

A.A.C. 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. 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.

~~C. All one-year certificates shall expire one year from the date of issuance. All certificates issued for more than one year shall expire on the date of issuance in the year of expiration.~~ 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.

D. If an applicant has not met all the requirements for the certificate or endorsement at the time of evaluation, the applicant shall have a maximum of 60 days to complete those requirements and request re-evaluation.

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 Board before the effective date of this Article are considered to have been issued in conformance with these rules.

I. The Board shall issue a comparable Arizona certificate, if one has been established by R7-2-608, R7-2-609, R7-2-610, R7-2-611, R7-2-612, or R7-2-613, and shall waive the requirements for passing the comparable professional knowledge, subject knowledge, and performance portions of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment, to an applicant who holds current comparable certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

J. Teachers in grades six through 12 whose primary assignment is in an academic subject required pursuant to R7-2-301, R7-2-302, R7-302.01 and R7-302.02 shall demonstrate proficiency by passing the appropriate subject area portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment. The subject areas of demonstrated proficiency 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.

K. 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.

L. 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.

M. Teachers of homebound students shall hold the same certificate that is required of a

classroom teacher.

N. Fingerprint clearance cards shall be issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

O. 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.

A.A.C. 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 aligned pursuant to this Section may be valid for less than six years.

B. A certificate may be renewed within one year after it expires. Individuals whose certificates have been expired for more than one year 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. ~~Professional development must relate to Arizona academic or professional educator standards or apply toward the attainment of an additional Arizona certificate, endorsement, or approved area.~~

C. Renewal of certificates requires the completion of professional development after the most recent issuance or renewal of the certificate, except that professional development completed during the valid term of the certificate that expires first meets the requirement of certificates being aligned. Professional development 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 and the sexual abuse of children, including warning signs that a child may be a victim of child abuse or sexual abuses; screening, intervention, accommodation, use of technology and advocacy for students with reading impairments, including dyslexia; or other training programs explicitly permitted by state law. Professional development 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.

8. Completion of the process for certification by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards. The required documentation shall be written verification from the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards and a statement from the employing district or school verifying the dates and the clock hours earned during the certification process.

D. An individual holding a Standard teaching certificate, an administrative certificate, or other professional certificate, may renew the certificate upon completion of 180 clock hours of professional development.

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.