

CHAPTER 2014-32

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 433

An act relating to education; amending s. 1004.04, F.S.; providing requirements for certain instructional personnel who supervise or direct preservice field experience; amending s. 1012.2315, F.S.; authorizing a school district to assign to a school that has earned failing grades certain newly hired instructional personnel; amending s. 1012.56, F.S.; deleting an obsolete provision; revising acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of general knowledge, subject area knowledge, and professional preparation and education competence; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules; revising components of a competency-based professional development certification and education competency program; repealing s. 1012.56(17), F.S., relating to a study to compare the performance of certain certificateholders; amending s. 1012.585, F.S.; revising certain requirements for the renewal or reinstatement of a professional certificate; amending s. 1012.98, F.S.; authorizing a consortium of certain charter schools to develop a professional development system; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 1004.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.04 Public accountability and state approval for teacher preparation programs.—

(5) PRESERVICE FIELD EXPERIENCE.—All postsecondary instructors, school district personnel and instructional personnel, and school sites preparing instructional personnel through preservice field experience courses and internships shall meet special requirements. District school boards may pay student teachers during their internships.

(b)1. All school district personnel and instructional personnel who supervise or direct teacher preparation students during field experience courses or internships taking place in this state in which candidates demonstrate an impact on student learning growth must have evidence of “clinical educator” training, a valid professional certificate issued pursuant to s. 1012.56, and at least 3 years of teaching experience in prekindergarten through grade 12 and must have earned an effective or highly effective rating on the prior year’s performance evaluation under s. 1012.34 or be a peer evaluator under the district’s evaluation system approved under s. 1012.34. The State Board of Education shall approve the training requirements.

2. All instructional personnel who supervise or direct teacher preparation students during field experience courses or internships in another state,

in which a candidate demonstrates his or her impact on student learning growth, through a Florida online or distance program must have received “clinical educator” training or its equivalent in that state, hold a valid professional certificate issued by the state in which the field experience takes place, and have at least 3 years of teaching experience in prekindergarten through grade 12.

3. All instructional personnel who supervise or direct teacher preparation students during field experience courses or internships, in which a candidate demonstrates his or her impact on student learning growth, on a United States military base in another country through a Florida online or distance program must have received “clinical educator” training or its equivalent, hold a valid professional certificate issued by the United States Department of Defense or a state or territory of the United States, and have at least 3 years teaching experience in prekindergarten through grade 12.

Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 1012.2315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.2315 Assignment of teachers.—

(2) ASSIGNMENT TO SCHOOLS GRADED “D” or “F”.—

(a) A school district districts may not assign a higher percentage than the school district average of temporarily certified teachers, teachers in need of improvement, or out-of-field teachers to schools graded “D” or “F” pursuant to s. 1008.34.

(b)1. Beginning July 1, 2014, a school district may assign an individual newly hired as instructional personnel to a school that has earned a grade of “F” in the previous year or any combination of three consecutive grades of “D” or “F” in the previous 3 years pursuant to s. 1008.34 if the individual:

a. Has received an effective rating or highly effective rating in the immediate prior year’s performance evaluation pursuant s. 1012.34;

b. Has successfully completed or is enrolled in a teacher preparation program pursuant to s. 1004.04, s. 1004.85, or s. 1012.56, or a teacher preparation program specified in State Board of Education rule, is provided with high quality mentoring during the first 2 years of employment, holds a certificate issued pursuant to s. 1012.56, and holds a probationary contract pursuant to s. 1012.335(2)(a); or

c. Holds a probationary contract pursuant to s. 1012.335(2)(a), holds a certificate issued pursuant to s. 1012.56, and has successful teaching experience, and if, in the judgment of the school principal, students would benefit from the placement of that individual.

2. As used in this paragraph, the term “mentoring” includes the use of student achievement data combined with at least monthly observations to improve the educator’s effectiveness in improving student outcomes.

