



RECIPROCAL TEACHER LICENSURE

Model Policy

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

Reciprocal teacher licensure allows teachers who are qualified to teach in one state to teach in another state without facing unnecessary barriers to entry, such as re-taking courses or exams. Reciprocity allows teachers to easily move from one state to another and to teach virtually, across state lines. Strong reciprocal licensure policies can strengthen teaching pipelines and retain qualified teachers in the profession.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

“Adjunct teacher” is an individual with a temporary provisional license who holds a bachelor’s degree and expertise and/or significant professional experience relevant to a core or non-core subject-area offered by a school or district.

“Career and technical education teacher” is an individual with a valid license allowing them to serve in a specific career and technical education cluster.

“Department” is the state Department of Education, or its designee, which is charged with overseeing the licensing of teachers.

“National Board Certified Teacher” is a public, charter or private school teacher with at least three years of professional teaching experience, who has completed the requirements of the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards and has received their National Board certification.

“Paraprofessional license” is a license issued by a state that allows an individual to work as a teacher assistant, teacher aide or paraeducator who provides support to a lead teacher.

“Provisional license” is a K-12 temporary teaching license issued by a state that allows a teacher to act as a teacher of record while he/she completes the state’s requirements to procure and transition to a valid standard license. A provisional license is valid for a pre-determined number of years, which is set by the state Board of Education.

“Substitute license” is a license or credential issued by a state or district to work as a substitute teacher.

“Valid standard license” is a current K-12 professional teaching license issued by a state that is not an emergency, restricted, probationary, provisional, substitute or temporary credential.

SECTION 3. RECIPROCAL LICENSURE ELIGIBILITY

1. The Department shall grant an equivalent teaching license to any individual who possesses a valid standard license or higher from another state without requiring additional assessments or coursework.
2. The Department shall grant reciprocity for those individuals who possess a valid standard license through an alternative route to licensure who have demonstrated teaching ability through at least three years of satisfactory or better evaluations OR the alternative licensure program he/she completed has been determined by the state Board of Education determines is as rigorous or more rigorous than the alternative route to licensure in the state.
 - a. Considerations for rigor may include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Required courses connected to subject content standards,
 - ii. Objective measures of knowledge, such as content exam scores, and



- iii. Hours of classroom practice and practical experience.
 - b. The Board of Education may consider providing a standard license to National Board Certified Teachers who taught at a charter or private school and do not otherwise have a valid standard license from their state of origin.
- 3. The Department shall grant a provisional license to any individual who possesses a credential less than a standard license, a license through an alternative route to licensure deemed to be less rigorous as outlined in subsection 2, or an expired standard license from another state. This shall include, but is not limited to, provisional licenses given for:
 - a. adjunct teachers, and
 - b. career and technical education teachers.
- 4. The Department shall not grant a provisional license to an individual who possesses a substitute or paraprofessional license from another state, except as part of completing an alternative route to licensure available in the state.
- 5. The Department shall notify applicants of their decision no later than X weeks after the reciprocal teacher license application was submitted.