

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
August 20, 2015

OFFICE OF EDUCATOR QUALITY

11. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedure Act process: Approval for Alternate Route Elementary Education Applicants to Pass Foundations of Reading Test with a Passing Scale Score of 229 for Endorsement Code 117 Effective 7/1/16 [Goal 4 - MDE Strategic Plan]

Background:

In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2 (6)(a)(ii), effective July 1 2016, for initial elementary education licensure, a teacher candidate in Mississippi must earn a passing score on a rigorous test of scientifically research-based reading instruction and intervention and data-based decision-making principles as approved by the State Board of Education. The purpose of the test is to ensure that each licensed educator has the subject matter knowledge essential for entry-level teaching in the field. The approval of this license supports the critical role of the classroom teacher in ensuring that students exit third grade reading on grade level.

The test measures proficiency in and depth of understanding of the subject of reading, reflects scientifically based reading research, conforms to the recommendations of the National Reading Panel, and is in alignment with Mississippi's 2014 College- and Career-Readiness Standards.

The Licensure Commission approved the recommendation to implement the requirement for alternate route and supplemental elementary education certification candidates to maintain the consistency of the expectation of elementary educators in MS.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

**ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENT
(116, 117, AND 120 Elementary Endorsement Codes)**

All educators completing approved programs for elementary education must pass Foundations of Reading with a passing scale score of 229 in order to obtain an elementary education endorsement.

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING: *Elementary Education (4-6 grades) obtained upon completion of a Master of Arts in Teaching program.*

FIVE YEAR EDUCATOR LICENSE –

TRADITIONAL TEACHER EDUCATION ROUTE: *Elementary Education endorsements added to a five year educator license upon meeting all licensing requirements and completing a state approved or National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) or Council for the Accreditation for Educator Preparation (CAEP) approved teacher education program from a regionally/nationally accredited institution of higher learning.*

SUPPLEMENTAL DEGREE PROGRAM: *Elementary Education endorsements obtained upon completion of an approved supplemental degree program in elementary education.*

License	Requirements	Validity	To Convert to a Five Year Alternate Route Educator License
Class A Class AA Class AAA Class AAAA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bachelor’s degree or higher in Teacher Education from a state approved or NCATE/CAEP approved program from a regionally/nationally accredited institution of higher learning 2. Twenty-one (21) ACT equivalent or achieve the nationally recommended passing score on the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators examination; AND 3. Praxis II scores at or above the national recommended score provided that the accepted cohort of candidates of the institution's teacher education program meets or exceeds a 3.0. 3. Praxis II (Principles of Learning and Teaching Test) 4. Praxis II (Specialty Area Test) in Degree program 4. Foundations of Reading assessment score of 229 or higher. 	5 years	Ten (10) continuing education units (CEUs) in content or job/skill related area <p align="center">OR</p> Three (3) semester hours in content or job/skill related area <p align="center">AND</p> Five (5) continuing education units (CEUs) in content or job/skill related area <p align="center">OR</p> Six (6) semester hours in content or job/skill related area <p align="center">OR</p> Completion of the National Board of Professional Teaching

			Standards process
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**FIVE YEAR EDUCATOR LICENSE –
TRADITIONAL TEACHER EDUCATION ROUTE (CONTINUED)**

Class AA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meet the requirements for a Five Year Class A License 2. Master’s degree in the endorsement area in which license is requested <p align="center">OR</p> <p>Master of Education Degree</p>	5 years	<p>Three (3) semester hours in content or job/skill related area</p> <p align="center">OR</p> <p>Five (5) continuing education units (CEUs) in content or job/skill related area</p> <p align="center">OR</p> <p>Completion of the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards process</p>
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<p>Class AAA</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meet the requirements for a Five Year Class A License 2. Specialist degree in the endorsement area in which the license is requested <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Specialist of Education Degree</p>	<p>5 years</p>	<p>Same as for AA</p>
<p>Class AAAA</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meet the requirements for a Five Year Class A License 2. Doctoral degree in the endorsement area in which license is requested <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Doctor of Education Degree</p>	<p>5 years</p>	<p>Same as for AA</p>