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Phone: 615-741-2650
Email: publications.information@tn.gov

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Rulemaking Hearing Rule(s) Filing Form

Rulemaking Hearing Rules are rules filed after and as a result of a rulemaking hearing (Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-5-205).

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-5-229, any new fee or fee increase promulgated by state agency rule shall take effect on July 1, following the expiration of the ninety (90) day period as provided in § 4-5-207. This section shall not apply to rules that implement new fees or fee increases that are promulgated as emergency rules pursuant to § 4-5-208(a) and to subsequent rules that make permanent such emergency rules, as amended during the rulemaking process. In addition, this section shall not apply to state agencies that did not, during the preceding two (2) fiscal years, collect fees in an amount sufficient to pay the cost of operating the board, commission or entity in accordance with § 4-29-121(b).

Agency/Board/Commission:	State Board of Education
Division:	N/A
Contact Person:	Angie Sanders
Address:	500 James Robertson Parkway, 5 th Floor
Zip:	37243
Phone:	615 253-5707
Email:	Angela.C.Sanders@tn.gov

Revision Type (check all that apply):

Amendment Content based on previous emergency rule filed on _____
 New Content is identical to the emergency rule
 Repeal

Rule(s) (ALL chapters and rules contained in filing must be listed here. If needed, copy and paste additional tables to accommodate multiple chapters. Please make sure that ALL new rule and repealed rule numbers are listed in the chart below. Please enter only ONE Rule Number/Rule Title per row.)

Chapter Number	Chapter Title
0520-02-03	Educator Licensure
Rule Number	Rule Title
0520-02-03-.03	Requirements for Teacher Licenses
0520-02-03-.04	Requirements for Occupational Teacher Licenses
0520-02-03-.05	Requirements for School Services Personnel Licenses

AMENDMENT

AMEND the rules of the State Board of Education Chapter 0520-02-03 Educator Licensure sections 0520-02-03-.03 through -.05, so that, as amended, the revised rule sections -.03, -.04 and -.05 shall read:

RULES OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CHAPTER 0520-02-03 EDUCATOR LICENSURE

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 State Board-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 State Board-approved educator preparation provider; and
 4. Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy or holds a degree with a major in the specialty area.
 - (c) Pathway 3. The prospective educator:
 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 2. Holds an active Tennessee practitioner or professional occupational teacher license with an endorsement covering the secondary grade span;

3. Has completed a State Board-approved occupational educator preparation program; 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 who are 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.
 - (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 full and 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 who are 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 full and 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 expire.
- (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 one (1) of the following sets of requirements:
- (a) Option 1:
 1. 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;
 2. Obtained three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department; and
 3. Earned thirty (30) professional development points or obtained the recommendation from a Director of Schools or leader of a charter school or the school's charter management organization (CMO).
 - (b) Option 2: Holds a full and valid professional-level license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (c) Option 3: Holds a valid certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.
- (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, then the license may be renewed. To renew the practitioner second (2nd) issuance license, an educator shall earn thirty (30) qualifying professional development points as defined in Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.

- (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 within the validity period of the license and as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502 or demonstrate two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department within the validity period of the license.
- (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 expire.
- (11) Educators may reactivate an expired license and endorsements held by meeting one (1) of the following requirements:
- (a) Option A (Professional License only): Earn sixty (60) qualifying professional development points as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
 - (b) Option B (Professional License only): Demonstrate two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department.
 - (c) Option C: Submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved educator preparation program (if not already provided) and submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
 - (d) Option D: Present a full and valid professional-level teaching license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (e) Option E: Submit to the Department evidence of current National Board Certification issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

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 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. Emergency rules expired effective January 6, 2022, and the rules reverted to their previous statuses. Amendments filed December 2, 2021; effective March 2, 2022.

