



MODEL LEGISLATION

THE ALTERNATIVE TEACHER CERTIFICATION ACT

Section 1. {Short Title} This act may be cited as the Alternative Teacher Certification Act.

Section 2. Be it enacted by the legislature that the Education Code, relating to the authority of the state to certify persons to teach who are not graduates of teacher education programs, is amended by adding [section] to read as follows:

(A) Certificates of license to teach in the public schools of the state shall be granted as follows:

- (1) By the state board, under rules and regulations prescribed by it,
 - (a) Upon the basis of college credit;
 - (b) Upon the basis of passage of an examination;
- (2) By the state board, under rules and regulations prescribed by the state board, to any individual who presents to the state board a valid doctoral degree from an accredited institution of higher education accredited by a regional accrediting association. Such certificate shall be limited to the major area of postgraduate study of the holder;
- (3) By the state board, under rules and regulations prescribed by it, on the basis of a valid certificate issued by a national or regional educator credentialing board approved by the state board .
- (4) By the state board, upon an appropriate background check, to any person who possesses a valid teaching certificate from another state or a certificate under subdivision three (3); provided that the certificate holder shall annually complete the state board's requirements for such certification;
- (5) By the state board, under rules and regulations prescribed by the state board, the Department of [Education or Public Instruction] shall develop and each school district must provide an alternative certification program by which members of a school district's instructional staff may obtain a teacher certificate.
- (6) By the state board, to any individual with a valid teaching certificate issued from another state.
- (7) By the state board, to individuals who have at least two years of teaching experience in post-secondary education.

(B) The board shall issue a master teacher certificate in the appropriate area of endorsement to an applicant who meets the requirements for education and experience as set forth in [section] and demonstrates quality teaching. Any teacher who holds national level certification shall be deemed to have satisfied the requirements for master teachers.

(C) District school boards shall adopt rules to allow for the issuance of an adjunct teaching certificate to any applicant who fulfills the state board requirements and who has expertise in the subject area to be taught. An applicant shall be considered to have expertise in the subject area to be taught if the applicant demonstrates sufficient content mastery through passage of a subject area examination. The adjunct teaching certificate shall be used for part-time teaching positions. Each adjunct teaching certificate is valid for X school years and is renewable if the applicant has received satisfactory performance evaluations during each year of teaching under the adjunct teaching program.

Section 3. {Severability clause}

Section 4. {Repealer clause}

Section 5. {Effective date}

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