

**RULES
OF
THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**CHAPTER 0520-02-03
EDUCATOR LICENSURE**

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0520-02-03-.01 GENERAL INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS.

- (1) Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-1-302, the State Board of Education has the authority to adopt policies governing the qualifications, requirements, and standards of, and provide the licenses and certificates for, all public school teachers, principals, assistant principals, supervisors, and directors of schools.
- (2) No person shall be employed as a principal, teacher (including school services personnel), or supervisor of any public elementary or high school by any local education agency (LEA), or receive any pay for such services out of the public school funds of the LEA, until the person presents to the director of schools a valid license as prescribed by the State Board.
- (3) The Department of Education shall establish and publish all licensure application forms and timelines.
- (4) Each educator shall be individually responsible for securing a license, verifying its accuracy, maintaining its validity, registering it with the employing board of education, and meeting the requirements of T.C.A. § 49-5-101.
- (5) Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-5-105, the holder of a license who changes or alters the holder's license in any way, or who permits any other person to change or alter the license, commits a Class C misdemeanor and shall have such holder's license revoked.
- (6) This rule sets the minimum standards and requirements for licensure to ensure that individuals who serve in Tennessee classrooms and schools are prepared and equipped to serve Tennessee students.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-101, 49-5-105, 49-5-108, and 49-5-403. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed November 16, 1989; effective February 28, 1990. Amendment filed November 30, 1990; effective February 27, 1991. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed May 12, 1992; effective August 29, 1992. Amendment filed November 22, 1993; effective March 30, 1994. Amended by Public Chapter No. 957 Acts of 1994; effective May 10, 1994. Amended by Public Chapter 251 Acts of 1995; effective May 19, 1995 (See Attorney General Opinion No. 094-080.) Amendment filed January 31, 1995; effective May 31, 1995. Amendment filed May 31, 1996; effective September 27, 1996. Amendment filed May 28, 1999; effective September 28, 1999.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.01, continued)

Amendment filed March 29, 2000; effective July 28, 2000. Amendment filed December 19, 2002; effective April 30, 2003. Amendment filed June 30, 2003; effective October 28, 2003. Amendment filed May 19, 2005; effective September 28, 2005. Amendment filed March 23, 2007; effective July 27, 2007. Amendment filed July 31, 2008; effective November 28, 2008. Amendment filed October 20, 2009; effective March 31, 2010. Amendment filed September 6, 2013; effective February 28, 2014. Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal and new rules filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. Amendments filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019.

0520-02-03-.02 EDUCATOR LICENSE TYPES.

- (1) All educators in Tennessee shall hold one (1) of the following license types:
 - (a) The practitioner license is the first level license issued to applicants who meet the requirements set forth in this rule. There are three (3) types of practitioner licenses: practitioner teacher license, practitioner occupational teacher license, and practitioner school services personnel license.
 - (b) The professional license is issued to educators who have met licensure expectations at the practitioner level and who meet the requirements for advancement set forth in this Rule. There are three (3) types of professional licenses: professional teacher license, professional occupational teacher license, and professional school services personnel license.
 - (c) The JROTC license is issued to active or retired military personnel who seek to serve as Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) teachers.
 - (d) The license for postsecondary educators (PSE) is issued to applicants who have been a full-time or part-time college professor or instructor and who meet the requirements set forth in this Rule.
 - (e) The adjunct license is issued to applicants seeking to teach no more than three (3) classes in a content area of critical shortage identified by the State Board who meet the requirements set forth in this Rule.
 - (f) The Instructional Leader License-Aspiring (ILL-A) is issued to applicants who hold a bachelor's degree, are enrolled in an instructional leadership preparation program approved by the State Board of Education, and meet the requirements set forth in this Rule.
 - (g) The Instructional Leader License (ILL) is issued to applicants who hold a bachelor's degree, have completed an instructional leadership preparation program approved by the State Board of Education, and meet the requirements set forth in this Rule.
 - (h) The Instructional Leader License-Professional (ILL-P) The ILL-P is issued to educators currently holding the ILL who meet the requirements for advancement set forth in this Rule.
- (2) The validity period of each license type shall be outlined in the SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502, however:
 - (a) The validity period of the practitioner license shall be no more than four (4) years;
 - (b) The validity period of the professional license shall be no more than seven (7) years;

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- (c) The validity period of the ILL-A shall be no more than four (4) years;
- (d) The validity period of the ILL shall be no more than four (4) years; and
- (e) The validity period of the ILL-P shall be no more seven (7) years.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302 and 49-5-108. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed July 31, 2008; effective November 28, 2008. Amendment filed July 17, 2009; effective December 29, 2009. Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal and new rules filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. Amendments filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019.

0520-02-03-.03 REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHER LICENSES.

- (1) Prospective educators seeking a practitioner teacher license shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 - (a) Pathway 1. The prospective educator:
 - 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 - 2. Has completed a State Board-approved educator preparation program;
 - 3. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 - 4. Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
 - (b) Pathway 2. The prospective educator:
 - 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 - 2. Is enrolled in a State Board-approved educator preparation program with a job-embedded clinical practice;
 - 3. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 - 4. Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
- (2) Prospective educators from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement and seeking a practitioner teacher license shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 - (a) Out-of-State Pathway 1. The out-of-state prospective educator:
 - 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 - 2. Has completed an educator preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee;
 - 3. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 - 4. Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.03, continued)

- (b) Out-of-State Pathway 2. The out-of-state prospective educator:
 - 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 - 2. Holds a valid initial level teacher license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement;
 - 3. Has completed an educator preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee; and
 - 4. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider.
- (c) Out-of-State Pathway 3. The out-of-state prospective educator:
 - 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 - 2. Is enrolled in an educator preparation program with job-embedded clinical practice that is approved by a state other than Tennessee that has a state-recognized partnership with a Tennessee local education agency (LEA);
 - 3. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 - 4. Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
- (3) Prospective educators from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement and seeking a professional academic teacher license shall meet requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 - (a) Out-of-State Pathway 4. The out-of-state prospective educator:
 - 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university; and
 - 2. Holds a valid professional level license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (b) Out-of-State Pathway 5. The out-of-state prospective educator:
 - 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university; and
 - 2. Holds a valid certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.
- (4) A practitioner license may be renewed once upon completion of an approved educator preparation program and submission of qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy prior to the end of the validity period of the first (1st) issuance of the practitioner license.
- (5) If the requirements for practitioner license renewal are not met prior to the end of the validity period of the first (1st) issuance of the practitioner license, the license shall become inactive.
- (6) An educator with a practitioner teacher license may seek to advance to a professional teacher license. In order to advance from a practitioner license to a professional license, an educator shall meet the following requirements:

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- (a) Completed an approved educator preparation program and submitted qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy prior to the end of the validity period of the first (1st) issuance of the practitioner license;
 - (b) Obtained three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department; and
 - (c) Earned thirty (30) professional development points.
- (7) If the requirements for licensure advancement are not met prior to the end of the validity period of the second (2nd) issuance of the practitioner license, the license shall become inactive.
- (8) Educators who obtained the practitioner teaching license through the out-of-state pathway 4 prior to enactment of Public Chapter 125 of 2021 shall not be required to submit qualifying scores on State Board-required assessments to advance if:
- (a) The educator has been employed in a Tennessee public school in the candidate's area of endorsement; and
 - (b) The educator earned a level of overall effectiveness (LOE) score of "above expectations" or "significantly above expectations" in each of the first two (2) years immediately following the issuance of the individual's initial practitioner license; or
 - (c) If the educator did not receive an overall performance effectiveness level during one (1) or both of the two (2) years immediately following issuance of the educator's practitioner license, then the educator may:
 1. Choose to use the educator's most recent overall performance effectiveness level that is available to demonstrate an overall performance effectiveness level of "above expectations" or "significantly above expectations"; or
 2. The educator may request that the Director of Schools or the Director of the public charter school submit a recommendation to the Department of Education on the educator's effectiveness.
- (9) To renew the professional license, an educator shall earn sixty (60) qualifying professional development points as indicated in SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
- (10) If the educator has not met the requirements for renewal at the end of the validity period of the professional license, then the license shall become inactive.
- (11) In order to reactivate a license and endorsements held, an educator shall submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved educator preparation program (if not already provided) and shall either:
- (a) Submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy; or
 - (b) Present a valid professional-level license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-108, and 49-5-5603. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.03, continued)

Repeal and new rules filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. Amendments filed October 16, 2017; effective January 14, 2018. Amendments filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019. Emergency rules filed April 16, 2020; effective through October 13, 2020. Amendments filed April 16, 2020; effective July 15, 2020. Emergency rules filed July 9, 2021; effective through January 5, 2022.

