

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title: Proposed Revisions to the Eligibility Requirements for Provisional Licenses in School Counseling and School Social Work

Type of Executive Summary:

- Action Action on First Reading Discussion Information

Policy Implications:

- Constitution _____
 General Statute # _____
 SBE Policy #QP-A-001
 SBE Policy Amendment
 SBE Policy (New)
 APA # _____
 APA Amendment
 APA (New)
 Other _____

Presenter(s): Nadine Ejire (Assistant Section Chief, Licensure Section) and Teresa A. Smith (K-12 Student Support Service Consultant)

Description:

In working with school counselors and school social workers on the new evaluation standards approved by the Board in December, 2008, concern was expressed about the eligibility requirements for provisional licenses in these areas. Based on further discussions, revised eligibility requirements for provisional licensing in school counseling and school social work are being proposed. If approved, the new requirements will become effective July 1, 2009.

Resources:

No additional resources are needed.

Input Process:

Two ad hoc committees chaired by Ms. Teresa A. Smith were convened to obtain feedback and recommendations on the eligibility requirements for the provisional licensing in school counseling and school social work. The draft recommendations were widely vetted including distribution through the professional associations, NC Principal and Assistant Principals Association, university training programs, student support services directors, Student Support Services Advisory Board, and personnel administrators.

Stakeholders:

LEAs, schools, school counselors, school social workers, teachers, students, families, and university training programs

Timeline For Action:

The proposed revisions are presented for discussion this month and will be presented for approval next month. The recommended effective date is July 1, 2009.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the proposed revisions to the eligibility for provisional licensing in school counseling and social work be approved by the State Board of Education with an effective date of July 1, 2009.

Audiovisual equipment requested for the presentation:

- Data Projector/Video (Videotape/DVD and/or Computer Data, Internet, Presentations-PowerPoint preferred) Specify:
 Audio Requirements (computer or other, except for PA system which is provided) Specify:
 Document Camera (for transparencies or paper documents - white paper preferred)

Motion By: _____ Seconded By: _____
Vote: Yes _____ No _____ Abstain _____
Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Postponed _____ Revised _____

*Person responsible for SBE agenda materials and SBE policy updates: Nadine Ejire (807-3310)

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Policy Manual

Policy Identification

Priority: Twenty-First Century Professionals

Category: Licensure

Policy ID Number: TCP-A-001

Policy Title: Policies on General Licensure Requirements

Current Policy Date: ~~12/04/2008~~ 04/02/2009

Other Historical Information:

Previous Board Dates: 01/05/1997, 07/09/1998, 01/13/1999, 07/01/1999, 07/13/2000, 09/14/2000, 10/04/2001, 01/09/2003, 2/6/2003, 06/05/2003, 08/07/2003, 9/11/03, 11/22/2004, 5/05/2005, 6/30/2005, 8/04/2005, 10/06/2005, 11/03/2005, 12/01/2005, 01/05/2006, 05/04/2006, 06/01/2006, 07/06/2006, 01/04/2007, 06/07/2007, 12/06/2007, 02/07/2008, 04/03/2008, 9/11/2008, 10/02/2008, 12/04/2008

Statutory Reference:

PL 107-110, the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

Administrative Procedures Act (APA) Reference Number and Category:

***** Begin Policy *****

NOTE: ONLY RELEVANT SECTIONS OF THE POLICY ARE PRINTED IN THIS ATTACHMENT.

1.50 Provisional Licenses

Individuals licensed at the class A (bachelor's) level or higher may have other areas added on a provisional basis to their license as needed and requested by the employing LEA. Effective June 30, 2006, provisional licenses will no longer be issued for the elementary grades level or at the middle and high school levels in license areas required for teaching the core academic subjects.

The Licensure Section shall issue the provisional license and inform the individual and LEA personnel officer of requirements to clear the provisional status. These requirements may include course work and/or testing.

All course credit earned toward fulfilling these requirements must be directly applicable to the provisional license and must be met at the rate of not less than six semester hours per school year. Credit to extend a provisional license for an additional year must be earned before the beginning of the school year that follows the expiration date on the license. All requirements to clear a provisional license must be completed within five years of the first effective date of the provisional license.

In the area of exceptional children, teachers must hold the appropriate license for each area of exceptionality to which they are assigned. Effective July 1, 1998, if 50% or more of a class qualifies as an exceptional area, the teacher must be licensed in that area.

1.55 Eligibility for Provisional Licensing

Provisional licenses are issued only on the request of the employing LEA. To be eligible for a provisional license, the individual must be assigned in the license area. Specific eligibility requirements for provisional licensing follow:

Area	Requirements
Counselor	<u>Completion of a master's degree in Agency Counseling, Clinical Mental Health, Community Counseling, or Rehabilitation Counseling from a regionally accredited college or university or</u> Completion of a minimum of 18 graduate semester hours applicable toward in a school counselor program.
School Social Work	Completion of a bachelor's, <u>master's, specialist, or doctoral</u> degree in sociology <u>or</u> social work.
Media Coordinator	"A" level teaching license or bachelor's degree in media or 18 graduate semester hours applicable toward a school media coordinator program.
School Psychology	Completion of all program requirements at the advanced (6 th year level), except for the thesis or internship. Written confirmation from the college/university at which the individual has matriculated concurring with the individual's employment
Speech-Language Pathology	Provisional licenses are no longer issued in this area. However, individuals holding non-provisional "A" level licenses must complete requirements for the "M" license by July 1, 2005.
Assistant Principals	<p>Effective July 1999, all persons employed as assistant principals in state allotted positions, or as assistant principals in full-time positions regardless of funding source, in the public schools of the state or in schools receiving public school funds, shall, in addition to other applicable requirements, be required either to hold or be qualified to hold a principal's license or a provisional principal's license.</p> <p>A one-year provisional principal's license can be issued to individuals selected by local boards of education for employment as assistant principals if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the local board has determined there is a shortage of persons who hold or are qualified to hold a principal's license and the employee enrolls in an approved program leading to a master's degree in school administration before the provisional license expires; or 2) the employee is enrolled in an approved master's in school administration program and is participating in the required internship under the master's program. <p>The Department shall extend the provisional license on an annual basis for a total of no more than two additional years while the employee is completing the program.</p>
Supervisor	M level teaching license and a minimum of five years of successful teaching experience in that license area.
Exceptional Children Program Administrator	Master's level license in an exceptional children's area, curriculum instruction, or school administration, or advanced level license in school psychology.