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

- (1) Prospective educators seeking a practitioner occupational teaching license shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 - (a) Pathway 1. The prospective educator:
 1. Holds a high school diploma or higher as defined by the Department based on the area in which the educator is seeking licensure and endorsement;
 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;
 4. Has a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, or three (3) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last five (5) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department; and
 5. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
 - (b) Pathway 2. The prospective educator:
 1. Holds an active Tennessee practitioner academic teacher license or professional academic teacher license with an endorsement covering any of the grades six (6) through twelve (12);
 2. Has completed a State Board-approved academic educator preparation program; and
 3. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
 - (c) Pathway 3. The prospective educator:
 1. Has a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, or three (3) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last five (5) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department;
 2. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable;

3. Provides proof of pairing with a highly effective mentor teacher; and
 4. Has completed coursework in classroom management, pedagogy, serving students with disabilities and English learners, and the teacher code of ethics as set forth in T.C.A. § 49-5-5615, from a State Board-approved educator preparation provider.
- (2) Prospective educators from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement and who are 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 as defined by the Department based on the area in which the educator is seeking licensure and endorsement;
 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. Has completed an educator preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee;
 3. Holds a full and valid initial level license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement;
 4. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 5. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
- (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. Holds a high school diploma or higher;
 2. Holds a full and 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 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. An educator issued a practitioner occupational teacher license under Pathway 3 is not required to complete an approved educator preparation program to renew the license.
 - (5) In order to advance from a practitioner occupational teacher license to a professional occupational teacher license, an educator shall meet one of the following sets of requirements:
 - (a) Option 1:
 1. Complete three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department;
 2. Complete a State Board-approved educator preparation program, unless the license was issued under Pathway 3;
 3. 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;
 4. Hold an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable; and
 5. 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.
 - (b) Option 2:
 1. Holds a full and valid professional-level occupational license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement or holds a full and valid professional-level academic teaching license in Tennessee; and
 2. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
 - (6) 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 then the license may continue to be renewed. To renew the practitioner occupational second (2nd) issuance license, an educator shall earn thirty (30) qualifying professional development points as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502 and hold an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
 - (7) In order to renew the professional occupational teacher license educators must meet the following requirements:

- (a) Earn sixty (60) professional development points within the validity period of the license and as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502 or demonstrate two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department within the validity period of the license; and
 - (b) Provide verification of an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
- (8) 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 expire.
- (9) 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, or three (3) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last five (5) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department.
- (10) An occupational teacher license may be reactivated by meeting the following requirements:
- (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, or three (3) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last five (5) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department; and
 - (c) Meeting one (1) of the following requirements:
 1. Option A (Professional License only): Earning sixty (60) qualifying professional development points as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
 2. Option B (Professional License only): Demonstrating two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department.
 3. Option C: Submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved educator preparation program (if not already provided) and submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105.
 4. Option D: Present a full and valid professional-level occupational license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

5. Option E: Submit to the Department evidence of current National Board Certification issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

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. Emergency rules expired effective January 6, 2022, and the rules reverted to their previous statuses. Amendments filed December 2, 2021; effective March 2, 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 speech-language pathology assistant;
 - (c) School audiologist;
 - (d) School psychologist;
 - (e) School counselor;
 - (f) School social worker; and
 - (g) 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 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 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
 2. Hold an advanced degree in speech-language pathology and hold a full and valid out-of-state initial level speech-language pathology license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (b) Candidates seeking a professional school services personnel license as a school speech-language pathologist shall hold an advanced degree in speech-language pathology and meet one (1) of the following requirements:
 1. Hold a full and valid out-of-state professional level speech-language pathology license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement;

