the year of expiration. All certificates issued for more than three years shall expire on the holder's birth date in the year of expiration.
- E.** Only those degrees awarded by an accredited institution shall be considered to satisfy the requirements for certification.
- F.** Professional preparation programs, courses, practica, and examinations required for certification shall be taken at an accredited institution or a Board-approved teacher preparation program.
- G.** Only those courses in which the applicant received a passing grade or credit shall be considered to satisfy the requirements for certification.
- H.** All certificates issued by the Department are considered to have been issued in conformance with these rules, except on a finding that an applicant submitted falsified or misrepresented documents, records, or facts in an application for certification or on a finding that a certificate was issued in error due to an error by the verifying authority or issuing authority. If the Department makes a finding pursuant to this subsection, the Department shall provide notice to the applicant of the finding. Within 60 days of the date of the notice, the applicant shall submit proof to the Department that the applicant meets the requirements for the certification. If the applicant is unable to provide proof they meet the requirements within 60 days of receipt of notice, the Department shall reclaim the certificate. Reclaiming a certificate pursuant to this subsection is not considered a disciplinary action but the Department shall refer the case for investigation pursuant to R7-2-1308 for findings that an applicant submitted falsified or misrepresented documents, records, or facts.
- I.** The Department shall issue a comparable standard Arizona certificate described in R7-2-608, R7-2-609, R7-2-610, R7-2-611, R7-2-612 or R7-2-613 to an applicant who holds a valid certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, possess a valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety, and holds a bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree from an accredited institution. These applicants are exempt from all portions of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment.
- J.** An applicant is not required to take any portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment if the applicant has at least three years of full-time teaching experience in any state, including this state, in the comparable area of certification or endorsement in which the person is applying for certification,

regardless of whether the applicant was certified or uncertified. An applicant is not required to take any portion of the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment if the person has at least three years of full-time ~~experience as a school administrator~~ experience in a school leadership position in any state, including this state, regardless of whether the applicant was certified or uncertified.

- K.** An applicant is exempt from the testing requirements for Arizona certificates if the applicant passed corresponding portions of a professional or subject knowledge examinations, or administrator examination adopted by a state agency in another state that are **substantially** similar to the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessments or the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment.
- L.** An applicant is exempt from the subject knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment if:
  - 1. The applicant provides verification of teaching courses relevant to a content area or subject matter for the last two consecutive years, and for a total of at least three years at one or more accredited postsecondary institutions; or
  - 2. The applicant obtained a bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree from an accredited institution in a relevant subject area; or
  - 3. The applicant provides verification of a minimum of five years of work experience that is relevant to a subject area of certification.
- M.** Unless otherwise specified, individuals who hold a valid Arizona elementary, middle grades or secondary certificate, or a special education certificate that includes grades six through 12, may add an approved area to their certificate by passing the appropriate subject area portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment or as provided in subsections (J), (K) and (L). Any approved area shall be specified on the certificate. If a proficiency assessment is not offered in a subject area, an approved area shall consist of a minimum of 24 semester hours of courses in the subject.
- N.** If a language assessment is not offered through the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment, a passing score on a nationally accredited test of a foreign language approved by the Board may demonstrate proficiency of that foreign language in lieu of the 24 semester hours of courses in that subject.
- O.** A teacher's language proficiency in a Native American language shall be verified by a person, persons, or entity designated by the appropriate tribe in lieu of the 24 semester hours of courses in that subject.
- P.** Teachers of homebound students shall hold the same certificate that is required of a classroom teacher.
- Q.** Fingerprint clearance cards shall be issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
- R.** A person who surrenders their teaching certificate for any reason shall not submit an application for certification with the Board for a period of five years. A person re-applying after the five-year ban must apply under the current rules at the time of re-application.
- S.** Notwithstanding any other provision, an individual with a deficiency in the Arizona and U.S. Constitutions who teaches an academic course that focuses primarily on history, government, social studies, citizenship, law or civics shall be issued a standard certificate subject to suspension in one year if that deficiency is not removed. The suspension is not considered a disciplinary action and the individual shall be allowed to correct that deficiency within the remaining time of the standard certification.
- T.** As used in this Article, unless otherwise provided, "work experience" means paid or unpaid work, including teaching experience as a certificated or noncertificated educator at a public or private school, which demonstrates knowledge or skill relevant to a subject area. Work experience, and its relevance to a subject area, shall be verified with one of the following:

