

Licensure Rules and Policies

November 2025 State Board of Education Meeting

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PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction

Rationale



Rules

- Rule vs. Policy
- Rulemaking Requirements – North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 150B, Article 2A.
- Periodic Review and Readoption of Rules.
- Alignment of Rule with existing State Law and State Board Policy.
- Maintaining the Status Quo.

Stages of Rulemaking Process

Procedural Step	Anticipated Date
Recommendation from PEPSC	October 23, 2025
Discussion of Proposed Rules & Policies by State Board of Education	November 6, 2025
Vote by State Board to <i>formally propose</i> Rules	December 4, 2025
Publication of Proposed Rules in North Carolina Register	January 2, 2026
Public Comment Period	January 2, 2026 – March 3, 2026
Vote by State Board to <i>adopt</i> final Rules & Policies	March 5, 2026
Review by Rules Review Commission	April 28, 2026
Rules and Policies Take Effect	July 1, 2026

Policies

- Many policies have been amended over the years based on legislative changes to licensure. These amendments have led to some internal inconsistencies in the policies.
- LICN-001 is somewhat inaccessible due to its length and broadness.
- Certain terms in policies needed to have a clear definition (in rules).
- Restructuring LICN-001 into smaller, more manageable policies with specific foci.

Policies and Rules



List of Policies and Rules

Policy	Rule(s)	Content
LICN-001	.0301, .0302	General Licensure Requirements
LICN-004	.0334	Licensure Application
LICN-007	.0601-.0608	Professional Educator Discipline
LICN-010	.0304	Teacher License
LICN-011	.0305	Administrator License
LICN-012	.0306	Student Service Personnel License
LICN-013	.0307	Add-On Teaching Areas
LICN-014	.0308	Provisional License

List of Policies and Rules

Policy	Rule(s)	Content
LICN-015	.0313	License Endorsement
LICN-017	.0341	Permit to Teach
LICN-018	.0342	Emergency License
LICN-019	.0338, .0339	Residency License
LICN-020	.0336	Initial Professional License
LICN-023	.0340	Limited License
LICN-024	.0337	Continuing Professional License
LICN-025	.0344	Out of State Applicants

List of Policies and Rules

Policy	Rule(s)	Content
LICN-026	.0346	International Faculty
LICN-027	.0349	Lifetime License
LICN-028	.0350	Active Duty Servicemembers and Spouses
LICN-030	.0360	License Renewal (Teachers)
LICN-031	.0362	License Renewal (Administrators)
LICN-032	.0361	License Renewal (Student Services)
LICN-033	.0363	License Renewal (General)

Substantive Changes



Formatting and Clarity

- Most of the changes in the rules and policies address the structure and organization of the licensure policies.
- NCDPI Legal team has done a great deal of work to clarify language while maintaining the original intent of the policies.
- There are some substantive changes to the policies and rules to bring policy in alignment with current statute and/or to address issues of consistency in the field.

16 NCAC 06C .0337

- Satisfy the applicable licensure examination requirements before or during the third year of licensure, provided that the applicant attempted the examination(s) at least once during the first year of licensure;
- The language of the rule (and statute) indicates that an educator must attempt the licensure exam(s) in the first year in order to convert the license to a continuing professional license.

16 NCAC 06C .0307

- (a) An applicant may request to add a new license area to an existing IPL or CPL. An applicant may only add a license area to an IPL if the applicant has met the licensure examination requirements for the initial license area. To qualify for additional areas on a teaching license, the applicant shall:
 - Requires educator to complete testing requirements before he/she can add an additional area to the license.
 - IPL holders can still add an area provisionally (see rule .0308) prior to passing required licensure exams.

Communication to Field



NCDPI Communication Plan

- NCDPI routinely communicates changes to policies and rules in its monthly Human Capital webinars (K-12) and EPP webinars.
- NCDPI disseminated its monthly newsletter to HR staff announcing this week's PEPSC meeting and the agenda items. NCDPI provided the links to the live stream for the meeting.
- NCDPI sent notification of the PEPSC meeting to EPPs this week via GovDelivery messaging.
- NCDPI will discuss the proposed changes to Licensure rules and policies at the state-wide PANC meeting on October 21, 2025.

NCDPI Office Hours

- NCDPI will hold virtual office hours on October 22, 2025, for PSU staff that have questions about the proposed licensure changes. These office hours will be held from 9-10 am and again from 4-5 pm.
- NCDPI will hold virtual office hours on October 22, 2025, for EPP staff that have questions about the proposed licensure changes. These office hours will be held from 9-10 am and again from 2-4 pm.

Questions

