
BILL REQUEST - CODE REVISER'S OFFICE

BILL REQ. #: S-2955.3/17 3rd draft

ATTY/TYPIST: SCG:amh

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Concerning professional certification for teachers and school administrators.

1 AN ACT Relating to professional certification for teachers and
2 school administrators; amending RCW 28A.410.210, 28A.410.250, and
3 28A.410.270; adding new sections to chapter 28A.410 RCW; creating a
4 new section; and providing an expiration date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 By September 1, 2017, the Washington professional educator
9 standards board shall adopt rules allowing teachers and principals
10 with at least two years of experience, who hold or have held a
11 residency certificate and have not achieved the professional
12 certificate, to renew their residency certificate in five-year
13 intervals based on completion of ten credits or one hundred clock
14 hours as defined in RCW 28A.415.020 and 28A.415.023.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.410.210 and 2009 c 531 s 4 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 The purpose of the Washington professional educator standards
18 board is to establish policies and requirements for the preparation
19 and certification of educators that provide standards for competency
20 in professional knowledge and practice in the areas of certification;

1 a foundation of skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to help
2 students with diverse needs, abilities, cultural experiences, and
3 learning styles meet or exceed the learning goals outlined in RCW
4 28A.150.210; knowledge of research-based practice; and professional
5 development throughout a career. The Washington professional educator
6 standards board shall:

7 (1) Establish policies and practices for the approval of programs
8 of courses, requirements, and other activities leading to educator
9 certification including teacher, school administrator, and
10 educational staff associate certification;

11 (2) Establish policies and practices for the approval of the
12 character of work required to be performed as a condition of entrance
13 to and graduation from any educator preparation program including
14 teacher, school administrator, and educational staff associate
15 preparation program as provided in subsection (1) of this section;

16 (3) Establish a list of accredited institutions of higher
17 education of this and other states whose graduates may be awarded
18 educator certificates as teacher, school administrator, and
19 educational staff associate and establish criteria and enter into
20 agreements with other states to acquire reciprocal approval of
21 educator preparation programs and certification, including teacher
22 certification from the national board for professional teaching
23 standards;

24 (4) Establish policies for approval of nontraditional educator
25 preparation programs;

26 (5) Conduct a review of educator program approval standards at
27 least every five years, beginning in 2006, to reflect research
28 findings and assure continued improvement of preparation programs for
29 teachers, administrators, and school specialized personnel;

30 (6) Specify the types and kinds of educator certificates to be
31 issued and conditions for certification in accordance with subsection
32 (1) of this section, section 1 of this act, and RCW 28A.410.010;

33 (7) Apply for and receive federal or other funds on behalf of the
34 state for purposes related to the duties of the board;

35 (8) Adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW that are necessary for
36 the effective and efficient implementation of this chapter;

37 (9) Maintain data concerning educator preparation programs and
38 their quality, educator certification, educator employment trends and
39 needs, and other data deemed relevant by the board;

1 (10) Serve as an advisory body to the superintendent of public
2 instruction on issues related to educator recruitment, hiring,
3 mentoring and support, professional growth, retention, educator
4 evaluation including but not limited to peer evaluation, and
5 revocation and suspension of licensure;

6 (11) Submit, by October 15th of each even-numbered year and in
7 accordance with RCW 43.01.036, a joint report with the state board of
8 education to the legislative education committees, the governor, and
9 the superintendent of public instruction. The report shall address
10 the progress the boards have made and the obstacles they have
11 encountered, individually and collectively, in the work of achieving
12 the goals set out in RCW 28A.150.210;

13 (12) Establish the prospective teacher assessment system for
14 basic skills and subject knowledge that shall be required to obtain
15 residency certification pursuant to RCW 28A.410.220 through
16 28A.410.240; and

17 ~~((By January 2010, set performance standards and develop,~~
18 ~~pilot, and implement a uniform and externally administered~~
19 ~~professional level certification assessment based on demonstrated~~
20 ~~teaching skill. In the development of this assessment, consideration~~
21 ~~shall be given to changes in professional certification program~~
22 ~~components such as the culminating seminar; and~~

23 ~~(+14+))~~ Conduct meetings under the provisions of chapter 42.30
24 RCW.