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1. A letter from a superintendent or personnel director that the applicant demonstrates knowledge or skill in the subject area that is comparable to holding a bachelor's degree, master's degree, or doctoral degree in that subject area, as identified in a resume;
  2. A letter from a public or private school superintendent or personnel director, in this state or in another state, that the applicant has the requisite experience teaching the most advanced Arizona academic standards, or comparable out-of-state standards, in the subject area sought; or
  3. If an applicant is unable to obtain a letter described in subsections (T)(1) or (2), the applicant may submit a letter from a current or former supervisor verifying that the applicant demonstrates knowledge or skill in the subject area that is comparable to holding a bachelor's degree, master's degree, or doctoral degree in that subject area, as determined by the Department.
- U. Single subject classroom teachers in grades six through 12 are required to be appropriately certified for the subject they teach for the greater part of their instructional schedule. If a teacher is assigned to two or more subjects for equal parts of their instructional schedule, the teacher is required to be appropriately certified in each subject.
- V. The requirements to be considered appropriately certified for a self-contained, single subject, or other classroom shall be established in the Certification Guidelines for Teaching Assignments, which shall be approved by the Board and on file with the Department.

**R7-2-610.02. Subject Matter Expert Standard Teaching Certificate**

Subject Matter Expert Standard Teaching Certificate – grades six through 12

A. The requirements are:

1. A bachelor's degree and one of the following:
    - a. Verified teaching experience for the last two consecutive years, and for a total of at least three years at one or more accredited postsecondary institutions in the relevant subject area of certification. An individual seeking certification pursuant to this subdivision is exempt from passing the professional knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment; or
    - b. A bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree from an accredited postsecondary institution in the specific subject area of certification that is directly relevant to a content area or subject matter taught in public schools; or
    - c. Verification of expertise through work experience of a minimum of five years in the relevant area of certification.
  2. A passing score on the professional knowledge Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment within two years except as provided by subsection (A)(1)(a). If an applicant fails to meet this requirement within two years, the Department of Education or the Board shall temporarily suspend the standard certificate, but the suspension ~~is~~ not considered a disciplinary action and the individual shall be allowed to correct the deficiency within the remaining time of the standard certification.
  3. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
  4. Verification that the applicant has reviewed and attests to reviewing the best practices for social media and cellular telephone use between students and school personnel adopted by the Board.
  5. Completion of Board-approved training in professionalism and ethics within two years. If an applicant fails to meet this requirement within two years, the Department or the Board shall temporarily suspend the standard certificate, but the suspension is not considered a disciplinary action and the individual shall be allowed to correct the deficiency within the remaining time of the standard certification.
- B. An individual who meets the requirements of this Section is exempt from the competency requirements of the United States and Arizona Constitutions and the subject knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment.

