Chapter 181-82A WAC

PERFORMANCE-BASED TEACHER CERTIFICATE ENDORSEMENTS

WAC 181-82A-002 Purposes and authority. (1) The purposes of this chapter are to:

(a) Establish policies and conditions for obtaining performance-based endorsements on teaching certificates.

(b) Establish policies for college/university approval to offer performance-based endorsement programs.

(2) The authority for this chapter is chapter 28A.410 RCW which authorizes the professional educator standards board to establish, publish, and enforce rules and regulations determining eligibility for the certification of personnel employed in the common schools of this state. This authority is supplemented by RCW 28A.150.220(4) which authorizes the professional educator standards board to adopt rules that implement and insure compliance with the basic program of education requirements of RCW 28A.150.220, 28A.150.250, and 28A.150.260, and such related basic program of education requirements as may be established by the professional educator standards board.

WAC 181-82A-200 Purposes of endorsement competencies referenced in this chapter. (1) To align requirements for endorsements with the state's learning goals and essential academic learning requirements;

(2) To align requirements for endorsements with the specialty organization standards where appropriate;

(3) To maintain rigorous standards for obtaining endorsements;

(4) To provide school districts with teachers who are able to demonstrate a positive impact on student learning; and

(5) To complement a performance-based teacher certification system.

WAC 181-82A-202 Certificate endorsements. Teacher certificates shall be endorsed as follows:

(1) All levels:

(a) Bilingual education.

(b) Computer science.

(c) Designated arts: Dance.

(d) Designated arts: Theatre arts.

(e) Designated arts: Music: Choral, instrumental or general.

(f) Designated arts, visual arts.

(g) Designated world languages.

(h) English language learner.

(i) Health/fitness.

(j) Library media.

(k) Reading.

(l) Special education.

(2) Early childhood:

(a) Early childhood education.

(b) Early childhood special education.

(3) Elementary education.

(4) Middle level:

(a) Middle level—Humanities.

(b) Middle level—Mathematics.

(c) Middle level—Science.

(5) Secondary level:

(a) Designated science: Biology.

(b) Designated science: Chemistry.

(c) Designated science: Earth and space science.

(d) Designated science: Physics.

(e) Designated career and technical education: Agriculture education, business and marketing education, family and consumer sciences education, and technology education.

(f) English language arts.

(g) History.

(h) Mathematics.

(i) Science.

(j) Social studies.

(k) Traffic safety.

WAC 181-82A-204 Endorsement requirements. (1) Candidates completing endorsements required to obtain a residency certificate, shall complete college/university

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teacher preparation programs approved by the professional educator standards board pursuant to chapter 181-78A WAC, which include methodology (see WAC 181-78A-264(5)) and field experience/internship (see WAC 181-78A-264(6)) and pursuant to endorsement program approval requirements in this chapter.

(2) In order to add an additional endorsement, the candidate shall:

(a) Have completed a state-approved endorsement program which includes methodology (see WAC 181-78A-264(5)) and addresses all endorsement-specific competencies adopted and published by the professional educator standards board. The requirement for field experience shall be at the discretion of the college/university. Provided, that in cases where programs require a field experience/internship, the colleges/universities should make every attempt to allow the individual to complete field-based requirements for the endorsement within the confines of the individual’s teaching schedule;

(b) Achieve National Board certification in a Washington teaching endorsement area and hold a valid National Board certificate; or

(c) Pass the subject knowledge test approved by the professional educator standards board for the certificate endorsement being sought. The instructional methodology and content-related skills of the desired subject endorsement must be compatible with one or more of the current endorsement(s) on the applicant’s teacher certificate, per the list of Pathway 1 endorsements adopted and published by the professional educator standards board; or

(d) Pass the subject knowledge test approved by the professional educator standards board for the certificate endorsement being sought and successfully meet all eligibility criteria and process requirements for Pathway 2 endorsements as adopted and published by the professional educator standards board. The desired subject endorsement must be identified as a Pathway 2 endorsement for one or more of the current endorsement(s) on the applicant’s teacher certificate, per the list of Pathway 2 endorsements adopted and published by the professional educator standards board.