25 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.410.250 and 2016 c 233 s 4 are each amended to
26 read as follows:

27 The agency responsible for educator certification shall adopt
28 rules for professional certification that:

29 (1) Provide maximum program choice for applicants, promote
30 portability among programs, and promote maximum efficiency for
31 applicants in attaining professional certification;

32 (2) ~~((Require professional certification no earlier than the~~
33 ~~fifth year following the year that the teacher first completes~~
34 ~~provisional status, with an automatic two-year extension upon~~
35 ~~enrollment;~~

36 ~~(+3+))~~ Grant professional certification to any teacher who attains
37 certification from the national board for professional teaching
38 standards;

1 ~~((4))~~ (3) Permit any teacher currently enrolled in or
2 participating in a program leading to professional certification to
3 continue the program under administrative rules in place when the
4 teacher began the program;

5 ~~((5))~~ (4) Provide criteria for the approval of educational
6 service districts(~~(, beginning no later than August 31, 2007,)~~) to
7 offer programs leading to professional certification. The rules shall
8 be written to encourage institutions of higher education and
9 educational service districts to partner with local school districts
10 or consortia of school districts, as appropriate, to provide
11 instruction for ~~((teachers))~~ persons seeking professional
12 certification;

13 ~~((6))~~ (5) Encourage institutions of higher education to offer
14 professional certificate coursework as continuing education credit
15 hours. This shall not prevent an institution of higher education from
16 providing the option of including the professional certification
17 requirements as part of a master's degree program;

18 ~~((7) Provide criteria for a liaison relationship between
19 approved programs and school districts in which applicants are
20 employed;~~

21 ~~(8))~~ (6) Identify an expedited professional certification
22 process for out-of-state teachers who have five years or more of
23 successful teaching experience, including a method to determine the
24 comparability of rigor between the Washington professional
25 certification process and the advanced level teacher certification
26 process of other states. A professional certificate must be issued to
27 these experienced out-of-state teachers if the teacher holds: (a) A
28 valid teaching certificate issued by the national board for
29 professional teaching standards; or (b) an advanced level teacher
30 certificate from another state that has been determined to be
31 comparable to the Washington professional certificate; and

32 ~~((9))~~ (7) Identify an evaluation process of approved programs
33 that includes a review of the program coursework and applicant
34 coursework load requirements, linkages of programs to individual
35 teacher professional growth plans, linkages to school district and
36 school improvement plans, and, to the extent possible, linkages to
37 school district professional enrichment and growth programs for
38 teachers, where such programs are in place in school districts. ~~((The
39 agency shall provide a preliminary report on the evaluation process~~

1 ~~to the senate and house of representatives committees on education~~
2 ~~policy by November 1, 2005.~~) The board shall identify:

3 (a) A process for awarding conditional approval of a program that
4 shall include annual evaluations of the program until the program is
5 awarded full approval;

6 (b) A less intensive evaluation cycle every three years once a
7 program receives full approval unless the responsible agency has
8 reason to intensify the evaluation;

9 (c) A method for investigating programs that have received
10 numerous complaints from students enrolled in the program and from
11 those recently completing the program;

12 (d) A method for investigating programs at the reasonable
13 discretion of the agency; and

14 (e) A method for using, in the evaluation, both program completer
15 satisfaction responses and data on the impact of educators who have
16 obtained professional certification on student work and achievement.

17 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.410.270 and 2009 c 548 s 402 are each amended to
18 read as follows:

19 (1)(a) (~~By January 1, 2010,~~) The Washington professional
20 educator standards board shall adopt a set of articulated teacher
21 knowledge, skill, and performance standards for effective teaching
22 that are evidence-based, measurable, meaningful, and documented in
23 high quality research as being associated with improved student
24 learning. The standards shall be calibrated for each level (~~of~~
25 ~~certification and~~) along the entire career continuum. In developing
26 the standards, the board shall, to the extent possible, incorporate
27 standards for cultural competency along the entire continuum. For the
28 purposes of this subsection, "cultural competency" includes knowledge
29 of student cultural histories and contexts, as well as family norms
30 and values in different cultures; knowledge and skills in accessing
31 community resources and community and parent outreach; and skills in
32 adapting instruction to students' experiences and identifying
33 cultural contexts for individual students.

34 (b) (~~By January 1, 2010,~~) The Washington professional educator
35 standards board shall adopt a definition of master teacher, with a
36 comparable level of increased competency between professional
37 certification level and master level as between professional
38 certification level and national board certification. Within the
39 definition established by the Washington professional educator

1 standards board, teachers certified through the national board for
2 professional teaching standards shall be considered master teachers.