### **R7-2-616. Standard Professional Administrative Certificates**

- A.** All certificates are subject to the general certification provisions in R7-2-607 and the renewal requirements in R7-2-619.
- B.** Standard Professional Supervisor Certificate – grades PreK through 12
1. Except for individuals who hold a valid Arizona principal or superintendent certificate, the supervisor certificate is required for all personnel, [except for superintendents pursuant to R7-2-616\(D\)](#), whose primary responsibility is administering instructional programs, supervising certified personnel, or similar administrative duties.
  2. The requirements are:
    - a. A valid Arizona ~~early childhood, elementary, secondary, special education, CTE certificate or other professional certificate~~ [Standard Professional teaching certificate, Career and Technical Education certificate, Classroom-Based Standard Teaching Certificate, Subject Matter Expert Standard Teaching Certificate, or Specialized Secondary Teaching Certificate or an other professional certificate established in R7-2-617](#) issued by the Department;
    - b. A master's or more advanced degree;
    - c. Three years of verified full-time teaching experience or related education services experience in a PreK through 12 setting;
    - d. Completion of a program in educational administration which shall consist of a minimum of 18 graduate semester hours of educational administration courses which teach the knowledge and skills described in R7-2-603 to include three [credit semester](#) hours in school law and three [credit semester](#) hours in school finance;
    - e. A practicum in educational administration or two years of verified educational administrative experience in grades PreK through 12;
    - f. A passing score on the [Supervisor, Principal, or Superintendent portion of the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment](#); [and](#)
    - g. ~~An SEI endorsement or an ESL endorsement or a Bilingual Endorsement; and~~
    - h. ~~A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.~~
- C.** Standard Professional Principal Certificate – grades PreK through 12
1. The principal certificate is required for all personnel who hold the title of principal, assistant principal, or perform the duties of principal or assistant principal as delineated in A.R.S. Title 15.
  2. The requirements are:
    - a. A master's or more advanced degree,
    - b. Three years of verified teaching experience in grades PreK through 12,
    - c. Completion of a program in educational administration for principals including at least 30 graduate semester hours of educational administration courses teaching the knowledge and skills described in R7-2-603 to include three [credit semester](#) hours in school law and three [credit semester](#) hours in school finance,
    - d. A practicum as a principal or two years of verified experience as a principal or assistant principal under the supervision of a certified principal in grades PreK through 12,

- e. A passing score on either the Principal or Superintendent portion of the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment; and
  - f. ~~An SEI endorsement or an ESL endorsement or a Bilingual Endorsement, and~~
  - g. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
- D. Standard Professional Superintendent Certificate – grades PreK through 12**
1. ~~Individuals who hold the title of~~ The superintendent certificate is optional, but may be required by local governing boards for individuals who hold the title or perform the duties of a superintendent, assistant superintendent or associate superintendent and who perform duties directly relevant to curriculum, instruction, certified employee evaluations, and instructional supervision ~~may obtain a superintendent certificate.~~
  2. The requirements are:
    - a. A master’s or more advanced degree including at least 60 graduate semester hours;
    - b. Completion of a program in educational administration for superintendents, including at least 36 graduate semester hours of educational administrative courses which teach the standards described in R7-2-603 to include three ~~credit~~ semester hours in school law and three ~~credit~~ semester hours in school finance;
    - c. Three years of verified full-time teaching experience or related education services experience in a PreK through 12 setting;
    - d. A practicum as a superintendent or two years verified experience as a superintendent, assistant superintendent, or associate superintendent in grades PreK through 12;
    - e. A passing score on the Superintendent portion of the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment; and
    - f. ~~An SEI endorsement or an ESL endorsement or a Bilingual endorsement; and~~
    - g. ~~A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.~~
- ~~**E. Interim Supervisor Certificate – grades PreK through 12**~~
- ~~1. Except as noted, the administrative interim certificate is subject to the general certification provisions in R7-2-607.~~
  - ~~2. The certificate is valid for one year from the date of initial issuance and may be extended yearly for no more than two consecutive years at no cost to the applicant if the provisions in subsection (F)(6) are met.~~
  - ~~3. The administrative interim certificate entitles the holder to perform the duties described in subsection (B)(1). The candidate shall be enrolled in a Board approved alternative path to certification program, or a Board authorized administrative preparation program.~~
  - ~~4. An individual is not eligible to hold the administrative interim certificate more than once in a five year period.~~
  - ~~5. The requirements for initial issuance of the administrative interim certificate are:
    - a. ~~A valid Arizona early childhood, elementary, secondary, special education, CTE certificate, PreK through 12 Arts, or other professional certificate issued by the Department;~~
    - b. ~~A bachelor’s degree or higher in education from an accredited institution;~~
    - c. ~~Three years of verified full-time teaching experience or related education services experience in a PreK through 12 setting;~~
    - d. ~~Verification of enrollment in a Board approved alternative path to administrator certification program, or a Board approved administrator preparation program;~~~~