0520-02-03-.04 REQUIREMENTS FOR OCCUPATIONAL TEACHER LICENSES.

- (1) Prospective educators seeking a practitioner occupational teacher license shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Hold a high school diploma or higher;
 - (b) Be enrolled in a State Board-approved educator preparation program with a job-embedded clinical practice;
 - (c) Be recommended by the approved educator preparation provider;
 - (d) Have a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department; and
 - (e) Hold an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.

- (2) Prospective educators from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement and seeking a practitioner occupational teacher license shall meet requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 - (a) Out-of-State Pathway 1. The out-of-state prospective educator:
 1. Holds a high school diploma or higher;
 2. Has completed an educator preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee;
 3. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider;
 4. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable; and
 5. Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
 - (b) Out-of-State Pathway 2. The out-of-state prospective educator:
 1. Holds a high school diploma or higher;
 2. Holds a valid initial-level license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement;
 3. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 4. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.04, continued)

- (3) Prospective educators from a state other than Tennessee seeking a professional occupational teacher license shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Out-of-State Pathway 3. The out-of-state prospective educator:
 1. Hold a high school diploma or higher;
 2. Holds a valid professional-level occupational license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement; and
 3. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
- (4) A practitioner occupational teacher license may be renewed once upon completion of an approved educator preparation program prior to the end of the validity period of the first (1st) issuance of the practitioner license.
- (5) If the requirements for practitioner license renewal are not met prior to the end of the validity period of the first (1st) issuance of the practitioner license, the license shall become inactive.
- (6) In order to advance from a practitioner occupational teacher license to a professional occupational teacher license, an educator shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Complete three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department;
 - (b) Complete a State Board-approved educator preparation program;
 - (c) Earn thirty (30) professional development points, a minimum of twenty (20) which shall come from new teacher training provided by the Department as indicated by SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502;
 - (d) Hold an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable; and
 - (e) For educators that received the practitioner occupational teacher license on or after July 1, 2018, submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
- (7) If the requirements for licensure advancement are not met prior to the end of the validity period of the second (2nd) issuance of the practitioner occupational teacher license, the license shall become inactive.
- (8) In order to renew the professional occupational teacher license educators must meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Earn sixty (60) professional development points as indicated by SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502; and
 - (b) Provide verification of an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
- (9) If the educator has not met the requirements for renewal at the end of the validity period of the professional license, then the license shall become inactive.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.04, continued)

- (10) Teachers who hold an active professional occupational teacher license may add additional occupational endorsements through one (1) of the following pathways:
 - (a) Hold an active industry certification, as determined by the Department, for the area of endorsement, if applicable; or
 - (b) If the endorsement area does not require a certification, then have a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department.
- (11) A practitioner or professional occupational teacher license may be reactivated by completion of both of the following:
 - (a) Meeting one (1) of the following requirements:
 1. Hold an active industry certification, as determined by the Department, for the area of endorsement, if applicable; or
 2. If the endorsement area does not require a certification, then have a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department; and
 - (b) Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy or present a valid professional-level occupational license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-108, and 49-5-5603. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal and new rules filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. Amendments filed October 7, 2016; effective January 5, 2017. Amendments filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019. Emergency rules filed July 9, 2021; effective through January 5, 2022.

0520-02-03-.05 REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL SERVICES PERSONNEL LICENSES.

- (1) School services personnel licenses are available in the following areas:
 - (a) School speech-language pathologist;
 - (b) School audiologist;
 - (c) School psychologist;
 - (d) School counselor;
 - (e) School social worker; and
 - (f) School educational interpreter.
- (2) School speech-language pathologists shall hold a school services personnel license with the school speech-language pathologist endorsement.
 - (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as a school speech-language pathologist shall meet the following requirements:

(Rule 0520-02-03-.05, continued)

1. Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy and meet one (1) of the following:
 - (i) Hold an advanced degree in speech-language pathology from a regionally-accredited institution of higher education with a speech-language program approved by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology; or
 - (ii) Hold a valid speech-language pathologist license issued by the Tennessee Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences or the licensing board of a state other than Tennessee.
- (b) Out-of-state candidates seeking a professional school services personnel license as a school speech-language pathologist shall hold an advanced degree in speech-language pathology and hold a valid out-of-state professional level speech-language pathology license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (3) School audiologists shall hold a school services personnel license with the audiologist endorsement.
 - (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as a school audiologist shall meet the following requirements:
 1. Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy and meet one (1) of the following:
 - (i) Hold an advanced degree in audiology from a state or regionally-accredited institution of higher education with a graduate level program approved by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology; or
 - (ii) Hold a valid audiology license issued by the Tennessee Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences or the licensing board of a state other than Tennessee; or
 2. Hold an advanced degree in audiology and hold a valid out-of-state initial level school audiologist license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (b) Out-of-state candidates seeking a professional school services personnel license as a school audiologist shall hold an advanced degree in audiology and hold a valid out-of-state professional level school audiologist license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (4) School psychologists shall hold a school services personnel license with the school psychologist endorsement.
 - (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as a school psychologist shall meet the following requirements:
 1. Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy and meet one (1) of the following:

(Rule 0520-02-03-.05, continued)

- (i) Complete a State Board-approved graduate level educator preparation program in school psychology or a graduate level educator preparation program in school psychology approved for licensure by a state other than Tennessee; or
 - (ii) Hold a valid certificate as a Nationally Certified School Psychologist issued by the National School Psychology Certification System; or
 2. Hold an advanced degree in school psychology and hold a valid out-of-state initial level school psychologist license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (b) Out-of-state candidates seeking a professional school services personnel license as a school psychologist shall hold an advanced degree in school psychology and hold a valid out-of-state professional level school psychologist license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (5) School counselors shall hold a school services personnel license with the school counselor endorsement.
- (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel licensure and endorsement as a school counselor shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 1. Pathway 1. The candidate:
 - (i) Holds an advanced degree in school counseling from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 - (ii) Has completed a State Board-approved educator preparation program in school counseling;
 - (iii) Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 - (iv) Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
 2. Pathway 2. The candidate:
 - (i) Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited college or university;
 - (ii) Is enrolled in a State Board-approved educator preparation program in school counseling with a job embedded clinical practice;
 - (iii) Has completed all coursework required of the educator preparation program;
 - (iv) Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 - (v) Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
 3. Pathway 3. The candidate:

(Rule 0520-02-03-.05, continued)

- (i) Holds an advanced degree in a counseling field;
 - (ii) Is enrolled in a State Board-approved educator preparation program in school counseling;
 - (iii) Has completed a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours of coursework in school counseling;
 - (iv) Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider;
 - (v) Submits required supervision agreement between the LEA and approved educator preparation provider; and
 - (vi) Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
4. Pathway 4. The candidate:
- (i) Holds an advanced degree in school social work or school psychology from a State Board-approved educator preparation program or from an educator preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee;
 - (ii) Is enrolled in a State Board-approved educator preparation program in school counseling;
 - (iii) Is recommended by the approved school counseling educator preparation provider;
 - (iv) Submits required supervision agreement between the LEA and approved educator preparation provider; and
 - (v) Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
5. Pathway 5. The out-of-state candidate:
- (i) Holds an advanced degree in school counseling from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 - (ii) Has completed an educator preparation program in school counseling approved by a state other than Tennessee as evidenced by a recommendation from the out-of-state educator preparation provider where the educator completed preparation; and
 - (iii) Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
6. Pathway 6. The out-of-state candidate:
- (i) Holds an advanced degree in school counseling from a regionally-accredited college or university; and
 - (ii) Holds a valid out-of-state initial level school counselor license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.05, continued)