2. Hold a valid license issued by the Tennessee Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences;
 3. Hold a valid license issued by an out-of-state Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences; or
 4. Hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language Hearing Association.
- (3) School speech-language pathology assistants shall hold a school services personnel license with the school speech-language pathology assistant endorsement.
- (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as a school speech-language pathology assistant shall meet one (1) of the following requirements:
1. Hold a current Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Certification (SLPA-C) from the American Speech-Language & Hearing Association (ASHA);
 2. Hold a bachelor's degree with a major or concentration in speech-language pathology, communication disorders, or speech and hearing sciences from a regionally accredited institution of higher education;
 3. Hold a valid registration with the Tennessee Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences as a speech-language pathology assistant;
 4. Hold a degree from a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Program; or
 5. Hold a full and valid out-of-state initial level speech-language pathology assistant license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement and hold a bachelor's degree with a major or concentration in speech-language pathology, communication disorders, or speech and hearing sciences from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
- (b) Out-of-state candidates seeking a professional school services personnel license as a school speech-language pathology assistant shall hold a bachelor's degree with a major or concentration in speech-language pathology, communication disorders, or speech and hearing sciences from a regionally accredited institution of higher education and hold a full and valid out-of-state professional level speech-language pathology assistant license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (4) 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 requirements of one (1) of the following pathways
1. Pathway 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;
 - 2. Pathway 2: Hold an advanced degree in audiology and hold a full and 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 full and valid out-of-state professional level school audiologist license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (5) 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 requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 - 1. Pathway 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 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;
 - 2. Pathway 2: Hold an advanced degree in school psychology and hold a full and 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 full and valid out-of-state professional level school psychologist license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (6) 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:

- (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 full and valid out-of-state initial level school counselor license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (b) Out-of-state 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 full and valid out-of-state professional level educator 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.
- (7) 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 the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 - 1. Pathway 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 sets of requirements:
 - (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 full and valid social worker license issued by the Tennessee Board of Social Workers or the licensing board of a state other than Tennessee;
 - 2. Pathway 2: Hold a bachelor's degree or higher in social work from a regionally-accredited college or university and hold a full and valid out-of-state initial level school social work license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (b) Out-of-state 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 full and valid out-of-state professional level license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (8) School educational interpreters shall hold a school services personnel license with the educational interpreter endorsement.
- (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as an educational interpreter shall meet the following requirements:
 - 1. Hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university; and
 - 2. Meet one (1) of the following:
 - (i) Hold a current, nationally recognized certification in interpreting which includes a written examination related to ethics and practice;
 - (ii) Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy; or
 - (iii) Holds a full and valid out-of-state initial level educational interpreter 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 and endorsement as an educational interpreter shall hold a bachelor's degree or higher in educational interpreting and hold a full and valid out-of-state

professional level educational interpreter license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

- (9) A practitioner school services personnel license may be renewed once upon completion of an approved educator preparation program, if enrollment in a program is required for issuance of the license, and submission of qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105, prior to the end of the validity period of the first (1st) issuance of the practitioner license.
- (10) In order to advance from a practitioner school services personnel license to a professional school services personnel license, an educator shall meet one (1) of the following sets of requirements:
 - (a) Option 1:
 - 1. Three (3) years of qualifying experience as defined by the Department; and
 - 2. Earn thirty (30) qualifying professional development points as defined in Educator Licensure Policy 5.502 or obtain the recommendation from a Director of Schools or leader of a charter school or the school's charter management organization (CMO).
 - (b) Option 2: Hold a full and valid professional-level school services personnel license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (11) 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, then the license may be renewed. To renew the practitioner school services personnel second (2nd) issuance license, an educator shall earn thirty (30) qualifying professional development points as defined in Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
- (12) In order to renew the professional school services personnel license, educators must earn sixty (60) qualifying professional development points within the validity period of the license and as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502 or demonstrate two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department within the validity period of the license.
- (13) If the educator has not met the requirements for renewal at the end of the validity period of the professional school services personnel license, then the license shall expire.
- (14) Educators may reactivate a school services personnel license and endorsements held by meeting one (1) of the following sets of requirements:
 - (a) Option A (Professional License only): Earning sixty (60) qualifying professional development points as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
 - (b) Option B (Professional License only): Demonstrating two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department.
 - (c) Option C: Submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved educator preparation program (if not already provided and if enrollment in a program is required for issuance of the license) and submit qualifying scores on

all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105.

- (d) Option D: Present a full and valid professional-level school services personnel license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement; or
- (e) Option E: Submit evidence of an active national credential in the area of endorsement as outlined below:
 1. Speech-language Pathologists – Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-language Pathology (CCC-SLP) issued by the American Speech-language Hearing Association
 2. Audiologist – Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology (CCC-A) issued by the American Speech-language Hearing Association
 3. School Psychologist – National Certification in School Psychology issued by the National School Psychology Certification Board
 4. School Counselor – National Counselor Certification (NCC, CCMHC, MAS, or NCSC) issued by the National Board for Certified Counselors
 5. School Social Worker – Certified School Social Work Specialist (C-SSWS) issued by the National Association of Social Workers or Certification by the Academy of Certified Social Workers (NASW)
 6. Educational Interpreter – Professional Deaf Interpreter Credential issued by the National Association for the Deaf or Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Certification.