- ~~b. Official transcripts documenting the completion of required coursework;~~
  - ~~c. Verification the holder of the interim certificate shall be under the direct supervision of an Arizona certified district principal or superintendent, and~~
  - ~~d. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.~~
- ~~7. The holder of the administrative interim certificate may apply for an Arizona Principal Certificate upon completion of the following:~~
  - ~~a. Successful completion of a Board approved alternative path to administrator certification program or a Board approved administrator preparation program. This shall include satisfactory completion of a field experience or capstone experience of no less than one full academic year. The field experience or capstone experience shall include performance evaluations in a manner that is consistent with policies for the applicable alternative professional preparation program;~~
  - ~~b. A passing score on either the Principal or Superintendent portion of the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment;~~
  - ~~c. The submission of an application for the Principal certificate to the Department; and~~
  - ~~d. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.~~
- G. Interim Superintendent Certificate — grades PreK through 12**
  - ~~1. Except as noted, the administrative interim certificate is subject to the general certification provisions in R7-2-607.~~
  - ~~2. The certificate is valid for one year from the date of initial issuance and may be extended yearly for no more than two consecutive years at no cost to the applicant if the provisions in subsection (H)(6) are met.~~
  - ~~3. The administrative interim certificate entitles the holder to perform the duties described in subsection (D)(1). The candidate shall be enrolled in a Board approved alternative path to certification program, or a Board authorized administrative preparation program.~~
  - ~~4. An individual is not eligible to hold the administrative interim certificate more than once in a five year period.~~
  - ~~5. The requirements for initial issuance of the administrative interim certificate are:~~
    - ~~a. A master's degree or higher from an accredited institution;~~
    - ~~b. Three years of verified full-time teaching experience or related education services experience in a PreK through 12 setting;~~
    - ~~c. Verification of enrollment in a Board approved alternative path to administrator certification program, or a Board approved administrator preparation program;~~
    - ~~d. Verification the holder of the interim certificate shall be under the direct supervision of an Arizona certified district superintendent or the appropriate county school superintendent; and~~
    - ~~e. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.~~
  - ~~6. The requirements for the extension of the administrative interim certificate are:~~
    - ~~a. Qualification for the initial issuance of the administrative interim certificate outlined in subsection (H)(5);~~
    - ~~b. Official transcripts documenting the completion of required coursework;~~
    - ~~c. Verification the holder of the interim certificate shall be under the direct supervision of an Arizona certified district superintendent or the appropriate county school superintendent; and~~
    - ~~d. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.~~

- ~~7. The holder of the administrative interim certificate may apply for an Arizona Superintendent Certificate upon completion of the following:
  - a. Successful completion of a Board approved alternative path to administrator certification program or a Board approved administrator preparation program. This shall include satisfactory completion of a field experience or capstone experience of no less than one full academic year. The field experience or capstone experience shall include performance evaluations in a manner that is consistent with policies for the applicable alternative professional preparation program;
  - b. A passing score on the Superintendent portion of the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment;
  - c. The submission of an application for the Superintendent certificate to the Department; and
  - d. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.~~

~~H. Interim Administrative Certificates – Public Health Emergency~~

- ~~1. Notwithstanding this Section, an Interim Administrative Certificate entitling the holder to serve as a supervisor, principal, or superintendent may be issued to an applicant who meets the following requirements:
  - a. Completion of all requirements for the Standard Professional Supervisor, Standard Professional Principal, or Standard Professional Superintendent certificate, as described in subsection (B)(2), (C)(2), and (D)(2), with the exception of a passing score on the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment.
  - b. Verification that the applicant was unable to take the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment required for the Standard Professional Administrative certificate as the result of a public health emergency declared by the governor or a public health official.~~
- ~~2. A certificate issued pursuant to this subsection shall be issued for one year and shall not be renewed or extended.~~

R7-2-616.01 Standard Administrative Certificates – Locally Based Leadership Program Pathway

A. Except as noted, all certificates are subject to the general certification provisions in R7-2-607 and the renewal requirements in R7-2-619.