Teacher preparation programs that offer Pathway 2 endorsement programs shall follow process steps as adopted by the professional educator standards board and published by the superintendent of public instruction to verify successful completion of the Pathway 2 process and to recommend adding the endorsement to the applicant’s teacher certificate.

(3) Candidates from out-of-state shall be required to present verification that they completed a state-approved program (equivalent to a major) in a Washington endorsement area.

(4) Course work used to meet endorsement requirements must be completed through a regionally accredited college/university.

(5) Only course work in which an individual received a grade of C (2.0) or higher or a grade of pass on a pass-fail system of grading shall be counted toward the course work required for the approved endorsement program.

(6) Nothing within this chapter precludes a college or university from adopting additional requirements as conditions for recommendation, by such college or university, to the superintendent of public instruction for a particular subject area endorsement.


WAC 181-82A-206 Endorsement program approval, reapproval, and review. (1) The professional educator standards board shall approve, reapprove, and review endorsement programs at professional educator standards board-approved residency certificate teacher programs. Only institutions with professional educator standards board-approved residency certificate teacher preparation programs are eligible to apply for approval to offer endorsement programs.

(2) The professional educator standards board will publish competencies for all endorsement areas identified in chapter 181-82A WAC.

(3) The professional educator standards board shall determine and publish the schedule and process for endorsement program approval, reapproval, and review.

(a) Initial approval of a new endorsement program may be granted for a period of up to two years.

(b) Endorsement reapproval is required according to the posted schedule for when the endorsement competencies are updated. Reapproval of an endorsement program may be granted until the next endorsement program review, or for a period of up to one year with a written report. Once the program submits the written report, approval options are full approval until the next endorsement program review or disapproval.

(c) Each institution shall submit endorsement programs for review when requested by the professional educator standards board to ensure that each endorsement program meets the competencies and to provide assessment data relative to candidate performance. Approval options are approval until the next endorsement review or at-risk of losing approval. The professional educator standards board has the option to disapprove endorsement programs that have been at-risk for two consecutive years.

(d) Disapproved endorsements programs may reapply for approval by following the endorsement approval process.


WAC 181-82A-207 Specialty endorsement criteria. (1) Specialty endorsements prepare a teacher to work with a specific student population/demographic and/or subject mat-
ter area, and are created to help teachers specialize beyond the required certificate endorsements as stated in WAC 181-82A-202. Specialty endorsements have unique endorsement competencies not found in any of the existing endorsements. Specialty endorsements shall include a means of assessing an applicant's content knowledge in the specialty subject area that shall be assessed and verified through program completion.

(2) Each college or university and/or Washington-based organization/association requesting the creation of a specialty endorsement shall seek a two phase approval by the professional educator standards board.

(a) Phase one: Proposers shall submit a preapproval proposal to the professional educator standards board that includes the following information:

(i) Documentation of nationally recognized teaching standards unique to the proposed specialty endorsement;

(ii) Letter of support from a professional educator standards board-approved college or university interested in offering the proposed specialty endorsement program.

(b) Phase two: If proposers receive preapproval from the professional educator standards board, they shall submit a phase two application available by the board. The phase two application, not to exceed ten pages, will address the following information:

(i) A description of the needs, student population and/or subject matter addressed by the proposed specialty endorsement;

(ii) A description of the unique knowledge and skills the proposed specialty endorsement provides to educators;

(iii) An explanation of the expected value and benefit of the proposed specialty endorsement for the K-12 system.

(c) Upon completion of both phases and board approval of a specialty endorsement, the process in WAC 181-82A-206 shall apply.

WAC 181-82A-208 Specialty endorsements. The following specialty endorsements may be added to an existing endorsed teaching certificate:

(1) Deaf education (per RCW 28A.410.225).

(a) This specialty endorsement is required for teachers who will be working almost exclusively with students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

(b) Program requirements are waived and this specialty endorsement granted if a candidate possesses a baccalaureate or master's degree in deaf education from a teacher training program approved by the council on education of the deaf.

(2) Environmental and sustainability education.

(3) Teacher of the visually impaired.

(4) Orientation and mobility teacher. Program requirements are waived and this specialty endorsement granted if a teacher possesses an orientation and mobility specialist certificate from the academy for certification of vision rehabilitation and education professionals.

(5) Gifted education.

(6) Elementary mathematics specialist.