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. Emergency rules expired effective January 6, 2022, and the rules reverted to their previous statuses. Amendments filed December 2, 2021; effective March 2, 2022.

* If a roll-call vote was necessary, the vote by the Agency on these rulemaking hearing rules was as follows:

Board Member	Aye	No	Abstain	Absent	Signature (if required)
Nick Darnell	x				
Jordan Mollenhour	x				
Bob Eby	x				
Ryan Holt	x				
Warren Wells				x	
Lillian Hartgrove	x				
Nate Morrow	x				
Darrell Cobbins	x				
Larry Jensen	x				
Robert Smith, Interim Executive Director, Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Member.					

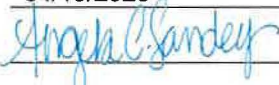
I certify that this is an accurate and complete copy of rulemaking hearing rules, lawfully promulgated and adopted by the State Board of Education on 2/10/2023, and is in compliance with the provisions of T.C.A. § 4-5-222.

I further certify the following:

Notice of Rulemaking Hearing filed with the Department of State on: 11/15/2022

Rulemaking Hearing(s) Conducted on: (add more dates). 01/06/2023

Date: 04/19/2023

Signature: 

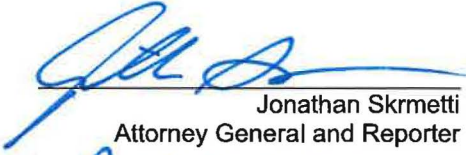
Name of Officer: Angie Sanders

Title of Officer: General Counsel

Agency/Board/Commission: State Board of Education

Rule Chapter Number(s): 0520-02-03-.03, -.04, and -.05

All rulemaking hearing rules provided for herein have been examined by the Attorney General and Reporter of the State of Tennessee and are approved as to legality pursuant to the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act, Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.


Jonathan Skrmetti
Attorney General and Reporter
April 29, 2023
Date

Department of State Use Only

Filed with the Department of State on: 4/24/2023

Effective on: 7/23/2023


Tre Hargett
Secretary of State

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Apr 24 2023, 3:42 pm

Secretary of State
Division of Publications

Public Hearing Comments

The Tennessee State Board of Education held a public rulemaking hearing on Rules 0520-02-03-.03 thru .05 on January 6, 2023, at 500 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, TN and via Webex. No public comments were submitted at the hearing.

Regulatory Flexibility Addendum

Pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 4-5-401 through 4-5-404, prior to initiating the rule making process, all agencies shall conduct a review of whether a proposed rule or rule affects small business.

This rule does not affect small business.

Impact on Local Governments

Pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 4-5-220 and 4-5-228, "On any rule and regulation proposed to be promulgated, the proposing agency shall state in a simple declarative sentence, without additional comments on the merits or the policy of the rule or regulation, whether the rule or regulation may have a projected financial impact on local governments. The statement shall describe the financial impact in terms of increase in expenditures or decrease in revenues."

This rule has no fiscal impact on local governments.

Additional Information Required by Joint Government Operations Committee

All agencies, upon filing a rule, must also submit the following pursuant to T.C.A. § 4-5-226(i)(1).

- (A)** A brief summary of the rule and a description of all relevant changes in previous regulations effectuated by such rule;

Tennessee State Board of Education Educator Licensure Rule Section -.03 governs academic teacher licenses, Section -.04 governs occupational teacher licenses, and Section -.05 governs school services personnel licenses.