- (b) Candidates seeking a professional school services personnel licensure and endorsement as a school counselor shall hold an advanced degree in school counseling and hold a valid out-of-state professional level school counselor license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (c) School counselors who serve in a supervisory role shall have a professional school services personnel license with an endorsement in school counseling.
- (6) School social workers shall hold a school services personnel license with the school social worker endorsement.
- (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as a school social worker shall meet one (1) of the following requirements:
 - 1. Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy and meet one (1) of the following:
 - (i) Complete a State Board-approved educator preparation program in school social work, or an educator preparation program in school social work approved for licensure by a state other than Tennessee, and be recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; or
 - (ii) Hold a valid social worker license issued by the Tennessee Board of Social Workers or the licensing board of a state other than Tennessee; or
 - 2. Holds a bachelor's degree or higher in social work from a regionally-accredited college or university and holds a valid out-of-state initial level school social work license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (b) Candidates seeking a professional school services personnel licensure and endorsement as a school social worker shall hold a bachelor's degree or higher in social work and hold a valid out-of-state professional level school social worker license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (7) School educational interpreters shall hold a school services personnel license with the educational interpreter endorsement.
- (a) Candidates seeking licensure and endorsement as a school educational interpreter shall meet the following requirements:
 - 1. Hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university; and
 - 2. Meet one of the following:
 - (i) Hold a current, nationally recognized certification in interpreting which includes a written examination related to ethics and practice; or
 - (ii) Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy; or
 - (b) Hold a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally-accredited college or university and holds a valid out-of-state initial level educational interpreter license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.05, continued)

- (c) Candidates seeking a professional school services personnel licensure and endorsement as an educational interpreter shall hold a bachelor's degree or higher and hold a valid out-of-state professional level educational interpreter license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (8) A practitioner school services personnel license may be renewed once if advancement requirements are not met.
- (9) In order to advance from a practitioner school services personnel license to a professional school services personnel license, an educator shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Three (3) years qualifying experience as defined by the Department; and
 - (b) Earn thirty (30) qualifying professional development points as indicated by SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
- (10) If the requirements for licensure advancement are not met prior to the end of the validity period of the second (2nd) issuance of the practitioner license, the license shall become inactive.
- (11) In order to reactivate a license and endorsements held, an educator shall submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved educator preparation program (if not already provided) and shall either:
 - (a) Submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy; or
 - (b) Present a valid professional-level license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (12) In order to renew the professional school services license, educators must earn sixty (60) qualifying professional development points as indicated by SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-108, and 49-5-5603. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal and new rules filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. Amendments filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019. Emergency rules filed July 9, 2021; effective through January 5, 2022.

0520-02-03-.06 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE JROTC LICENSE.

- (1) Individuals seeking a JROTC license shall submit the following information to the Department of Education:
 - (a) Certification of preparation by the branch of the military approving the teacher placement;
 - (b) A copy of a valid JROTC training certificate that includes an expiration date;
 - (c) Official transcripts of all credit and degrees earned in colleges or universities in the United States; and
 - (d) Verification that the applicant will be employed in a JROTC program in a Tennessee LEA.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.06, continued)

- (2) Individuals holding the JROTC license may only teach courses designated as part of the JROTC program and no additional endorsements may be added to the JROTC license.
- (3) In order to renew the JROTC license, educators shall:
 - (a) Hold a valid JROTC license; and
 - (b) Submit a recommendation to the Department from the LEA where the educator is employed.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302 and 49-5-108. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal and new rules filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. Amendments filed October 16, 2017; effective January 14, 2018. Amendments filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019.

0520-02-03-.07 REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSES OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATORS.

- (1) A practitioner license for postsecondary educators (PSE) may be issued to candidates that meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Meet one of the following experience requirements:
 - 1. Have been a full-time college professor or instructor for at least two (2) of the last five (5) years at an eligible postsecondary institution that is accredited by a regional accrediting association, as defined by T.C.A. § 49-4-902; or
 - 2. Have been a part-time college professor or instructor, teaching at least one (1) course per semester, for at least three (3) of the last five (5) years at an eligible postsecondary institution that is accredited by a regional accrediting association, as defined by T.C.A. § 49-4-902;
 - (b) Submit at least three (3) years of qualifying teaching evaluations that rate the applicant as proficient or better in the subject area in which the applicant is seeking licensure from the postsecondary institution at which the applicant taught, where evaluations are defined as an assessment of the educator's performance in the subject area, which may include a formal rating system or, if the institution does not use a rating system, may be a letter from the dean, department chair, or other direct supervisor regarding the educator's performance;
 - (c) Submit qualifying scores that are no more than five (5) years old on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
- (2) The PSE license shall only be issued for teaching assignments in grades nine through twelve (9-12).
- (3) The PSE license shall bear an endorsement to teach only in the subject area in which the person taught at the eligible postsecondary institution.
- (4) In order to advance from a PSE practitioner license to a PSE professional license, an educator shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Have three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department; and

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- (b) Earn thirty (30) professional development points as indicated by SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
- (5) If the requirements for advancement to the PSE professional license are not met prior to the end of the validity period of the PSE practitioner license, the PSE practitioner license may be renewed once.
- (6) If the requirements for advancement to the PSE professional license are not met prior to the end of the validity period of the second (2nd) issuance of PSE practitioner license, the license shall become inactive.
- (7) In order to reactivate the PSE professional license, an educator shall submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments that are not more than five (5) years old.
- (8) In order to renew the PSE professional license educators must earn sixty (60) qualifying professional development points.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-108, and 49-5-112. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal and new rules filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. Amendments filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019.

0520-02-03-.08 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ADJUNCT LICENSE.

- (1) An adjunct license may be issued to qualifying candidates seeking to teach no more than three (3) classes in a content area of critical shortage identified by the State Board.
 - (a) Prospective educators seeking an adjunct license shall meet the following requirements:
 - 1. Hold a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution of higher education in the content area in which they will be teaching or hold an active industry license or credential for the occupational area in which they will be teaching;
 - 2. Have a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years in the content area in which they will be teaching;
 - 3. Complete an adjunct licensure program approved by the State Board; and
 - 4. Be recommended by the approved adjunct licensure program.
- (2) The adjunct license shall be valid for one (1) year and may be renewed five (5) times. Prior to the first renewal, the candidate shall submit qualifying scores on required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105.
- (3) Individuals holding the adjunct license may only teach in the content area identified on the initial license and no additional endorsements may be added to the adjunct license.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302 and 49-5-108. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal and new rules filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. Amendments filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019.

0520-02-03-.09 DENIAL, FORMAL REPRIMAND, SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION.

- (1) Definitions:
- (a) Conviction – Means a judgment entered by a court upon a plea of guilty, a plea of nolo contendere, a finding of guilt by a jury or the court notwithstanding any pending appeal or habeas corpus proceeding arising from the judgment. Conviction includes, but is not limited to, a conviction by a federal court or military tribunal, including a court-martial conducted by the armed forces of the United States, and a conviction, whether upon a plea of guilty, a plea of nolo contendere, or a finding of guilt by a jury or the court, in any other state of the United States, other jurisdiction, or other country. Conviction also includes a plea taken in conjunction with Tennessee Code Annotated (“T.C.A.”) § 40-35-313 or its equivalent in any other jurisdiction.
 - (b) Dismissed – With regard to employment action taken by an employing public or non-public school or school system, dismissed means the termination of a licensed educator’s employment with the school or school system or non-renewal of the educator’s contract.
 - (c) Formal Reprimand – A less harsh licensing action than the suspension, revocation, or denial of a license, which admonishes an educator for certain conduct under this rule. An educator who has been reprimanded by the Board shall receive a letter from the State Board of Education, which shall become part of the educator’s state record and may become part of the educator’s local record, indicating that the inappropriate conduct is discouraged and shall be subject to further disciplinary action if repeated.
 - (d) Inappropriate Communication (Explicit) – Any communication between an educator and a student that describes, represents, or alludes to sexual activity or any other illegal activity. This includes, but is not limited to, communication defined as sexual misconduct under T.C.A. § 49-5-417, communication defined as sexually related behavior under T.C.A. § 49-5-1003(b)(15), and communication that would encourage illegal activity such as encouraging the use or purchase of illegal substances. This shall not be construed to prevent an educator from communication regarding sexual or illegal activities for educational purposes such as in teaching family-life curriculum pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 49-6-1307 et seq. or drug abuse resistance education pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-1-402 or to prevent an educator from upholding the educator’s obligation as a mandatory reporter of child abuse, neglect, or child sexual abuse.
 - (e) Inappropriate Communication (Non-Explicit) – Any communication between an educator and a student that is beyond the scope of the educator’s professional responsibilities. Examples of such non-explicit inappropriate communications include, but are not limited to, those communications that discuss the educator’s or student’s past or current romantic relationships; those that include the use of profanities or obscene language; those that are harassing, intimidating, or bullying; those that attempt to establish an inappropriate personal relationship with a student; and those that are related to personal or confidential information regarding another school staff member or student.
 - (f) Inappropriate Physical Contact – Unlawful and/or unjustified physical contact with a student. Examples of such inappropriate physical contact include, but are not limited to, sexual contact, physical altercations, horseplay, tickling, improper use of corporal punishment, and rough housing.
 - (g) Inappropriate Physical Contact With Harm – Inappropriate physical contact as described in subparagraph (f) above that results in physical or mental harm.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.09, continued)

