

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ACCOUNTABILITY
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Item
Consent Agenda
August 21, 2025

DIVISION OF EDUCATOR LICENSURE
OFFICE OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

- F. Approval to revise Title 7 of the Miss. Admin. Code: Part 142: Career and Technical Education (CTE) Licensure Guidelines K-12: To revise the “Special Notes” section to include a sixth (6th) “Special Note” that would establish criteria for obtaining certain Career and Technical Education (CTE) License types after an Initial Standard Renewable CTE License has been Granted: These Criteria will be referenced as applicable throughout the Official CTE Guidelines Document and shall Only Apply to certain CTE Licensure Pathways
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act Process with public comments)

Background Information: On May 2, 2025, at its regular meeting, the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development granted approval of the recommendations made by the Office of Career and Technical Education (CTE) to revise the “Special Notes” section of the official CTE Guidelines document to include a sixth (6th) “Special Note” that would establish criteria for obtaining a CTE license after an initial standard five-year renewable CTE license has been granted to an educator. As local school districts across Mississippi continue to add new and convert existing CTE programs to updated career pathways that meet the unique workforce needs of their respective communities, the proposed provision would afford local school districts the opportunity to retain existing staff and substantially broaden their pool of eligible instructors holding a valid five-year standard renewable CTE license.

Particularly, the request is to establish a provision that would allow an applicant that has met all criteria for obtaining an initial standard five-year renewable CTE license and is seeking to obtain an additional CTE license, to not be required to meet the educational requirement for obtaining certain subsequent CTE license types. All other criteria for obtaining the subsequent license, that have not been previously met, must be completed as a condition for the issuance of the subsequent license sought. This provision shall only apply to certain CTE licensure pathways in the official “Guidelines and Clarification of Requirements for Issuance of Career and Technical Education (Occupational Educator) Licenses”, document.

All requirements noted herein shall be effective upon receipt of final Mississippi Board of Education approval.

This item has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act Process with public comments received in support of the proposed amendments to the Licensure

Guidelines. The public comment period was open from June 19, 2025, through 5:00 p.m. July 21, 2025.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

Special Notes

1. All coursework required for any educator license or endorsement in this manual must:
 - a) be presented on an official academic transcript from an accredited educational institution and
 - b) have a grade of “C” or higher.
2. If workshops or education modules are taken to fulfill any requirement for any license or endorsement in this manual, the applicant must provide proof of completion.
3. Continuing Education Units or Courses completed for renewal of a license will meet the requirements for renewal of all Career & Technical Licenses or Endorsements held by an individual.
4. If the applicant meets all requirements listed, they will be issued a five-year license. If the applicant meets the educational and occupational experience requirements, but does not meet all other requirements, the applicant may be issued one (1) three-year license for a given license code; all requirements stated for the license must be satisfied prior to the ending date of that three – year license.
5. Applicants who have successfully completed Student Teaching/Teaching Internship are not required to complete Vocational Instructor Preparation (VIP)
6. An applicant that holds a valid standard five-year renewable CTE license and is seeking to obtain an additional CTE license shall not be required to meet the education requirement for obtaining certain subsequent CTE licenses. All other criteria for obtaining the subsequent license, not previously met, shall be completed as a condition for the issuance of the license the educator is seeking to add. This provision shall only apply to CTE licensure pathways in the official “Guidelines and Clarification of Requirements for Issuance of Career and Technical Education (Occupational Educator) Licenses”, document.

Definitions:

Non – Education Degree – A Bachelor’s degree that does not include Student Teaching

Student Teaching or Teaching Internship – A college course or courses in which the student participates in a directed teaching experience with a mentor teacher

Technical Certificate – A certification of successful completion of a course of study that normally does not include “Academic” course work and is completed in less than four semesters

Related Field - An applicant holds an earned two-year or four-year degree, as appropriate for the license being pursued, in any field and has completed **eighteen (18) hours of acceptable coursework with an earned grade of “C” or higher** in the subject area the license is requested

This is a guide for use in the Office of Educator Licensure and the Office of Career and Technical Education at the Mississippi Department of Education. This guide is distributed via the Mississippi Department of Education website through the Office of Educator Licensure.

FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY

968 Career Pathway: Diesel Service Technician
Requirements for this Endorsement:

1. Education

- Applicant must have earned a two-year college degree (associate degree) or higher from an accredited institution of higher education or **hold a valid standard five-year renewable CTE license in the Transportation Career Pathway.**

2. Technology Literacy and Related Assessment of that Competency

- Applicant must validate technology competency by attaining the established minimum score or higher on an assessment approved by the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE). The assessment must be directly related to technology competency required by the grade level and subject matter being taught. Approved assessments for this license are IC3 or other approved MDE substitute.

3. Occupational Experience and Related Assessment of that Experience

- Applicants with an associate degree must have at least two years of verifiable occupational experience in the past ten years. Experience must be appropriate to the subject to be taught.
- Applicants with a bachelor or higher degree must have at least one year of verifiable occupational experience in the past ten years. Experience must be appropriate to the subject to be taught.

An educator with a standard five – year license may use experience outside of the ten – year timeframe.

- Applicant must hold ASE Certifications in the following three areas:

- a. Medium & Heavy-Duty Truck (test Diesel T2)
- b. Electrical/Electronics (test T6)
- c. Preventative Maintenance (test T8)

4. Teacher Education Preparation and Related Assessment(s) of that Education

- Applicant must enroll immediately in Vocational Instructor Preparation (VIP) program. **(Exception: Those teachers that have a currently valid five-year license or have completed an alternate route program do not have to enroll in VIP.)**
- Applicant must complete the individualized professional development plan (PDP) requirements of the VIP program prior to the expiration date of the three-year Career & Technical license.
- Applicant must successfully complete a Certification for online learning workshop, module, or course that is approved by the Mississippi Department of Education.
- Applicant must successfully complete the Diesel Service Technician Certification workshop, module, or course that is approved by the Mississippi Department of Education.

Note: If the applicant meets all requirements listed above, that applicant will be issued a 968 endorsement—a five-year license. If the applicant meets the educational and occupational experience requirements, but does not meet all other requirements, the applicant may be issued one (1) three-year endorsement (license), and all requirements stated above must be satisfied prior to the ending date of that license.

Statement would apply to the licensure areas listed in the chart below:

Hold a two-year college degree (associate degree) or higher from an accredited institution of higher education or hold a valid standard five-year renewable CTE license in a specific Career Pathway endorsement area.

Endorsement	Page Number of Current CTE Licensure Guidelines
Manufacturing Pathway	
918 Career Pathway: Furniture Design & Manufacturing	15
939 Career Pathway: Advanced Manufacturing	23
964 Career Pathway: Instrumentation	37
969 Career Pathway: Precision Machining	42
973 Career Pathway: Industrial Maintenance	45
975 Career Pathway: Welding	47
976 Career Pathway: Metal Fabrication	48
Construction Pathway	
974 Career Pathway: Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning	46
977 Career Pathway: Carpentry	49
978 Career Pathway: Electrical	50
979 Career Pathway: Masonry	51
980 Career Pathway: Plumbing	52
Digital Technology Pathway	
943 Career Pathway: Unmanned Aircraft Systems	24
954 Career Pathway: Information Technology	29
960 Career Pathway: Software Development	33
Transportation Pathway	
373 Small Gas Engines	11
966 Career Pathway: Automotive Service Technician	39
967 Career Pathway: Collision Repair Technician	40
968 Career Pathway: Diesel Service Technician	41
Agriculture Pathway	
990 Career Pathway: Agriculture and Natural Resources	57
980 Career Pathway: Horticulture	58

The Office of Teaching and Leading received the following APA comments regarding the establishment of a new supplemental endorsement licensure option in the area of Mild/Moderate Disability 7-12 that may be added to a valid three (3) year internship license or valid five (5) year standard license by obtaining a passing score on the appropriate Praxis Subject Assessment.