Revisions to these rules are proposed to create additional flexibility related to obtaining and maintaining academic, occupational, and school services personnel licenses, while continuing to hold high standards for educator licensure in Tennessee. These recommendations include:

1. The addition of a pathway by which the practitioner academic teacher, occupational, and school services personnel licenses can be continuously renewed, if advancement criteria are not met, with submission of Professional Development Points (PDPs).
2. Allowing an individual possessing a professional academic teacher, occupational, and/or school services personnel license to renew their professional license based on two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator.
3. Allowing the reactivation of an expired professional academic teacher, occupational, or school services personnel license based on submission of PDPs or two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator.
4. In alignment with Public Chapter 1141 of the Public Acts of 2021 (PC 1141), a pathway to the practitioner occupational license has been created that will allow an individual to obtain a practitioner occupational license based on meeting work experience and industry certification requirements in addition to being assigned a mentor, and completing coursework in specific areas of focus set forth in PC 1141. Language has also been added to the renewal and reactivation pathways clarifying that individuals who obtain a license through this new pathway would not be required to complete an approved educator preparation program.
5. Allowing individuals seeking to advance from a practitioner occupational license to a professional occupational license if they hold a professional academic teaching license in Tennessee.

Lastly, the following revisions were made to improve clarity and address omissions:

1. A pathway has been added to the occupational teacher license for individuals who have completed an academic teacher preparation program and hold a valid academic teacher license. Additionally, a pathway was added to the academic teacher license for individuals who have completed an occupational teacher preparation program and hold a valid occupational teacher license;
2. A pathway has been added for advancing from the practitioner teacher license to the professional teacher license using National Board Certification, to align with the National Board to professional teacher license initial licensure pathway;
3. A director of schools recommendation has been added in lieu of the Professional Development Points (PDPs) option for advancement of a school services personnel license, which aligns with current practice for all license types; and
4. Clarifications have been made to specify that for an educator to be employed on a temporary permit, they must also hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

- (B)** A citation to and brief description of any federal law or regulation or any state law or regulation mandating promulgation of such rule or establishing guidelines relevant thereto;

Public Chapter 1141 of the Public Acts of 2021 required the State Board of Education to create a pathway to the practitioner occupational license.

T.C.A. § 49-5-108 provides the State Board of Education "complete jurisdiction over the issuance and administration of licenses for supervisors, principals and public school teachers for kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12)" and that the State Board has "authority to promulgate rules and regulations prescribing minimum

standards for licenses and certificates."

- (C) Identification of persons, organizations, corporations or governmental entities most directly affected by this rule, and whether those persons, organizations, corporations or governmental entities urge adoption or rejection of this rule;

This rule has a direct effect on the State Board of Education and the Department of Education, and both urge adoption. This rule also has direct effect on local education agencies and educators seeking licensure in Tennessee. The State Board did not hear from any local education agencies or educators urging adoption or rejection of the rule.

- (D) Identification of any opinions of the attorney general and reporter or any judicial ruling that directly relates to the rule or the necessity to promulgate the rule;

None.

- (E) An estimate of the probable increase or decrease in state and local government revenues and expenditures, if any, resulting from the promulgation of this rule, and assumptions and reasoning upon which the estimate is based. An agency shall not state that the fiscal impact is minimal if the fiscal impact is more than two percent (2%) of the agency's annual budget or five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), whichever is less;

None.

- (F) Identification of the appropriate agency representative or representatives, possessing substantial knowledge and understanding of the rule;

Angie Sanders (State Board of Education)

Angela.C.Sanders@tn.gov

Nathan James (State Board of Education)

Nathan.James@tn.gov

Robin Yeh (Department of Education)

Robin.Yeh@tn.gov

- (G) Identification of the appropriate agency representative or representatives who will explain the rule at a scheduled meeting of the committees;

Angie Sanders (State Board of Education)

Angela.C.Sanders@tn.gov

Nathan James (State Board of Education)

Nathan.James@tn.gov

Robin Yeh (Department of Education)

Robin.Yeh@tn.gov

- (H) Office address, telephone number, and email address of the agency representative or representatives who will explain the rule at a scheduled meeting of the committees; and

Angie Sanders
State Board of Education
500 James Robertson Parkway, 5th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

(615) 253-5707

Angela.C.Sanders@tn.gov

Nathan James

State Board of Education

500 James Robertson Parkway, 5th Floor

Nashville, TN 37243

(615) 532-3528

Nathan.James@tn.gov

Robin Yeh

Department of Education

710 James Robertson Parkway, 9th Floor

Nashville, TN 37243

(615) 445-9543

Robin.Yeh@tn.gov

(I) Any additional information relevant to the rule proposed for continuation that the committee requests.