- (h) Negligence – Failure to exercise the care toward others that a reasonable or prudent person would exercise under the circumstances or taking action that a reasonable person would not. Examples of such negligence include, but are not limited to, situations that expose students to mental or physical harm or the potential for mental or physical harm such as leaving dangerous items in the classroom or in areas easily accessible to students and leaving students unattended.
 - (i) Non-Compliance with Security Guidelines for TCAP or Successor Test – Any person found to have not followed security guidelines for administration of the TCAP or a successor test, including but not limited to, making or distributing unauthorized photos or copies of the test, altering a grade or answer sheet of student responses or answers, providing copies or photos of answers or test questions to students or others, and otherwise compromising the integrity of the testing process (which includes, but is not limited to, providing unauthorized assistance to students during administration of testing).
 - (j) Official School Business – Any activity undertaken by an educator in an official capacity and in connection with the educator’s employment. Examples include, but are not limited to, conferences, professional development, trainings, and seminars.
 - (k) Other Good Cause – Conduct that calls into question the fitness of an educator to hold a license including, but not limited to, violation of any provision in the Teacher Code of Ethics as contained in T.C.A. §§ 49- 5-1001, et seq.
 - (l) Permanent Revocation – The nullification of an educator’s license without eligibility for future restoration. Permanent revocation also includes the voluntary permanent surrender of an educator’s license without eligibility for future restoration.
 - (m) School Premises – Any real property and/or land owned, leased, managed, controlled, or under the custody of a state or local education agency, school system, or school.
 - (n) School Property – Any property owned, leased, managed, controlled, or under the custody of a state or local education agency, school system, or school.
 - (o) School Related Activity – Any activity in which a student participates, including but not limited to classes, meetings, extracurricular activities, clubs, athletics, and field trips, sponsored by the school, state educational agency, or local educational agency.
 - (p) Suspension – With regard to licensure action by the State Board, suspension means the nullification of an educator’s license for a predetermined term, after which the license may be reinstated. Reinstatement may be subject to the completion of terms and conditions contained in the order of suspension. With regard to employment action taken by a public or non-public school or school system, suspension means the temporary removal of an educator from his or her regular duties with or without pay. Suspension includes the placement of an educator on administrative leave pending investigation into allegations of misconduct.
 - (q) Revocation – The nullification of an educator’s license for a period of at least five (5) years, after which an educator may petition the State Board for restoration under paragraph (7)(b). Revocation also includes the voluntary surrender of an educator’s license for a period of at least five (5) years, after which an educator may petition the State Board for restoration under paragraph (7)(b).
- (2) Notification to the State Board of Education –

(Rule 0520-02-03-.09, continued)

- (a) Licensed Educators – It is the responsibility of the Director of Schools of the employing public or non-public school or school system or Director of a public charter school (“Director”) to report to the State Board licensed educators who have been suspended or dismissed, or who have resigned, following allegations of misconduct, including sexual misconduct, which, if substantiated, would warrant consideration for license suspension, revocation, or formal reprimand under this rule. The report shall be submitted within thirty (30) days of the suspension, dismissal, or resignation. The Director shall also report felony convictions and convictions for any offense listed in paragraph 4(a) of this rule of licensed educators within thirty (30) days of receiving knowledge of the conviction. Schools and school systems have a duty to respond to State Board inquiries and provide to the State Board, except when prohibited by law, any available documentation requested concerning the allegations contained in the report. If the State Board receives information regarding a licensed educator who was not reported as described in this paragraph, and such information, if substantiated, would warrant licensure action under this rule, the State Board reserves the right to place the educator’s license file in the state’s educator licensure database (TN Compass) under review.
 - (b) Educators Teaching on a Temporary Permit – Directors may report individuals teaching on a temporary permit to the State Board under the same conditions outlined in the above paragraph (2)(a). Schools and school systems have a duty to respond to State Board inquiries and provide to the State Board, except when prohibited by law, any available documentation requested concerning the allegations contained in the report. If the State Board receives information regarding an individual teaching on a permit who was not reported as described in this paragraph, and such information, if substantiated, would warrant disciplinary action under this rule, the State Board reserves the right to place an individual’s file under review in the state’s educator licensure database (TN Compass).
- (3) The State Board of Education may revoke, suspend, formally reprimand, or refuse to issue or renew an educator’s license for any of the following reasons:
- (a) Conviction of a felony;
 - (b) Conviction of possession of illegal drugs;
 - (c) Being on school premises, school property, at a school-related activity involving students, or on official school business, while possessing, consuming, or under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs;
 - (d) Falsification or altering of a license or documentation required for licensure;
 - (e) Inappropriate physical contact with a student;
 - (f) Failure to report as required under paragraph (2)(a);
 - (g) Noncompliance with security guidelines for TCAP or successor test;
 - (h) Denial, formal reprimand, suspension, or revocation of a license or certificate in another jurisdiction for reasons which would justify denial, formal reprimand, suspension, or revocation under this rule;
 - (i) Other good cause as defined in subparagraph (1)(k) of this rule; or
 - (j) Any offense contained in paragraphs (4) and/or (5) of this rule.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.09, continued)

(4) Automatic Revocation and Suspension

- (a) Automatic Revocation of License – The State Board of Education shall automatically revoke or automatically permanently revoke, without the right to a hearing, the license of an educator for the following:
1. Upon receiving verification of the identity of the licensed educator together with a certified copy of a criminal record showing that the licensed educator has been convicted of any of the following offenses (including, but not limited to, conviction for the same or similar offense in any jurisdiction). Educators whose conviction includes a plea taken in conjunction with T.C.A. § 40-35-313 or its equivalent in any other jurisdiction shall not be subject to automatic permanent revocation.
 - (i) Communicating a threat concerning a school employee, as described in T.C.A. § 39-13-114;
 - (ii) Statutory rape by an authority figure, as described in T.C.A. § 39-13-532;
 - (iii) Arson or aggravated arson, as described in T.C.A. § 39-14-301 and § 39-14-302;
 - (iv) A burglary offense, as described in T.C.A. § 39-14-401 - § 39-14-404;
 - (v) Child abuse, child neglect, or child endangerment, as described in T.C.A. § 39-15-401;
 - (vi) Aggravated child abuse, aggravated child neglect, or aggravated child endangerment, as described in T.C.A. § 39-15-402;
 - (vii) Providing handguns to juveniles, as described in T.C.A. § 39-17-1320;
 - (viii) A sexual offense or a violent sexual offense, as described in T.C.A. § 40-39-202;
 - (ix) A felony offense in T.C.A. Title 39, Chapter 13;
 - (x) A felony offense in T.C.A. Title 39, Chapter 17, part 13; or
 - (xi) Any offense listed in T.C.A. § 39-17-417 or § 40-35-501(i)(3); or
 2. Being identified by the Department of Children's Services (DCS), after having exhausted or waived all due process rights available to the licensed educator as having committed child abuse, severe child abuse, child sexual abuse, or child neglect as stated in T.C.A. § 49-5-413; or
 3. The licensed educator's name being placed on the state's vulnerable person's registry or the state's sex offender registry.
- (b) The Board shall notify persons whose licenses are subject to automatic revocation or automatic permanent revocation at least thirty (30) days prior to the board meeting at which such revocation shall occur.
- (c) Automatic Suspension of License – The State Board of Education shall automatically suspend, without the right to a hearing, the license of an educator upon receiving notice from the responsible state agency of the identity of the licensed educator together with notification that the educator has committed any of the following offenses:

(Rule 0520-02-03-.09, continued)

1. Default on a student loan pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-5-108(d)(2), provided, however, pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-5-108(d)(2)(B), the State Board of Education may elect not to suspend, deny, or revoke the license or certificate of a teacher if the default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the person from working in the person's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency; or
2. Failure to comply with an order of support for alimony or child support, pursuant to T.C.A. § 36-5-706.
3. The Board shall notify persons whose licenses are subject to automatic suspension at least thirty (30) days prior to the board meeting at which such suspension shall occur.