Mentoring may be provided by a school district, a teacher preparation program approved pursuant to s. 1004.04, s. 1004.85, or s. 1012.56, or a teacher preparation program specified in State Board of Education rule.

3. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement this paragraph.

Each school district shall annually certify to the Commissioner of Education that the requirements in this subsection have ~~requirement has~~ been met. If the commissioner determines that a school district is not in compliance with this subsection, the State Board of Education shall be notified and shall take action pursuant to s. 1008.32 in the next regularly scheduled meeting to require compliance.

Section 3. Subsections (3), (5), and (6) and paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (8) of section 1012.56, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—

(3) MASTERY OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE.—Acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of general knowledge are:

(a) Achievement of passing scores on the general knowledge basic skills ~~basic skills~~ examination required by state board rule;

~~(b)—Achievement of passing scores on the College Level Academic Skills Test earned prior to July 1, 2002;~~

~~(b)(e)~~ Documentation of a valid professional standard teaching certificate issued by another state;

~~(c)(d)~~ Documentation of a valid certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or a national educator credentialing board approved by the State Board of Education; ~~or~~

~~(d)(e)~~ Documentation of two semesters of successful, full-time or part-time teaching in a Florida College System institution, state university, or private college or university that awards an associate or higher degree and is an accredited institution or an institution of higher education identified by the Department of Education as having a quality program; or

(e) Effective July 1, 2015, achievement of passing scores, identified in state board rule, on national or international examinations that test comparable content and relevant standards in verbal, analytical writing, and quantitative reasoning skills, including, but not limited to, the verbal, analytical writing, and quantitative reasoning portions of the Graduate Record Examination. Passing scores identified in state board rule must be at approximately the same level of rigor as is required to pass the general knowledge examinations.

(5) MASTERY OF SUBJECT AREA KNOWLEDGE.—Acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of subject area knowledge are:

(a) For a subject requiring only a baccalaureate degree for which a Florida subject area examination has been developed, achievement of a passing score scores on the Florida-developed subject area examination specified in examinations required by state board rule, which may include, but need not be limited to, world languages in Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, French, German, Greek, Haitian Creole, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish;

(b) For a subject for which a Florida subject area examination has not been developed, achievement of a passing score on a standardized examination specified in state board rule, including, but not limited to, passing scores on both the oral proficiency and written proficiency examinations Completion of a bachelor's degree or higher and verification of the attainment of an oral proficiency interview score above the intermediate level and a written proficiency score above the intermediate level on a test administered by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages for which there is no Florida-developed examination;

(c) For a subject for which a Florida subject area examination has not been developed or a standardized examination has not been specified in state board rule, completion of the subject area specialization requirements specified in state board rule and verification of the attainment of the essential subject matter competencies by the district school superintendent of the employing school district or chief administrative officer of the employing state-supported or private school for a subject area for which a subject area examination has not been developed and required by state board rule;

(d) For a subject requiring a master's or higher degree, completion of the subject area specialization requirements specified in state board rule for a subject coverage requiring a master's or higher degree and achievement of a passing score on the Florida-developed subject area examination or a standardized examination specified in state board rule;

(e) Documentation of a valid professional standard teaching certificate issued by another state; or

(f) Documentation of a valid certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or a national educator credentialing board approved by the State Board of Education.

School districts are encouraged to provide mechanisms for ~~these~~ middle grades school teachers holding only a K-6 teaching certificate to obtain a subject area coverage for middle grades through postsecondary coursework or district add-on certification.