None.

**RULES
OF
THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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

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 [State Board](#)-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 [State Board](#)-approved educator preparation provider; and
4. Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy or holds a degree with a major in the specialty area.

- (c) Pathway 3. The prospective educator:

1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
2. Holds an active Tennessee practitioner or professional occupational teacher license with an endorsement covering the secondary grade span;
3. Has completed a State Board-approved occupational educator preparation program; 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 who are 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:

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

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.
- (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 full and 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 who are 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 full and 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.

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

- (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-expire.~~
- (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 one (1) of the following sets of requirements:
 - (a) Option 1:
 1. 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;
 2. Obtained three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department; and
 3. Earned thirty (30) professional development points or obtained the recommendation from a Director of Schools or leader of a charter school or the school's charter management organization (CMO).
 - (b) Option 2: Holds a full and valid professional-level license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (c) Option 3: Holds a valid certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.
- (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~~then the license may be renewed. To renew the practitioner second (2nd) issuance license, an educator shall earn thirty (30) qualifying professional development points as defined in Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
- (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:

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

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 within the validity period of the license and as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502 or demonstrate two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department within the validity period of the license.
- (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~~expire.
- (11) In order to Educators may reactivate aan expired license and endorsements held, ~~an educator shall meet by meeting~~ one (1) of the following ~~sets of~~ requirements:
- (a) Option A (Professional License only): Earn sixty (60) qualifying professional development points as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
 - (b) Option B (Professional License only): Demonstrate two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department.
 - (c) Option C: Submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved educator preparation program (if not already provided) and submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy;
 - ~~(bd)~~ (d) Option D: Present a full and valid professional-level teaching license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement; ~~or.~~
 - ~~(ee)~~ (e) Option E: Submit to the Department evidence of current National Board Certification issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

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 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. Emergency rules expired effective January 6, 2022, and the rules reverted to their previous statuses. Amendments filed December 2, 2021; effective March 2, 2022.

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

- (1) Prospective educators seeking a practitioner occupational ~~teacher license~~teaching license shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following ~~requirements~~Holda pathways:
- (a) Pathway 1. The prospective educator:

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

1. Holds a high school diploma or ~~higher~~ higher as defined by the Department based on the area in which the educator is seeking licensure and endorsement;
2. Is enrolled in a State Board-approved educator preparation program with a -job-embedded clinical practice; ~~Be~~
3. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; ~~Havea~~
4. Has a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, or three (3) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last five (5) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department; and ~~Hold~~
5. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.

(b) Pathway 2. The prospective educator:

1. Holds an active Tennessee practitioner academic teacher license or professional academic teacher license with an endorsement covering any of the grades six (6) through twelve (12);
2. Has completed a State Board-approved academic educator preparation program; and
3. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.

(c) Pathway 3. The prospective educator:

1. Has a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, or three (3) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last five (5) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department;
2. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable;
3. Provides proof of pairing with a highly effective mentor teacher; and
4. Has completed coursework in classroom management, pedagogy, serving students with disabilities and English learners, and the teacher code of ethics as set forth in T.C.A. § 49-5-5615, from a State Board-approved educator preparation provider.

(2) Prospective educators from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement and who are 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:

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

1. Holds a high school diploma or higher; [as defined by the Department based on the area in which the educator is seeking licensure and endorsement](#);
 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. Has completed an educator preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee;
 3. Holds a full and valid initial level license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement;
 4. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 5. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
- (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. Holds a high school diploma or higher;
 2. Holds a full and 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 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. [An educator issued a practitioner occupational teacher license under Pathway 3 is not required to complete an approved educator preparation program to renew the 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.~~

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

~~(6)~~(5) In order to advance from a practitioner occupational teacher license to a professional occupational teacher license, an educator shall meet one of the following sets of requirements:

(a) Option 1:

1. Complete three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department;
2. Complete a State Board-approved educator preparation program, unless the license was issued under Pathway 3;
3. 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;
4. Hold an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable; and
5. 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.