(5) Disciplinary Actions

(a) For the following categories of offenses, the State Board of Education may impose disciplinary action upon its findings as detailed below:

1. Conviction of a felony
 - (i) Upon receiving notification that an individual has been convicted of a felony, the educator shall be subject to disciplinary action within the range of a suspension of not less than two (2) years up to and including permanent revocation of the convicted individual's educator license.
2. Use, possession, or under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances
 - (i) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to be in possession of, consuming, or under the influence of alcohol, or illegal substances while on school premises or property when children are present shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of suspension for not less than one (1) year up to and including revocation.
 - (ii) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to be in possession of, consuming, or under the influence of alcohol, or illegal substances while on school premises or property without children present shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of suspension for not less than one (1) year up to and including revocation.
 - (iii) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to be in possession of, consuming, or under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances while not on school premises or property, but while participating in school related activities with children present, shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of suspension for not less than one (1) year up to and including revocation.
 - (iv) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to be in possession of, consuming, or under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances while not on school premises or property, but participating in school related activities without children present, shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of suspension for not less than six (6) months up to and including a two (2) year suspension.
3. Negligence in the commission of duties as an educator

(Rule 0520-02-03-.09, continued)

- (i) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to be negligent in his or her commission of duties as an educator in such a manner that does not result in harm to a child, but presented the potential for physical or mental harm, shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a letter of formal reprimand up to and including a two (2) year suspension.
 - (ii) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to be negligent in their commission of duties as an educator in such a manner that results in harm to a child, shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of suspension for no less than one (1) year up to and including permanent revocation.
4. Noncompliance with security guidelines for TCAP or successor test
 - (i) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to have been noncompliant with security guidelines for TCAP or successor test shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a letter of formal reprimand up to and including a suspension not to exceed two (2) years.
5. Unprofessionalism
 - (i) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to have engaged in non-explicit inappropriate communication with a student shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a suspension for no less than three (3) months up to and including revocation.
 - (ii) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to have engaged in inappropriate communication of an explicit nature with a student shall be subject to permanent revocation.
 - (iii) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to have inappropriately used school property shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a suspension for no less than three (3) months up to and including revocation.
6. Inappropriate Physical Contact
 - (i) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to have engaged in inappropriate physical contact with a student that does not result in harm or potential harm to the student shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a formal reprimand up to and including suspension for two (2) years.
 - (ii) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to have engaged in inappropriate physical contact with a student that results in harm or potential harm to the student shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a suspension for not less than two (2) years up to and including permanent revocation.
7. Falsification of Licensure Documentation – An individual holding an educator's license who is found to have falsified licensure documentation shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of revocation or permanent revocation.
8. Violation of the Teacher Code of Ethics – An individual holding an educator's license who is found to have violated the teacher code of ethics contained in

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T.C.A. Title 49, Chapter 5, Part 10 shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a formal reprimand up to and including revocation.

- (b) Similar Offenses – Actions related or similar to the above-enumerated offenses in paragraphs (3), (4), and (5)(a) shall carry recommended disciplinary action commensurate with the range established for the similar offense.
 - (c) Reasonable Force – Nothing in this part shall prevent an educator from exercising his or her lawful authority to use reasonable force when necessary under the circumstances to correct or restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another person pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-4107.
 - (d) Repeated Violations – Individuals holding an educator’s license who are subject to multiple disciplinary actions by the Board shall face disciplinary action in excess of the recommended ranges. A third violation, regardless of severity, shall be subject to a recommendation of revocation.
 - (e) Discipline Range – Nothing in this rule shall prohibit the State Board from imposing a disciplinary action outside of the uniform discipline range upon good cause shown in extraordinary circumstances.
 - (f) Eligibility for Employment during Review – The notation on an individual’s educator licensure database file (TN Compass) that an educator’s license is under review by the State Board is not a disciplinary action under this rule and does not prohibit a licensed educator from being employed by a school or school system, as that educator still has an active license. An individual with a notation on their educator licensure database file (TN Compass) that their educator license is under review by the State Board shall continue to be responsible for completing any requirements for renewal or advancement of their license during the period of time that the individual’s educator license is under review, because the license remains active.
- (6) Issuance of Temporary Permits
- (a) The Commissioner of Education (“Commissioner”) may grant, on behalf of the State Board, under conditions outlined in T.C.A. § 49-5-106(a)(1), State Board Rule 0520-02-03-.12 and this rule, a temporary permit to an unlicensed individual to teach in an unfilled position, which permit shall be valid only until June 30 following the date of issuance.
 1. The permit application of any individual who indicates an affirmative answer on the personal affirmation section of the application shall be sent by the Commissioner to the State Board for review in accordance with this rule for a determination of whether the permit may be issued by the Commissioner. If an individual indicates an affirmative answer on the personal affirmation section of the application for a permit, the individual shall show cause why the permit should be issued despite the individual’s affirmative answers. Issuance of a permit is considered on a case-by-case basis and the burden of proof rests with the individual applying for the permit. In the case of a felony conviction, the individual shall also show that any sentence imposed, including any pre-trial diversion or probationary period, has been completed. Additionally, an application for issuance of a permit may be denied if an action against the individual’s license has been taken or is pending in this state or another state.
 2. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that any individual applying for a permit who has committed an offense that would subject him or her to discipline under this rule shall be presumed ineligible to receive a permit.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.09, continued)

3. An individual shall meet the requirements set forth in this rule and State Board rule 0520-02-03-.12 for each subsequent issuance of a permit.
 4. If an individual teaching on a permit issued by the Commissioner is reported by a Director as described above in paragraph (2) and the misconduct, if substantiated, would warrant disciplinary action under this rule, the State Board may direct the Commissioner not to issue a subsequent permit upon expiration of the individual's current permit pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-5-106(a).
 5. Case Review –
 - (i) Board counsel shall present an initial recommendation regarding granting or denying a permit application to the case review committee consisting of Board staff who shall review the entire file to determine whether to recommend issuance of a permit or denial of an application for a permit. The case review committee may also determine that additional investigation is necessary before a recommendation can be made.
 - (ii) If the case review committee recommends that the Board direct the Commissioner to deny an application for a permit under this rule, said denial will be presented to the Board at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. Board counsel will notify the individual of the denial recommendation and the Board's policy regarding requests to speak at Board meetings.
 6. If an individual has had an application for a permit denied by the Commissioner, the individual must indicate such on any future application for an educator license or permit in Tennessee.
- (7) Reinstatement or Restoration of a License
- (a) Reinstatement
 1. An individual whose license has been suspended under this rule may have his or her educator license reinstated after the period of suspension has been completed, and, where applicable, the individual has presented proof of compliance with all terms prescribed by the State Board. Suspended licenses are subject to the expiration and renewal rules of the State Board. A suspended license may not be reinstated if an action has been taken or is pending against the educator's license in another state.
 - (b) Restoration
 1. An individual whose license has been revoked under this rule may apply to the State Board to have the license restored upon application showing that the cause for revocation no longer exists and that the person has complied with any terms imposed in the order of revocation. To show the cause no longer exists, the individual shall show cause why the license should be restored despite the misconduct that resulted in the individual's license being revoked. The individual shall provide evidence of rehabilitation and fitness to perform the duties authorized and required by the license sought. In the case of a felony conviction, the individual shall also show that any sentence imposed, including any pre-trial diversion or probationary period, has been completed. Application for such restoration shall be made to State Board counsel.