3 ~~(2) ((By January 1, 2010, the professional educator standards
4 board shall submit to the governor and the education and fiscal
5 committees of the legislature:~~

6 ~~(a) An update on the status of implementation of the professional
7 certificate external and uniform assessment authorized in RCW
8 28A.410.210;~~

9 ~~(b) A proposal for))~~ The Washington professional educator
10 standards board shall maintain a uniform, statewide, valid, and
11 reliable classroom-based means of evaluating teacher effectiveness as
12 a culminating measure at the preservice level that is to be used
13 during the student-teaching field experience. This assessment shall
14 include multiple measures of teacher performance in classrooms,
15 evidence of positive impact on student learning, and shall include
16 review of artifacts, such as use of a variety of assessment and
17 instructional strategies, and student work. ~~((The proposal shall
18 establish a timeline for when the assessment will be required for
19 successful completion of a Washington state approved teacher
20 preparation program. The timeline shall take into account the
21 capacity of the K-12 education and higher education systems to
22 accommodate the new assessment. The proposal and timeline shall also
23 address how the assessment will be included in state reported data on
24 preparation program quality; and~~

25 ~~(c) A recommendation on the length of time that a residency
26 certificate issued to a teacher is valid and within what time period
27 a teacher must meet the minimum level of performance for and receive
28 a professional certificate in order to continue being certified as a
29 teacher. In developing this recommendation, the professional educator
30 standards board shall consult with interested stakeholders including
31 the Washington education association, the Washington association of
32 school administrators, association of Washington school principals,
33 and the Washington state school directors' association and shall
34 include with its recommendation a description of each stakeholder's
35 comments on the recommendation.~~

36 ~~(3) The update and proposal in subsection (2)(a) and (b) of this
37 section shall include, at a minimum, descriptions of:~~

38 ~~(a) Estimated costs and statutory authority needed for further
39 development and implementation of these assessments;~~

1 ~~(b) A common and standardized rubric for determining whether a~~
2 ~~teacher meets the minimum level of performance of the assessments;~~
3 ~~and~~

4 ~~(c) Administration and management of the assessments.~~

5 ~~(4) To the extent that funds are appropriated for this purpose~~
6 ~~and in accordance with the timeline established in subsection (2) of~~
7 ~~this section, recognizing the capacity limitations of the education~~
8 ~~systems, the professional educator standards board shall develop the~~
9 ~~system and process as established in subsections (1), (2), and (3) of~~
10 ~~this section throughout the remainder of the 2010-11 and 2011-12~~
11 ~~school years.~~

12 ~~(5) Beginning no earlier than September 1, 2011,)) (3) Award of a~~
13 ~~professional certificate shall be based on a minimum of two years of~~
14 ~~successful teaching experience as defined by the board ((and on the~~
15 ~~results of the evaluation authorized under RCW 28A.410.210(14) and~~
16 ~~under this section)), and may not require candidates to enroll in a~~
17 ~~professional certification program.~~

18 ~~((6) Beginning July 1, 2011,)) (4) Educator preparation programs~~
19 ~~approved to offer the residency teaching certificate shall be~~
20 ~~required to demonstrate how the program produces effective teachers~~
21 ~~as evidenced by the measures established under this section and other~~
22 ~~criteria established by the Washington professional educator~~
23 ~~standards board.~~

24 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. FINDINGS—INTENT. (1) The legislature finds
25 that additional evaluation is necessary to establish a comprehensive
26 and coordinated long-term vision that addresses Washington's demands
27 for an excellent, effective educator workforce. The legislature
28 recognizes that such an undertaking requires focused time and
29 resources to develop meaningful policy options to expand the current
30 and future workforce supply.

31 (2) Therefore, the legislature intends to establish a
32 professional educator collaborative, including a variety of
33 stakeholders, to make recommendations on how to improve and
34 strengthen state policies, programs, and pathways that lead to highly
35 effective educators at each level of the public common school system.

36 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
37 RCW to read as follows:

1 THE COLLABORATIVE. (1) For the purpose of this section,
2 "educator" means a paraeducator, teacher, principal, administrator,
3 superintendent, school counselor, school psychologist, school social
4 worker, school nurse, school physical therapist, school occupational
5 therapist, or school speech-language pathologist or audiologist.
6 "Educator" includes persons who hold, or have held, certificates as
7 authorized by rule of the Washington professional educator standards
8 board.

9 (2)(a) The professional educator collaborative is established to
10 make recommendations on how to improve and strengthen state policies,
11 programs, and pathways that lead to highly effective educators at
12 each level of the public school system.