(b) Option 2:

1. Holds a full and valid professional-level occupational license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement or holds a full and valid professional-level academic teaching license in Tennessee; and
2. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.

~~(76)~~ 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.~~ then the license may continue to be renewed. To renew the practitioner occupational second (2nd) issuance license, an educator shall earn thirty (30) qualifying professional development points as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502 and hold an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.

~~(87)~~ In order to renew the professional occupational teacher license educators must meet the following requirements:

- (a) Earn sixty (60) professional development points ~~as indicted by SBE~~ within the validity period of the license and as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502 or demonstrate two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department within the validity period of the license; and
- (b) Provide verification of an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.

~~(98)~~ 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~~ expire.

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

(409) 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, or three (3) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last five (5) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department.

~~(10)(11) — A practitioner or professional~~ An occupational teacher license may be reactivated by ~~completion of both of the following:~~

~~(a) — Meeting one (1) of~~ meeting the following requirements:

- (a) ~~1.~~ Hold an active industry certification, as determined by the Department, for the area of endorsement, if applicable; or
- (b) ~~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, or three (3) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last five (5) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department; and

~~(c) —~~ (b) Meeting one (1) of the following requirements:

- 1. ~~4.~~ Option A (Professional License only): Earning sixty (60) qualifying professional development points as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
- 2. Option B (Professional License only): Demonstrating two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department.

Option C: Submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved educator preparation program (if not already provided) and submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105;

- 3. ~~2.~~ Option D: Present a full and valid professional-level occupational license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement; ~~or.~~

~~3.~~ Option E: Submit to the Department evidence of current National Board Certification issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

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. Emergency rules expired effective January 6, 2022, and the rules reverted to their previous statuses. Amendments filed December 2, 2021; effective March 2, 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 speech-language pathology assistant;
 - (c) School audiologist;
 - (d) School psychologist;
 - (e) School counselor;
 - (f) School social worker; and
 - (g) 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 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 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
 2. Hold an advanced degree in speech-language pathology and hold a full and valid out-of-state initial level speech-language pathology license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (b) Candidates seeking a professional school services personnel license as a school speech-language pathologist shall hold an advanced degree in speech-language pathology and meet one (1) of the following requirements:
 1. Hold a full and valid out-of-state professional level speech-language pathology license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement;
 2. Hold a valid license issued by the Tennessee Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences;
 3. Hold a valid license issued by an out-of-state Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences; or
 4. Hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language Hearing Association.
- (3) School speech-language pathology assistants shall hold a school services personnel license with the school speech-language pathology assistant endorsement.

- (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as a school speech-language pathology assistant shall meet one (1) of the following requirements:
 - 1. Hold a current Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Certification (SLPA-C) from the American Speech-Language & Hearing Association (ASHA);
 - 2. Hold a bachelor's degree with a major or concentration in speech-language pathology, communication disorders, or speech and hearing sciences from a regionally accredited institution of higher education;
 - 3. Hold a valid registration with the Tennessee Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences as a speech-language pathology assistant;
 - 4. Hold a degree from a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Program; or
 - 5. Hold a full and valid out-of-state initial level speech-language pathology assistant license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement and hold a bachelor's degree with a major or concentration in speech-language pathology, communication disorders, or speech and hearing sciences from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
 - (b) Out-of-state candidates seeking a professional school services personnel license as a school speech-language pathology assistant shall hold a bachelor's degree with a major or concentration in speech-language pathology, communication disorders, or speech and hearing sciences from a regionally accredited institution of higher education and hold a full and valid out-of-state professional level speech-language pathology assistant license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (4) 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 requirements of one (1) of the following pathways
 - 1. Pathway 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;
 - 2. Pathway 2: Hold an advanced degree in audiology and hold a full and 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 full

and valid out-of-state professional level school audiologist license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

- (5) 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 requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 1. Pathway 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 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;
 2. Pathway 2: Hold an advanced degree in school psychology and hold a full and 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 full and valid out-of-state professional level school psychologist license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (6) 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:

- (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 full and valid out-of-state initial level school counselor license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

~~(e)~~(b) Out-of-state 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 full and valid out-of-state professional level educator license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

~~(d)~~(c) School counselors who serve in a supervisory role shall have a professional school services personnel license with an endorsement in school counseling.