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2. An individual whose license has been revoked under this rule shall not be eligible to reapply for licensure for a period of no less than five (5) years from the time at which the license was initially revoked. An individual whose license has been permanently revoked shall not be eligible to reapply for licensure.
 3. In any deliberation by the Board of Education to restore a license that has been revoked, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that an individual whose license has been revoked is unfit for licensure. Nothing in this rule is intended to guarantee restoration of a license.
 4. Restoration of an educator license is considered on a case-by-case basis. The burden of proof rests with the individual applying for restoration of the license. An application for restoration may be denied if an action against the individual's educator license has been taken or is pending in another state.
- (8) Denial of a License
- (a) An individual who has been denied an educator license may reapply for a license at any point after denial provided the individual has complied with any terms imposed in the order of denial. If the individual indicates an affirmative answer on the personal affirmation section of the application for a Tennessee educator license, the individual shall show why the license should be issued despite the individual's affirmative answers. Issuance of a license is considered on a case-by-case basis and the burden of proof rests with the individual applying for the license. In the case of a felony conviction, the individual shall also show that any sentence imposed, including any pre-trial diversion or probationary period has been completed. An application for issuance of a license may be denied if an action against the individual's license has been taken or is pending in another state.
 - (b) Presumptive Denial – There shall be a rebuttable presumption that any individual applying for an educator license who has committed an offense that would subject him or her to revocation or suspension shall be presumed ineligible to receive a Tennessee educator license.
- (9) Scope of Disciplinary Action – An individual whose license has been denied, suspended, or revoked may not serve as a school volunteer or be employed, directly or indirectly, as an educator, paraprofessional, aide, substitute teacher, or in any other position during the period of the denial, suspension, or revocation.
- (10) Duty to Maintain Updated Contact Information – Individuals have a duty to maintain up-to-date contact information, including but not limited to address, e-mail address, and phone number, in the state of Tennessee's educator licensure database (TN Compass). Any changes to the individual's contact information shall be updated by the educator in the educator license database (TN Compass) within thirty (30) days of the change.
- (11) Case Review – Board counsel shall present an initial recommendation for licensure action or non-action to a case review committee consisting of Board staff who shall review the entire file to determine whether disciplinary action should be recommended to the Board against an individual's license, or whether to issue, renew, restore, or reinstate an individual's license. The case review committee may also determine that additional investigation is necessary before a recommendation can be made.
- (12) Denial of an Initial Application or Application to Reactivate an Expired License – If the case review committee recommends that the Board deny an initial application for a Tennessee educator license or an application to reactivate an expired license under this rule, said denial will be presented to the Board at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. Board counsel will

(Rule 0520-02-03-.09, continued)

notify individuals of the denial recommendation and the Board's policy regarding requests to speak at Board meetings.

- (13) Proposed Action and Due Process Rights – If the case review committee recommends that the Board formally reprimand, suspend, or revoke an individual's license or deny the renewal of an individual's license under paragraphs (3) or (5) of this rule, or that the Board deny restoration under paragraph (7), Board counsel shall send the proposed action to the individual in writing using the individual's contact information in the State of Tennessee's educator licensure database (TN Compass) regarding the proposed licensure action and that they are entitled to request that a hearing be conducted as a contested case under the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act ("UAPA"), T.C.A. §§ 4-5-301, et seq., and the individual's right to show compliance pursuant to T.C.A. § 4-5-320(c). Board counsel may also include a proposed consent order to be agreed to by the individual. Should the individual fail to request a hearing within the specified time period or fail to take action with regard to the consent order, a contested case proceeding shall be instituted against him or her, of which the individual shall receive separate notice of official charges for license action and notice directing him or her to appear at a specified time and place for a hearing to be held before an Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") pursuant to the UAPA, T.C.A. §§ 4-5-301, et seq. Should the individual fail to appear, a default judgment may be taken against his or her license. If the individual requests a hearing, then Board counsel schedules a hearing to be conducted as a contested case proceeding with an ALJ pursuant to the UAPA. The Board or the individual may appeal the Initial Order of the ALJ to the Board or to Chancery Court in Davidson County, Tennessee, pursuant to the UAPA, or seek reconsideration from the ALJ.
- (14) Consent Order/Action – If the individual consents to the proposed licensure action, Board counsel shall present the consent order to the Board for approval. The Board is not bound by the recommendation contained in the consent order. The Board may vote to approve the consent order, to impose less harsh disciplinary action, or to pull the item from the agenda for reconsideration of a harsher disciplinary action. If a harsher disciplinary action is recommended by the Board, Board counsel shall send a new notice to the individual regarding his or her right to request a hearing pursuant to paragraph thirteen (13) of this rule.
- (15) Contested Case Proceedings – All contested case hearings before the Board or an ALJ sitting on behalf of the Board shall be conducted pursuant to the Uniform Rules of Procedures for Contested Case Hearings Before State Administrative Agencies, Rules 1360-04-01-.01 through 1360-04-01-.20.
- (16) Assessment of Costs – When a final order is issued following a contested case hearing, before the Board or an ALJ sitting on behalf of the Board, in which an individual is issued a formal reprimand or the individual's license is denied, non-renewed, suspended, or revoked under this rule, Board counsel may request that the Board, or an ALJ sitting on behalf of the Board, order that reasonable costs associated with the contested case hearing be assessed against the individual pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-5-419. The reasonable costs associated with the contested case hearing shall be determined by the State Board or the ALJ sitting on behalf of the Board and shall be based upon billing associated with the contested case hearing received from the State of Tennessee Department of State Administrative Procedures Division.
- (17) Discipline Schedule – The following chart outlines the least and greatest disciplinary ranges for the offenses listed as indicated by the shaded squares, provided that the Board may impose discipline outside of the stated range as provided in paragraph (5)(e) of this rule.

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	Letter of Formal Reprimand	Suspension of 3 months up to and including 6 months	Suspension of 6 months up to and including 1 year	Suspension of 1 year up to and including 18 months	Suspension of 18 months up to and including 2 years	Suspension of 2 years up to and including Revocation	Revocation	Permanent Revocation
Noncompliance with Security Guidelines								
Director of Schools Failure to Report								
Negligence w/o Harm or with Potential for Harm								
Inappropriate Physical Contact w/o Harm								
Unprofessionalism - Inappropriate Communication (Non-Explicit)								
Unprofessionalism - Inappropriate Use of School Property								
Possession/Use/Under Influence - Off School Premises/Property w/o Children Present During School Related Activity								
Possession/Use/Under Influence - Off School Premises/Property w/ Children								
Possession/Use/Under Influence - On School Premises/Property w/o Children								
Possession/Use/Under Influence - On School Premises/Property w/ Children								
Violation of Teacher Code of Ethics								
Negligence w/ Harm								
Inappropriate Physical Contact with Harm								
Felony Conviction								
Falsification of Licensure Documentation								

(Rule 0520-02-03-.09, continued)

Unprofessionalism - Inappropriate Communication (Explicit)								
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Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-320, 49-1-302, 49-1-607, 49-5-106, 49-5-108, 49-5-413, 49-5-417, and 49-5-419. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Amendment filed May 29, 2015; effective August 27, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal and new rules filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. Emergency rule filed September 5, 2017; effective through March 4, 2018. Amendments filed December 5, 2017; effective March 5, 2018. Emergency rules filed April 16, 2020; effective through October 13, 2020. Amendments filed February 3, 2020; effective May 3, 2020. Amendments filed November 30, 2020; effective February 28, 2021.

0520-02-03-.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER LICENSES.

