

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Policy Manual

Policy Identification

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Statutory Reference:

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

Administrative Procedures Act (APA) Reference Number and Category:

(Note: Only relevant sections of the policy have been reprinted here.)

POLICIES ON GENERAL LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

1.70 Lateral Entry License

An individual who has not completed an approved teacher education program may be licensed under the following lateral entry provisions:

- (1) Be selected for employment by a North Carolina school system;
- (2) Hold at least a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university in the subject area in which they are employed to teach or hold at least a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and have satisfied Praxis II testing requirements for the license area and meet the requirements to be designated "highly qualified" as prescribed by No Child Left Behind. To be designated "highly qualified," elementary and exceptional children's teachers must pass a rigorous state assessment (currently Praxis II exams). To be designated "highly qualified," middle school, high school, and special subject area teachers (e.g., art, music, second languages) must hold a bachelor's or master's degree in the specific area, or have 24 semester hours in the area, or pass a rigorous state assessment (currently Praxis II exams) in the area.
- (3) Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or have five years of experience considered relevant by the LEA, or have passed the Praxis I exams and

have attained one of the following:

- a) a GPA of at least 3.0 on all work completed in the senior year;
- b) a GPA of at least 3.0 in the major; or
- c) a GPA of at least 3.0 in a minimum of 15 semester hours of course work completed within the last 5 years.

A person who holds a lateral entry license shall complete a program that includes the following components:

- (1) completion of an approved teacher education program in the area of licensure at a college or university or completion of a program of study outlined by the Regional Alternative Licensing Centers;

Prescribed academic *content* coursework that is available through community colleges may be used to satisfy licensure requirements. General pedagogy competencies can be satisfied as follows.

General Pedagogy Competencies	Completed Through
Educational/Instructional Technology	Approved Teacher Education Program or Community College or Local Education Agency (if employed)
Understanding the Learner: Human Growth and Development	Approved Teacher Education Program or Community College
Learning Theory; Learning Styles; Motivation; How Children/Adolescents Learn	Approved Teacher Education Program or Community College
Meeting Special Learning Needs; Exceptionalities; Diversity	Approved Teacher Education Program
Literacy/Reading Methods	Approved Teacher Education Program
Instructional Methods	Approved Teacher Education Program
School Policies/Procedures	Approved Teacher Education Program or Community College or Local Education Agency (if employed)
Home/School/Community Collaborations	Approved Teacher Education Program or Community College or Local Education Agency (if employed)
Classroom Management/Organizing the Classroom to Maximize Learning	Approved Teacher Education Program or Community College or Local Education Agency (if employed)

- (2) attaining passing score on appropriate PRAXIS subject exam(s) during the first three school years of holding the lateral entry license if the exam(s) was/were not the basis of qualifying for the license;
- (3) completion of a staff development program that includes a two-week training course prior to beginning the work assignment;

- (4) completion of a cumulative of six semester hours of course work in the approved program each school year;
- (5) successful completion of at least a three-year initial licensure program in the lateral entry license area;
- (6) completion of all above requirements within 3 years of becoming eligible for a lateral entry license and recommendation of the IHE or RALC for clear licensure.

Individuals who possess five or more years of experience considered relevant by the LEA and satisfy testing requirements (currently Praxis II) for the licensure area within the first year of teaching shall be issued a Standard Professional 1 License upon:

- a. Completion of the NC TEACH modules or the equivalent through an approved teacher education program: 1) The Teacher, The Learner, and The School; 2) Diversity; 3) Content Area Pedagogy. (Note: The NC TEACH modules are offered and administered through NC colleges and universities with approved teacher education programs. **and**
- b. Completion of the NC TEACH module on Instructional Technology or the equivalent through an approved teacher education program, community college, or through professional development offered by the LEA; **and**
- c. Completion of one year of successful teaching as verified by the employing LEA.

The employing school system shall formally commit to supporting the lateral entry teacher by:

- (1) providing a two-week orientation that includes:
 - a. lesson planning,
 - b. classroom organization,
 - c. classroom management, including positive management of student behavior, effective communication for defusing and deescalating disruptive or dangerous behavior, and safe and appropriate use of seclusion and restraint,
 - d. an overview of the ABCs Program including the standard course of study and end-of-grade and end-of-course testing, and
 - e. the identification and education of children with disabilities.
- (2) assignment of a mentor on or before the first day on the job;
- (3) providing working conditions that are appropriate for all novice teachers;
- (4) giving regular focused feedback to the teacher for improving instruction; and
- (5) assisting the individual in accessing prescribed course work and professional development opportunities.

1.75 Lateral Entry for Licensed Educators

At the request of an employing school system, an individual who holds a clear (non-restricted) license in a teaching, administrative, supervisory, or student services area may be issued a lateral entry license in a teaching area provided he/she meets the federal requirements to be designated highly qualified in the teaching area. Licensed educators who are issued a lateral entry license shall be subject to the requirements for lateral entry teachers detailed in Section 1.70 of this policy.