(7) 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 the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:

1. Pathway 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 sets of requirements:
 - (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 full and valid social worker license issued by the Tennessee Board of Social Workers or the licensing board of a state other than Tennessee;
2. Pathway 2: Hold a bachelor's degree or higher in social work from a regionally-accredited college or university and hold a full and valid out-of-state initial level school social work license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

(b) Out-of-state 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 full and valid out-of-state professional level license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

- (8) School educational interpreters shall hold a school services personnel license with the educational interpreter endorsement.
- (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as an educational interpreter shall meet the following requirements:
1. Hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university; and
 2. Meet one (1) of the following:
 - (i) Hold a current, nationally recognized certification in interpreting which includes a written examination related to ethics and practice;
 - (ii) Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy; or
 - (iii) Holds a full and valid out-of-state initial level educational interpreter 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 and endorsement as an educational interpreter shall hold a bachelor's degree or higher in educational interpreting and hold a full and valid out-of-state professional level educational interpreter license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

(9) A practitioner school services personnel license may be renewed once upon completion of an approved educator preparation program, if enrollment in a program is required for issuance of the license, and submission of qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105, prior to the end of the validity period of the first (1st) issuance of the practitioner license.

~~(9)~~(10) In order to advance from a practitioner school services personnel license to a professional school services personnel license, an educator shall meet one (1) of the following sets of requirements:

- (a) Option 1:
1. Three (3) years of qualifying experience as defined by the Department; and
 2. Earn thirty (30) qualifying professional development points as defined in Educator Licensure Policy 5.502- or obtain the recommendation from a Director of Schools or leader of a charter school or the school's charter management organization (CMO).
- (b) Option 2: Hold a full and valid professional-level school services personnel license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

~~(10)~~(11) 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~~ then the license may be renewed. To renew the practitioner school services personnel second (2nd) issuance license, an educator shall earn thirty (30) qualifying professional development points as defined in Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.

(12) In order to renew the professional school services personnel license, educators must earn sixty (60) qualifying professional development points within the validity period of the license and as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502 or demonstrate two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department within the validity period of the license.

(13) If the educator has not met the requirements for renewal at the end of the validity period of the professional school services personnel license, then the license shall expire.

~~(11)~~(14) Educators may reactivate a school services personnel license and endorsements held, ~~an educator must meet by meeting~~ one (1) of the following sets of requirements:

(a) Option 4A (Professional License only): Earning sixty (60) qualifying professional development points as defined in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.

(b) Option B (Professional License only): Demonstrating two (2) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department.

~~(a)~~(c) Option C: Submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved educator preparation program (if not already provided and if enrollment in a program is required for issuance of the license) and submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy; 5.105.

~~(b)~~(d) Option 2D: Present a full and valid professional-level school services personnel license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement; or

~~(e)~~(e) Option 3E: Submit evidence of an active national credential in the area of endorsement as outlined below:

1. Speech-language Pathologists – Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-language Pathology (CCC-SLP) issued by the American Speech-language Hearing Association
2. Audiologist – Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology (CCC-A) issued by the American Speech-language Hearing Association
3. School Psychologist – National Certification in School Psychology issued by the National School Psychology Certification Board
4. School Counselor – National Counselor Certification (NCC, CCMHC, MAS, or NCSC) issued by the National Board for Certified Counselors
5. School Social Worker – Certified School Social Work Specialist (C-SSWS) issued by the National Association of Social Workers or Certification by the Academy of Certified Social Workers (NASW)
6. Educational Interpreter – Professional Deaf Interpreter Credential issued by the National Association for the Deaf or Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Certification.

~~(12) — In order to renew the professional school services personnel license, educators must earn sixty (60) qualifying professional development points as defined in 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. Emergency rules expired effective January 6, 2022, and the rules reverted to their previous statuses. Amendments filed December 2, 2021; effective March 2, 2022.