- (1) All principals, assistant principals, and supervisors serving as instructional leaders in Tennessee shall hold the appropriate instructional leader license.
- (2) Dual assignment personnel whose work assignment includes more than fifty percent (50%) instructional leadership responsibilities shall hold the appropriate instructional leader license.
- (3) Educators seeking the Instructional Leader License (ILL) shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Hold an advanced degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 - (b) Have at least three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department;
 - (c) Have completed a State Board-approved instructional leader preparation program;
 - (d) Be recommended by the State Board-approved instructional leader preparation provider; and
 - (e) Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
- (4) Educators from a state other than Tennessee who are seeking the ILL shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Out-of-State Pathway 1: The out-of-state prospective instructional leader shall:
 - 1. Hold an advanced degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 - 2. Have at least three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department;
 - 3. Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy; and
 - (i) Have completed an instructional leader preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee as demonstrated by a provider recommendation from the out-of-state instructional leader preparation program where the educator completed preparation.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.10, continued)

- (ii) Hold a full and valid license, comparable to the Tennessee ILL, from a state other than Tennessee.
- (5) Educators from a state other than Tennessee who are seeking the Instructional Leader License–Professional (ILL-P) shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Out-of-State Pathway 2. The out-of-state prospective instructional leader shall:
 - 1. Hold an advanced degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 - 2. Have at least three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department, of which, one (1) year must be as a school principal; and
 - 3. Hold a full and valid license comparable to the ILL from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (6) Educators holding the ILL may renew the license through one (1) of the following pathways:
 - (a) Serve in a Tennessee Academy for School Leaders (TASL)-mandated position for at least two (2) years of the validity period of the license and be current in all TASL requirements; or
 - (b) Successfully complete a Department-approved instructional leadership training.
- (7) Educators enrolled in a State Board-approved instructional leader preparation program may apply for the Instructional Leader License-Aspiring (ILL-A). Educators holding the ILL-A may only serve as an assistant principal and may not serve as a principal or instructional supervisor. Educators seeking the ILL-A shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Have at least three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department;
 - (b) Be enrolled in a State Board-approved instructional leader preparation program; and
 - (c) Be recommended by the State Board-approved instructional leader preparation provider.
- (8) Candidates from a state other than Tennessee who are seeking the ILL-A shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Have at least three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department;
 - (b) Have completed an instructional leader preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee as demonstrated by:
 - 1. A full and valid license, comparable to the Tennessee ILL, from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement; or
 - 2. A provider recommendation from the out-of-state instructional leader preparation program where the educator completed preparation.
- (9) The ILL-A shall become inactive at the end of the validity period. The ILL-A is not renewable and may not be reactivated.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.10, continued)

- (10) Educators currently holding the ILL may seek advancement to the ILL-P through one (1) of the following advancement pathways:
- (a) Tennessee Academy for School Leaders (TASL) Pathway. Educators seeking advancement through the TASL pathway shall meet the following requirements:
 - 1. Be recommended by the TASL director;
 - 2. Successfully complete the Beginning Principals' Academy or the Beginning Supervisors' Academy; and
 - 3. Be recommended by the educator's director of schools verifying the educator has a minimum of two (2) years of successful experience as a principal, assistant principal, or an instructional supervisor as demonstrated by an overall evaluation rating of at expectations or higher on a state-approved administrator evaluation model during the most recent validity period of the ILL.
 - (b) Individual Professional Learning Plan (IPLP) Pathway. Educators seeking advancement through the IPLP pathway shall meet the following requirements:
 - 1. Be recommended by the TASL director;
 - 2. Successfully complete an Individual Professional Learning Plan in coordination with an approved instructional leader preparation program; and
 - 3. Be recommended by the educator's director of schools verifying the educator has a minimum of two (2) years of successful experience as a principal, assistant principal, or an instructional supervisor as demonstrated by an overall evaluation rating of at expectations or higher on a state-approved administrator evaluation model during the most recent validity period of the ILL.
- (11) Educators may renew the ILL-P through one (1) of the following pathways:
- (a) TASL Pathway. Educators who currently serve in a TASL-mandated position shall meet the following renewal requirements:
 - 1. Have served as an instructional leader in a TASL-mandated position for at least four (4) years of the validity period of the ILL-P; and
 - 2. Meet all TASL requirements.
 - (b) Instructional Leadership Training Pathway. Educators who do not currently serve in a TASL-mandated position seeking renewal shall successfully complete a Department approved instructional leadership training.
- (12) If the educator has not met the requirements for renewal or advancement at the end of the validity period of the instructional leader license, then the license shall become inactive.
- (13) In order to reactivate an instructional leader license and endorsements held (with the exception of the ILL-A which is not eligible for reactivation), an educator shall submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved leader preparation program (if not already provided) and shall either:
- (a) Submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy; or

(Rule 0520-02-03-.10, continued)

- (b) Present a valid professional-level instructional leader license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (14) Out-of-state prospective educators who are military spouses and who hold an active instructional leader license (initial or professional) from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement shall be issued the ILL-P upon providing documentation of active military dependent status and a recommendation from an approved educator preparation provider verifying completion of an approved instructional leader preparation program in a state other than Tennessee.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-108, and 49-5-5603. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. New rules filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019. Emergency rules filed April 16, 2020; effective through October 13, 2020. Amendments filed April 16, 2020; effective July 15, 2020. Emergency rules filed July 9, 2021; effective through January 5, 2022.

0520-02-03-.11 ENDORSEMENTS.

- (1) All educators shall hold a valid Tennessee educator license with an endorsement covering the work assignment as provided in T.C.A. Title 49, Chapter 5.
- (2) Prospective educators seeking initial licensure shall meet requirements in at least one (1) area of endorsement.
- (3) Educators may add additional endorsements to a license in accordance with the guidelines established by the Department.
- (4) When an endorsement held by an out-of-state applicant does not match the content area or grade span of an available Tennessee endorsement, the Department shall identify the most appropriate match, if possible. In some cases, if there is not an equivalent endorsement and the grade span and/or content area do not have an appropriate match, the Department may request additional evidence to demonstrate knowledge and/or experience in the content area and/or grade span covered by the available Tennessee endorsement prior to issuing a license in Tennessee.
- (5) All educators who teach a course in which a state-level end of course examination is required shall hold the subject-specific endorsement for the course or meet the appropriate employment standard set by the Department.
- (6) An educator may teach up to two (2) sections of one (1) course outside the educator's area of endorsement each school year, with the exception of courses in which a state-level end of course examination is required, elementary physical education courses, or special education courses.
- (7) An educator who holds a valid and active license may teach more than one (1) course or more than two (2) sections of one (1) course outside of the educator's area of endorsement if an endorsement exemption is requested by the director of schools and approved by the commissioner.
 - (a) In reviewing an initial endorsement exemption for approval, the commissioner shall consider:
 1. The educator's previous teaching experience;

(Rule 0520-02-03-.11, continued)

2. The educator's postsecondary coursework and degrees held; and
 3. The content and grade span of endorsements held on the educator's current license.
- (b) Endorsement exemptions shall be valid for one (1) school year. A director of schools may request renewal of an endorsement exemption for an educator who demonstrates progress toward earning the relevant endorsement. An endorsement exemption may be renewed no more than two (2) times.
- (c) Educators may teach on an approved endorsement exemption for no more than a total of (3) school years.
- (8) Licensed educators enrolled in an additional endorsement program in special education offered by a State Board-approved educator preparation provider may add a provisional special education endorsement by:
- (a) Submitting a recommendation from the educator preparation provider verifying:
 1. Enrollment in a program of study for additional endorsement in the special education endorsement area; and
 2. An assurance that the educator will be assigned a mentor who is endorsed in the special education endorsement area.
 - (b) In order to transition from a provisional endorsement to a full endorsement, educators shall submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments and successfully complete the program of study within three (3) years of receiving a provisional endorsement. The provisional endorsement shall be valid for three (3) years and shall not be renewed.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-108, 49-5-403, 49-6-303, and 49-6-6006. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed November 16, 1989; effective February 29, 1990. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed May 28, 1999; effective September 28, 1999. Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. New rules filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019. Emergency rules filed July 9, 2021; effective through January 5, 2022.

0520-02-03-.12 PERMITS.

