

Descriptor Term:  
LICENSURE

Descriptor Code:  
7.3200

Legal References: No Child Left Behind Act, 20 U.S.C. 6301 *et seq.*; 34 C.F.R. 200.55-57, 200.61; 20 U.S.C. 6319; 20 U.S.C. 7801(11); G.S. 115C-296, -333, -325(e)(1)(m); State Board of Education Policies TCP-A-000, -001, -004, - 016, -018 and -021

Cross References:

The board intends to comply fully with all licensure requirements of federal law, state law and State Board of Education policies. Except as provided below, a professional employee must hold at all times a valid North Carolina license appropriate to the position in which he or she is employed. To the extent possible, all professional teaching assignments will be in the area of the professional employee's license except as may be otherwise allowed by state and federal law and State Board policy. In addition, all professional teachers employed to teach core academic subjects must be "highly qualified" as required by federal law. Core academic subjects include English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history and geography.

**A. BEGINNING TEACHER SUPPORT**

The superintendent or his/her designee shall develop a plan and a comprehensive program for beginning teacher support. The plan must be approved by the board and kept on file for review. The superintendent or his/her designee shall submit an annual report on the Beginning Teacher Support Program to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) by October 1 of each year or as otherwise provided by law.

**B. LICENSE RENEWAL**

Licensure renewal is the responsibility of the individual, not of the school system. Any employee who allows a license to expire must have it reinstated prior to the beginning of the next school year. A teacher whose license has expired is subject to dismissal.

The school system may offer courses, workshops and independent study activities to help school personnel meet license renewal requirements. Any renewal activity offered must be consistent with State Board of Education policy. In addition, the superintendent or his/her designee shall develop a procedure to determine the appropriateness of any credit offered in advance of renewal activities.

**C. PARENTAL NOTIFICATION**

At the beginning of each school year, the school system shall notify the parents or guardians of each student attending a Title I school or participating in a Title I program of their right to request the following information about qualifications of their child's teacher:

1. whether the teacher has met NC licensing requirements;
2. whether the teacher has had any licensure requirements waived;
3. what the teacher's bachelor degree major(s) is/are;
4. what other degrees and teaching license area(s) the teacher holds; and

5. whether the child is provided services by a paraprofessional, and if so, the paraprofessional's qualifications.

The school system shall give notice within 10 school days to the parents of children who, after four consecutive weeks, have been taught a core academic subject by a teacher who is not highly qualified.

**D. EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS**

The superintendent shall develop a plan in accordance with DPI requirements to ensure that low-wealth, minority, learning disabled and/or English language learners are taught by experienced and highly qualified teachers to the same extent as are students who do not fall into these categories. If DPI does not require such plan of the LEA, the superintendent is not required to develop a plan under this subsection unless he or she determines that one is needed to address inequities within the school system.