B. Standard Site-Based Supervisor Certificate -grades PreK through 12.

1. The certificate authorizes the holder to administer instructional programs, supervise certified personnel, or perform similar administrative duties at the school-level.
2. The requirements are:
  - a. A bachelor's or more advanced degree; and
  - b. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety; and
  - c. Verification from the superintendent of a school district or the principal of a charter school that the applicant has made satisfactory progress in the program sequence and model, which may include professional evaluations, observations of

the applicant, student achievement data and demonstration of competencies, skills and knowledge associated with the relevant school leadership position; and

d. Verification of successful completion of a Board-approved locally based school leadership preparation program for supervisors; and

e. A passing score on the Supervisor, Principal or Superintendent portion of the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment.

C. Standard Site-Based Principal Certificate – grades PreK through 12.

1. The certificate authorizes the holder to administer instructional programs, supervise certified personnel, or perform similar administrative and leadership duties at the school-level, and perform the duties and hold the title of principal, assistant principal as delineated in A.R.S. Title 15.

2. The requirements are:

a. A bachelor's or more advanced degree; and

b. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety; and

c. Verification from the superintendent of a school district or the principal of a charter school that the applicant has made satisfactory progress in the program sequence and model, which may include professional evaluations, observations of the applicant, student achievement data and demonstration of competencies, skills and knowledge associated with the relevant school leadership position; and

d. Verification of successful completion of a Board-approved locally based school leadership preparation program for principals; and

e. A passing score on the Principal or Superintendent portion of the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment.

R7-2-616.02 Interim Administrative Certificates

A. Except as noted, all certificates are subject to the general certification provisions in R7-2-607.

B. The certificate authorizes the holder to serve an administrator while completing the requirements for a standard administrator certificate.

C. Interim administrative certificates are valid for one year and may be extended yearly for no more than two consecutive years at no cost to the certificate holder if the requirements in subsection (I) are met.

D. An individual is not eligible for issuance of an interim administrative certificate more than once in a five-year period.

E. Interim administrative certificate holders shall be enrolled in a Board approved alternative administrator preparation program, a Board approved locally based leadership preparation program, or a Board approved traditional administrator preparation program.

F. Interim Supervisor Certificate – grades PreK through 12

1. The Interim Supervisor Certificate authorizes the holder for a position in which the primary responsibility is administering instructional programs, supervising certified personnel, or similar administrative duties. An individual who is enrolled in a locally-based school leadership program shall be limited to a supervisor position at the school-level.

2. The requirements are:

a. A valid Arizona Standard Professional teaching certificate, Career and Technical Education Certificate, Classroom-Based Standard Teaching Certificate, Subject Matter Expert Standard Teaching Certificate, Specialized Secondary Teaching Certificate or an other professional certificate established in R7-2-617; and

b. A bachelor's or more advanced degree; and

c. Verification of three years of full-time teaching or related education services experience in a PreK through grade 12 setting; and

d. Verification of enrollment in a Board approved alternative administrator preparation program, a Board approved locally based school leadership program, or a Board approved administrator preparation program; and

e. Verification that the certificate holder will be employed as an administrator and will be under the direct supervision of an Arizona certified administrator or the appropriate county school superintendent; and

f. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

G. Interim Principal Certificate – grades PreK through 12

1. The Interim Principal certificate authorizes the holder to administer instructional programs, supervise certified personnel, perform the duties, hold the title of principal or assistant principal as delineated in A.R.S. Title 15, and perform similar administrative duties. An individual who is enrolled in a locally-based school leadership program shall be limited to an administrative position at the school-level.