- (1) In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-5-106, the Commissioner may grant a temporary teaching permit to an individual who does not hold an active Tennessee educator license under the conditions set forth in this rule.
- (2) The charter school leader or the director of schools and the chair of the local board of education shall certify to the Commissioner that the LEA or charter school is unable to secure a qualified teacher with a valid license for the position in which a vacancy exists.
- (3) The LEA or charter school shall provide evidence of a targeted recruitment strategy for the vacant position.
- (4) The director of schools or charter school leader shall recommend the individual for a teaching permit.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.12, continued)

- (5) The recommended individual shall hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree.
- (6) If an individual indicates an affirmative answer on the personal affirmation section of the application for a permit, the individual shall show cause why the permit should be issued despite the individual's affirmative answers. The permit application of any individual who indicates an affirmative answer on the personal affirmation section of the application shall be sent to the State Board for review in accordance with State Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09 for a determination of whether the permit may be issued by the Commissioner.
- (7) If an individual teaching on a permit issued by the Commissioner is reported by a Director as described in State Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09 and the misconduct, if substantiated, would warrant disciplinary action under State Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09, the State Board may direct the Commissioner not to issue a subsequent permit to the individual upon expiration of the individual's current permit pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-5-106 and State Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09.
- (8) In reviewing a permit application for approval, the Commissioner may consider, but is not limited to, the following:
 - (a) The individual's previous work experience;
 - (b) The individual's postsecondary coursework and degrees held;
 - (c) The individual's relevant experience in the subject area where the individual is seeking to teach; and
 - (d) The individual's progress toward obtaining a Tennessee educator license.
- (9) Individuals with a teaching permit shall not teach a course in which a state-level end of course examination is required.
- (10) Each permit issued by the Commissioner shall be valid only until June 30 following the date of issuance.
- (11) An individual may be issued no more than three (3) permits. An individual shall meet the requirements set forth in this rule for each subsequent issuance of a permit.
- (12) An LEA or charter school may employ an individual holding a permit, but not holding a valid license, only for such period of time for which the LEA or charter school is unable to secure a qualified teacher with a valid license for the vacant position. The permit issued to an unlicensed individual is only valid for the school and LEA identified in the permit application submitted to the Department and shall not be used for any other purpose.
- (13) If an individual has had a permit application denied by the Commissioner pursuant to paragraph six (6) or seven (7) of this rule, the individual must indicate such on any future application for an educator license or permit in Tennessee.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-106, 49-5-108, and 49-5-403. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed November 16, 1989; effective February 29, 1990. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed May 28, 1999; effective September 28, 1999. Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. New rules filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019. Amendments filed November 30, 2020; effective February 28, 2021.

0520-02-03-.13 EMERGENCY TEACHER LICENSE.

- (1) A Tennessee emergency teacher license may be issued to educators who hold a valid license from a state other than Tennessee and who were displaced under one of the following circumstances:
 - (a) The Governor declares a state of emergency or declares a disaster under T.C.A. § 58-2-107, and the Commissioner of Education determines the necessity of conferring an emergency teacher license to displaced persons, or
 - (b) A federal state of emergency is declared anywhere in the United States, and the Commissioner of Education determines the necessity of conferring an emergency teacher license to displaced persons.
- (2) An emergency teacher license shall only be valid for one (1) school year.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-106, 49-5-108, and 49-5-403. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. New rules filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019.

0520-02-03-.14 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POINTS.

- (1) Professional Development Points (PDPs) ensure continuous improvement for educators and are required for licensure advancement and renewal.
- (2) Educators shall earn a total of thirty (30) PDPs in order to advance a practitioner license to a professional license.
- (3) Educators shall earn a total of sixty (60) PDPs in order to renew a professional license.
- (4) PDPs are earned through the successful completion of Department-approved professional development activities as indicated by SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
- (5) In order to qualify for PDPs, professional development activities shall be related to improving educator effectiveness. Activities not related to improving educator effectiveness do not qualify for PDPs.
- (6) PDPs shall be earned during the validity period of the educator's license.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-108, and 49-5-403. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. New rules filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019.

0520-02-03-.15 REQUIREMENTS AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.

- (1) The validity period of a current, valid practitioner license that is set to expire in August 2020 shall be extended to August 31, 2021. Educators may use the additional validity period to complete any required licensure assessments, professional development points, or other requirements that were interrupted due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- (2) Prospective educators who complete a State Board-approved educator preparation program in the spring of 2020 and who meet all other requirements for the license type for which they

(Rule 0520-02-03-.15, continued)

are applying but are unable to submit qualifying scores on the required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy shall be eligible for a provisional practitioner license that will be valid from the date of issuance until August 31, 2021.

- (a) The provisional practitioner license shall be converted to a full practitioner license upon submission of qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy prior to the end of the validity period.
 - (b) If qualifying scores on all required assessments are not submitted prior to the end of the validity period of the provisional practitioner license, the license shall become inactive.
 - (c) The provisional practitioner license shall not be renewed or reactivated.
 - (d) The provisional practitioner license shall not be issued if the application was received by the Department after December 31, 2020.
- (3) Educators who complete a State Board-approved instructional leader program in the spring of 2020 and who meet all other requirements for the Instructional Leader License (ILL) but are unable to submit qualifying scores on the required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy shall be eligible for a provisional ILL that will be valid from the date of issuance until August 31, 2021.
- (a) The provisional ILL shall be converted to a full ILL upon submission of qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy prior to the end of the validity period.
 - (b) If qualifying scores on all required assessments are not submitted prior to the end of the validity period of the provisional ILL, the license shall become inactive.
 - (c) The provisional ILL shall not be renewed or reactivated.
 - (d) The provisional ILL shall not be issued if the application was received by the Department after December 31, 2020.
- (4) Notwithstanding rule 0520-02-03-.11, paragraphs (5), (6), and (7)(b), an educator who holds a valid and active license may be granted an endorsement exemption to teach a course in which a state-level end of course examination is required, or any other course, if specifically authorized by law. An endorsement exemption issued pursuant to this paragraph and rule 0520-02-03-.11 shall be valid for the period of time specified in the authorizing legislation.
- (5) Notwithstanding rule 0520-02-03-.12, paragraphs (9) and (10), an individual may be issued a temporary permit to teach a course in which a state-level end of course examination is required, or any other course, if specifically authorized by law. A temporary permit issued pursuant to this paragraph and rule 0520-02-03-.12 shall be valid for the period of time specified in the authorizing legislation.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-106, and 49-6-1511; Executive Order No. 14 of 2020 (and applicable, subsequent Executive Orders addressing COVID-19 relief); and Public Chapter 652 of 2020.
Administrative History: Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal and new rules filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. Emergency rules filed April 16, 2020; effective through October 13, 2020.

(Rule 0520-02-03-.15, continued)

New rule filed April 16, 2020; effective July 15, 2020. Emergency rule filed April 27, 2021; effective through October 24, 2021.

0520-02-03-.16 THROUGH 0520-02-03-.20 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302. **Administrative History:** *Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016.*

0520-02-03-.21 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302. **Administrative History:** *Original rule filed November 16, 1989; effective February 28, 1990. Amendment filed November 30, 1990; effective February 27, 1991. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed May 12, 1992; effective August 29, 1992. Amendment filed August 10, 1993; effective December 29, 1993. Amendment filed November 22, 1993; effective March 30, 1994. Amendment filed January 21, 1994; effective May 31, 1994. Amendment filed May 31, 1996; effective September 27, 1996. Amendment filed January 14, 1997; effective May 30, 1997. Amendment filed April 27, 1998; effective August 28, 1998. Amendment filed November 18, 1999; effective March 30, 1999. Amendments filed May 28, 1999; effective September 28, 1999. Amendment filed November 30, 1999; effective March 29, 2000. Amendment filed March 29, 2000; effective July 28, 2000. Amendment filed July 31, 2000; effective November 28, 2000. Amendment filed December 19, 2002; effective April 30, 2003. Amendment filed June 30, 2003; effective October 28, 2003. Repeal and new rule filed March 1, 2005; effective July 29, 2005. Repeal and new rule filed April 17, 2006; effective August 28, 2006. Amendment filed March 23, 2007; effective July 27, 2007. Amendment filed September 6, 2013; effective February 28, 2014. Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016.*

0520-02-03-.22 THROUGH 0520-02-03-.94 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302. **Administrative History:** *(For history prior to June, 1992, see pages iii-ix). Repeal filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed May 28, 1999; effective September 28, 1999. Repeal filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rule was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016.*