(6) MASTERY OF PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND EDUCATION COMPETENCE.—Acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of professional preparation and education competence are:

(a) Successful completion of an approved teacher preparation program at a postsecondary educational institution within this state and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by state board rule;

(b) Successful completion of a teacher preparation program at a postsecondary educational institution outside Florida and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by state board rule;

(c) Documentation of a valid professional standard teaching certificate issued by another state;

(d) Documentation of a valid certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or a national educator credentialing board approved by the State Board of Education;

(e) Documentation of two semesters of successful, full-time or part-time teaching in a Florida College System institution, state university, or private college or university that awards an associate or higher degree and is an accredited institution or an institution of higher education identified by the Department of Education as having a quality program and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by state board rule;

(f) Successful completion of professional preparation courses as specified in state board rule, successful completion of a professional preparation and education competence demonstration program pursuant to paragraph (8)(b), and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by state board rule;

(g) Successful completion of a professional development preparation ~~alternative~~ certification and education competency program, outlined in paragraph (8)(a); or

(h) Successful completion of a competency-based ~~an alternative~~ certification program pursuant to s. 1004.85 and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by rule of the State Board of Education.

The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to implement this subsection by December 31, 2014, including rules to approve specific teacher preparation programs that are not identified in this subsection which may be used to meet requirements for mastery of professional preparation and education competence.

(8) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION COMPETENCY PROGRAM.—

(a) The Department of Education shall develop and each school district may provide a cohesive competency-based professional development certification and education competency program by which members of a school district's instructional staff may satisfy the mastery of professional preparation and education competence requirements specified in ~~this subsection (6)~~ and rules of the State Board of Education. Participants must hold a state-issued temporary certificate. A school district that implements the program shall provide a competency-based certification program developed by the Department of Education or developed by the district and approved by the Department of Education. The program shall include the following ~~components~~:

1. A minimum period of initial preparation before assuming duties as the teacher of record.

2. An option for collaboration between school districts and other supporting agencies or educational entities for implementation.

3. An experienced peer-mentor component ~~peer mentors~~. Each individual selected by the district as a peer mentor must hold a valid professional certificate issued pursuant to this section, must have earned at least 3 years of teaching experience in prekindergarten through grade 12, and must have earned an effective or highly effective rating on the prior year's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34 or be a peer evaluator under the district's evaluation system approved under s. 1012.34.

4. An assessment of teaching performance aligned to the district's system for personnel evaluation under s. 1012.34 which provides for:

a. An initial evaluation of each educator's competencies to determine an appropriate individualized professional development plan.

b. A summative evaluation to assure successful completion of the program.

5. Professional education preparation content knowledge that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

a. ~~The state state-adopted student content standards provided under s. 1003.41,~~ including scientifically based reading instruction, content literacy, and mathematical practices, for each subject identified on the temporary certificate.

b. The educator-accomplished practices approved by the state board.

c. A variety of data indicators for monitoring student progress.

d. Methodologies for teaching students with disabilities.

e. Methodologies for teaching students of limited English proficiency English language learners appropriate for each subject area identified on the temporary certificate.

f. Techniques and strategies for operationalizing the role of the teacher in assuring a safe learning environment for students.

6. Required achievement of passing scores on the subject area and professional education competency examination required by State Board of Education rule. Mastery of general knowledge must be demonstrated as described in subsection (3).

(b)1. Each school district must and a state supported public school or a private school may develop and maintain a system by which members of the instructional staff may demonstrate mastery of professional preparation and education competence as required by law. Each program must be based on classroom application of the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices and instructional performance and, for public schools, must be aligned with the district’s evaluation system approved under s. 1012.34.

2. The Commissioner of Education shall determine the continued approval of programs implemented under this paragraph, based upon the department’s review of performance data. The department shall review the performance data as a part of the periodic review of each school district’s professional development system required under s. 1012.98.