2. The requirements are:

a. A bachelor's or more advanced degree; and

b. Verification of three years of full-time teaching in grades PreK through 12; and

c. Verification of enrollment in a Board approved alternative administrator preparation program, a Board approved locally based school leadership program, or a Board approved administrator preparation program; and

d. Verification that the certificate holder will be employed as a principal or assistant principal under the direct supervision of an Arizona certified principal, an Arizona certified superintendent, or the appropriate county school superintendent; and

e. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

#### H. Interim Superintendent Certificate – Grades PreK through 12

1. The superintendent certificate is optional, but may be required by local governing boards for individuals who hold the title or perform the duties of a superintendent, assistant superintendent or associate superintendent and who perform duties directly relevant to curriculum, instruction, certified employee evaluations, and instructional supervision

2. The requirements are:

a. A master's degree or more advanced degree;

b. Three years of verified full-time teaching experience or related education services experience in a PreK through 12 setting;

c. Verification of enrollment in a Board approved alternative path to administrator certification program, or a Board approved administrator preparation program;

d. Verification that the holder of the interim certificate shall be employed as a superintendent, assistant superintendent, or associate superintendent and working under the direct supervision of an Arizona certified superintendent or the appropriate county school superintendent; and

e. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

#### I. Interim Administrative Certificate Extension

1. The Interim Administrative certificate may be extended yearly for no more than two consecutive years at no cost to the applicant.

2. The requirements to extend an Interim Administrative Certificate are:

a. Qualification and issuance of the initial Interim Administrative certificate;

b. Verification from the Board approved program provider that the applicant is enrolled and has made adequate progress towards completion of the Board approved alternative administrator preparation program, Board approved locally based leadership preparation program, or Board approved traditional administrator preparation program;

c. Verification that the holder meets the employment and supervision requirements for the Interim Administrative certificate as described in subsection (F)(2)(e), (G)(2)(d), and (H)(2)(d); and

d. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

J. The holder of an interim administrative certificate may apply for the appropriate Arizona standard administrative certificate with verification of the following:

1. Successful completion of the Board approved alternative path to administrator certification program, Board approved locally based leadership program, or Board approved administrator preparation program; and

2. A passing score on the required portion of the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment; and

3. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

4. Individuals who have completed a locally based leadership program shall also submit verification from the superintendent of a school district or the principal of a charter school that the applicant has made satisfactory progress in the program sequence and model, which may include professional evaluations, observations of the applicant, student achievement data and demonstration of competencies, skills and knowledge associated with the relevant school leadership position.

H. Interim Administrative Certificates – Public Health Emergency

1. Notwithstanding this Section, an Interim Administrative Certificate entitling the holder to serve as a supervisor, principal, or superintendent may be issued to an applicant who meets the following requirements:

a. Completion of all requirements for the Standard Professional Supervisor, Standard Professional Principal, or Standard Professional Superintendent certificate, as described in subsection (B)(2), (C)(2), and (D)(2), with the exception of a passing score on the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment.

b. Verification that the applicant was unable to take the Arizona Administrator Proficiency Assessment required for the Standard Professional

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Administrative certificate as the result of a public health emergency declared by the governor or a public health official.

2. A certificate issued pursuant to this subsection shall be issued for one year and shall not be renewed or extended.

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### **R7-2-619. Renewal Requirements**