13 (b) The collaborative shall examine issues related to educator
14 recruitment, certification, retention, professional learning and
15 development, leadership, and evaluation for effectiveness. The
16 examination must consider what barriers and deterrents hinder the
17 recruitment and retention of professional educators, including those
18 from underrepresented populations. The collaborative shall also
19 consider what incentives and supports could be provided at each stage
20 of an educator's career to produce a more effective educational
21 system. Specifically, the collaborative must review the following
22 issues:

23 (i) Educator recruitment, including the role of school districts,
24 community and technical colleges, preparation programs, and
25 communities, and the effectiveness of financial incentives and other
26 types of support;

27 (ii) Educator preparation, including traditional and alternative
28 route program design and content, the role of community and technical
29 colleges, field experience duration and quality, financial assistance
30 and incentives, school district and community connections, and
31 academic and social support for students;

32 (iii) Educator certificate types and tiers, including
33 requirements for an initial or first-tier certificate, requirements
34 to advance to the next tier, and requirements that are transferable
35 between certificate types;

36 (iv) Educator certificate renewal requirements, including
37 comparing professional growth plan requirements with the teacher and
38 principal residency certificate renewal requirements established in
39 section 1 of this act;

1 (v) Educator evaluation, including comparison to educator
2 certificate renewal requirements to determine inconsistent or
3 duplicative requirements or efforts, relationship with educator
4 compensation;

5 (vi) Educator certificate reciprocity;

6 (vii) Professional learning and development opportunities,
7 particularly for mid-career teachers;

8 (viii) Leadership in the education system, including best
9 practices of high quality leaders, training for principals and
10 administrators, and identifying and developing teachers as leaders;

11 (viii) Leadership in the education system, including best
12 practices of high quality leaders, training for principals and
13 administrators, and identifying and developing teachers as leaders;
14 and

15 (ix) Systems monitoring, including collection of outcomes data on
16 educator production, employment, and retention, and the value in a
17 cost-benefit analysis of state recruitment and retention activities.

18 (3)(a) The members of the collaborative must include
19 representatives of the following organizations:

20 (i) The two largest caucuses of the senate and the house of
21 representatives, appointed by the majority and minority leaders of
22 the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives,
23 respectively;

24 (ii) The Washington professional educator standards board;

25 (iii) The office of the superintendent of public instruction;

26 (iv) Washington professional educator standards board-approved
27 educator preparation programs;

28 (v) The Washington state school directors' association;

29 (vi) The Washington education association;

30 (vii) The Washington association of school administrators;

31 (viii) The association of Washington school principals; and

32 (ix) The association of Washington school counselors.

33 (b) Each organization listed in (a) of this subsection must
34 designate one voting member, except that each legislator is a voting
35 member.

36 (c) The collaborative shall choose its chair or cochairs from
37 among its members.

38 (d) The voting members of the collaborative, where appropriate,
39 may consult with stakeholders, including representatives of other
40 educator associations, or ask stakeholders to establish an advisory

1 committee. Members of such an advisory committee are not entitled to
2 expense reimbursement.

3 (4)(a) Staff support for the collaborative must be provided by
4 the Washington professional educator standards board, and from other
5 state agencies, including the office of the superintendent of public
6 instruction, if requested by the collaborative.

7 (b) The Washington professional educator standards board must
8 convene the initial meeting of the collaborative within sixty days of
9 the effective date of this section.

10 (5) The collaborative must contract with a nonprofit, nonpartisan
11 institute that conducts independent, high quality research to improve
12 education policy and practice and that works with policymakers,
13 researchers, educators, and others to advance evidence-based policies
14 that support equitable learning for each child for the purpose of
15 consultation and guidance on meeting agendas and materials
16 development, meeting facilitation, documenting collaborative
17 discussions and recommendations, locating and summarizing useful
18 policy and research documents, and drafting required reports.

19 (6) Legislative members of the collaborative are reimbursed for
20 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative
21 members are not entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses if they
22 are elected officials or are participating on behalf of an employer,
23 governmental entity, or other organization. Any reimbursement for
24 other nonlegislative members is subject to chapter 43.03 RCW.

25 (7)(a) By November 1, 2018, and in compliance with RCW 43.01.036,
26 the collaborative shall submit a preliminary report to the education
27 committees of the legislature that makes recommendations on the
28 educator certificate types, tiers, and renewal issues described in
29 subsection (3) of this section. The report must also describe the
30 activities of the collaborative to date, and include any preliminary
31 recommendations agreed to by the collaborative on other issues
32 described in subsection (3) of this section.

33 (b) By November 1, 2019, and in compliance with RCW 43.01.036,
34 the collaborative shall submit a final report to the education
35 committees of the legislature that describes the activities of the
36 collaborative since the preliminary report and makes recommendations
37 on each issue described in subsection (2) of this section.

38 (8) This section expires August 31, 2020.

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