Section 4. Subsection (17) of section 1012.56, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 5. Subsections (3) and (5) of section 1012.585, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.585 Process for renewal of professional certificates.—

(3) For the renewal of a professional certificate, the following requirements must be met:

(a) The applicant must earn a minimum of 6 college credits or 120 inservice points or a combination thereof. For each area of specialization to be retained on a certificate, the applicant must earn at least 3 of the required credit hours or equivalent inservice points in the specialization area. Education in “clinical educator” training pursuant to s. 1004.04(5)(b) and credits or points that provide training in the area of scientifically researched, knowledge-based reading literacy and computational skills acquisition, exceptional student education, normal child development, and the disorders of development may be applied toward any specialization area. Credits or points that provide training in the areas of drug abuse, child abuse and neglect, strategies in teaching students having limited proficiency in English, or dropout prevention, or training in areas identified in the educational goals and performance standards adopted pursuant to ss. 1000.03(5) and 1008.345 may be applied toward any specialization area.

Credits or points earned through approved summer institutes may be applied toward the fulfillment of these requirements. Inservice points may also be earned by participation in professional growth components approved by the State Board of Education and specified pursuant to s. 1012.98 in the district's approved master plan for inservice educational training, including, but not limited to, serving as a trainer in an approved teacher training activity, serving on an instructional materials committee or a state board or commission that deals with educational issues, or serving on an advisory council created pursuant to s. 1001.452.

(b) In lieu of college course credit or inservice points, the applicant may renew a subject area specialization area by passage of a state board approved Florida-developed subject area examination or, if a Florida subject area examination has not been developed, a standardized examination specified in state board rule test.

(c) If an applicant wishes to retain more than two specialization areas on the certificate, the applicant shall be permitted two successive validity periods for renewal of all specialization areas, but must earn no fewer than 6 college course credit hours or the equivalent in any one validity period.

(d) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules for the expanded use of training for renewal of the professional certificate for educators who are required to complete training in teaching students of limited English proficiency or students with disabilities and training in the teaching of reading as follows:

1. A teacher who holds a professional certificate may use college credits or inservice points earned through training in teaching students of limited English proficiency or students with disabilities completed in English for Speakers of Other Languages training and training in the teaching of reading in excess of 6 semester hours during one certificate-validity period toward renewal of the professional certificate during the subsequent validity periods.

2. A teacher who holds a temporary certificate may use college credits or inservice points earned through training in teaching students of limited English proficiency or students with disabilities completed in English for Speakers of Other Languages training and training in the teaching of reading toward renewal of the teacher's first professional certificate. Such training must not have been included within the degree program, and the teacher's temporary and professional certificates must be issued for consecutive school years.

(e) Beginning July 1, 2014, an applicant for renewal of a professional certificate must earn a minimum of one college credit or the equivalent inservice points in the area of instruction for teaching students with disabilities. The requirement in this paragraph may not add to the total hours required by the department for continuing education or inservice training.

(5) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to allow the reinstatement of expired professional certificates. The department may reinstate an expired professional certificate if the certificateholder:

- (a) Submits an application for reinstatement of the expired certificate.
- (b) Documents completion of 6 college credits during the 5 years immediately preceding reinstatement of the expired certificate, completion of 120 inservice points, or a combination thereof, in an area specified in paragraph (3)(a) to include the credit required under paragraph (3)(e).
- (c) During the 5 years immediately preceding reinstatement of the certificate, achieves a passing score on the Florida-developed subject area examination or, if a Florida subject area examination has not been developed, a standardized examination specified in state board rule test for each subject to be shown on the reinstated certificate.

The requirements of this subsection may not be satisfied by subject area examinations tests or college credits completed for issuance of the certificate that has expired.

Section 6. Subsection (6) of section 1012.98, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.98 School Community Professional Development Act.—

(6) An organization of private schools or consortium of charter schools which has no fewer than 10 member schools in this state, which publishes and files with the Department of Education copies of its standards, and the member schools of which comply with the provisions of part II of chapter 1003, relating to compulsory school attendance, may also develop a professional development system that includes a master plan for inservice activities. The system and inservice plan must be submitted to the commissioner for approval pursuant to state board rules of the ~~State Board of Education~~.

Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

Approved by the Governor May 12, 2014.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 12, 2014.