- A.** A certificate may be renewed within six months of its expiration date except that an individual holding multiple valid certificates may renew all certificates at one time in order to align the expiration dates of each certificate. Certificates being aligned shall be renewed at the same time as the certificate that will expire first. Individuals seeking to align certificates shall meet the renewal requirements for each certificate being aligned. Certificates that are renewed or aligned pursuant to this Section shall be valid for 12 years.
- B.** A certificate may be renewed within ~~one-year~~ [ten years](#) after it expires. Individuals whose certificates have been expired for more than ~~one-year~~ [ten years](#) shall reapply for certification under the requirements in effect at the time of reapplication. Nothing in this Section shall imply that an individual may be employed in a position that requires certification after the expiration of the relevant certificate.
- C.** Renewal of certificates requires the completion of continuing education credits after the most recent issuance or renewal of the certificate, except that continuing education credits completed during the valid term of the certificate that expires first meets the requirement of certificates being aligned. Fifteen hours of continuing education credits are required each year of the certificate term to renew a certificate, which may be accumulated in various increments per year prior to renewal. One hour of continuing education credit shall be equivalent to one clock hour of a professional development activity. Continuing education credits must relate to Arizona academic or professional educator standards or apply toward the attainment of an additional Arizona certificate, endorsement, or approved area, and may include training regarding suicide awareness and prevention; child abuse, human trafficking of children and the sexual abuse of children, including warning signs that a child may be a victim of child abuse, human trafficking, or sexual abuses; screening, intervention, accommodation, use of technology and advocacy for students with reading impairments, including dyslexia; or other training programs explicitly permitted [or required](#) by state law. Professional development that may be counted toward the required hours of continuing education credit shall consist of any of the following activities:
1. Courses related to education or a subject area taught in Arizona schools, taken from an accredited institution. Each semester hour of courses shall be equivalent to 15 clock hours of professional development. The required documentation shall be an official transcript.
  2. Professional activities such as conferences and workshops related to the profession of teaching or the field of public education. A maximum of 30 clock hours per year may be earned by attendance at professional conferences and workshops. The required documentation shall be a conference agenda and a statement or certificate from the sponsoring organization noting the clock hours earned.
  3. District-sponsored or school-sponsored in-services or activities which are specifically designed for professional development. The required documentation shall be written verification from the sponsoring district or school stating the dates of participation and the number of clock hours earned.
  4. Internships in business settings. The internship shall be based on an agreement between a business and a district or school with the stated objective of aligning teaching curriculum

- with workplace skills. A maximum of 80 clock hours may be earned through business internships. The required documentation shall be written verification by the sponsoring business and district or school stating the dates of participation and number of clock hours earned.
5. Educational research. The research shall be sponsored by a research facility or an accredited institution or funded by a grant. The required documentation shall be the published report of the research or verification by the sponsoring agency; and a statement of the dates of participation and the number of clock hours earned.
  6. Serving in a leadership role of a professional organization that provides training, activities, or projects related to the profession of teaching or the field of public education. A maximum of 30 clock hours per year may be earned by serving in a leadership role of a professional organization. The required documentation shall be written verification by the governing body of the professional organization of the dates of service and clock hours earned.
  7. Serving on a visitation team for a school accreditation agency. A maximum of 60 clock hours per year may be earned by serving on a visitation team. The required documentation shall be written verification from the accreditation agency of the dates of service and clock hours earned.
- D.** An individual holding a Standard teaching certificate, a standard administrative certificate, or other professional certificate may renew the certificate for 12 years upon completion of 15 hours of continuing education credits each year of the certificate term which may be accumulated in various increments per year prior to renewal or with one of the following:
1. A valid professional license as a counselor, social worker, psychologist, or speech pathologist issued by the appropriate state agency in this state or in another state;
  2. A valid certificate issued by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards;
  3. A valid Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology issued by the American Speech-Language Hearing Association; or
  4. A Nationally Certified School Psychologist credential issued by the National Association of School Psychologists.
- E.** An individual who is employed by a school or school district at the time of renewal shall submit the required documentation of professional development to the district superintendent, director of personnel, or other designated administrator for verification. A certified individual who is not employed by a school or school district at the time of renewal shall submit the required documentation of professional development to a county school superintendent, the dean of a college of education, or the Department for verification. The school or district official, county school superintendent, or the dean of a college of education shall verify on forms provided by the Department the number of hours of professional development completed by the individual during the valid period of the certificate being renewed.
- F.** The Department shall issue a Standard teaching certificate of the same type.
- G.** Notwithstanding any other provision in this Section, an individual with a valid fingerprint clearance card who has had a certificate or certificates expire for at least two years but not more than 10 years may renew the expired certificate or certificates and any endorsements or

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approved areas if the individual ~~had 10 or more years of verified full-time experience in this state in the area the individual is seeking renewed certification and~~ is in good standing. Individuals who apply for renewal under this provision are exempt from the continuing education requirements described in subsections (C) and (D). Standard certificates issued to that individual pursuant to this subsection shall be identical to the expired certificate or certificates.

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