Summary of Comment	MDE Response
<p>I would like to offer my support for the changes to CTE licensure as set forth in the Proposed revision of Title 7 Miss. Admin. Code Part 142: Career and Technical Education Licensure Guidelines K-12.</p> <p>For the past two years, I was fortunate to serve as Principal at the Madison Career & Technical Center in the Madison County School District. In the summer of 2024, we completed a seven-month-long search for a new Automotive Services teacher. Our new teacher held extensive experience as an Automotive Collision Repair teacher at a different CTE center. While his abilities as a teacher, proficiency at preparing students for ASE tests, and general knowledge of automotive repair were outstanding, we had an extremely difficult time helping him obtain the proper endorsement to teach Automotive Services due to his educational background. I learned very quickly that this is a common issue with business and industry professionals who are strong candidates to serve as CTE teachers.</p> <p>The proposed changes to the CTE licensure guidelines would allow our teacher to update his ASE credentials for the proper endorsement without forcing him to go back to school to earn a degree. This will be a welcomed change for school districts who face the daunting task of hiring qualified CTE teachers. In many cases, the prospect of luring a business/industry professional out of their chosen career field to come teach in the classroom is extremely difficult. Furthermore, the path that leads those professionals into those fields often does not require extensive training at an educational institution.</p> <p>This proposed change would help school districts by allowing CTE teacher candidates more flexibility in obtaining proper licensure for open teaching positions. It could also increase the number of professionals who could be considered as viable candidates for these teaching positions. As a recent CTE administrator, I offer my strong support for these changes.</p> <p>I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Brett Robinson, Dr. Cory Murphy, Mr. John Ferrell, and the staff at the Office of Career Technical Education and the Office of Licensure. Their willingness to listen to our concerns and work with us as our teacher obtained proper licensure for the past school year was greatly appreciated. By proposing this pathway, they have supported the effort to retain good teachers in the field of education for many years to come.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Nason Lollar, Ed.D. Principal Germantown Middle School</p>	<p><u>No Change</u> – Comments received are in support of the proposed amendment.</p>
<p>Please accept this email as support for the proposed revision of Title 7 Miss. Admin. Code Part 142: Career and Technical Education Licensure Guidelines K-12.</p> <p>I would like to offer two examples of how this change will dramatically (and positively) impact teacher endorsements in a couple of circumstances of which I am aware first-hand.</p> <p>For the past eight years I have served as the CTE Director in the Clinton Public School District. For several years in Clinton, two two-year pathway programs have co-existed: Broadcast Journalism and Digital Media. These programs have been popular with students and we have seen them grow in enrollment. Due to recent changes in curriculum, now the two programs have been merged into one program, with multiple course offerings. This is a trend in an attempt to provide a greater variety of course offerings similar to what is found in career academy offerings.</p>	<p><u>No Change</u> – Comments received are in support of the proposed amendment.</p>

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Summary of Comment	MDE Response
<p>With this change in licensure guidelines, both teachers could easily teach any course under their newly merged umbrella without having to meet old licensure requirements. Since the scope of standards overlap, both instructors are well qualified to teach the course already. Not having to spend time, effort, and money to meet old requirements, the licensure change provides a much smoother transition to accommodate the curriculum revisions.</p> <p>Currently, I have just transitioned to a different district, approved as the Director of CTE in Madison county schools.</p> <p>Not long after my arrival in Madison, I was made aware of an issue with the instructor of our Automotive Technology program. As Dr. Nason Lollar has so perfectly described, I want to share a portion of his narrative.....</p> <p>In the summer of 2024, we completed a seven-month-long search for a new Automotive Services teacher. Our new teacher held extensive experience as an Automotive Collision Repair teacher at a different CTE center. While his abilities as a teacher, proficiency at preparing students for ASE tests, and general knowledge of automotive repair were outstanding, we had an extremely difficult time helping him obtain the proper endorsement to teach Automotive Services due to his educational background. I learned very quickly that this is a common issue with business and industry professionals who are strong candidates to serve as CTE teachers.</p> <p>The proposed changes to the CTE licensure guidelines would allow our teacher to update his ASE credentials for the proper endorsement without forcing him to go back to school to earn a degree. This will be a welcomed change for school districts who face the daunting task of hiring qualified CTE teachers. In many cases, the prospect of luring a business/industry professional out of their chosen career field to come teach in the classroom is extremely difficult. Furthermore, the path that leads those professionals into those fields often does not require extensive training at an educational institution.</p> <p>This proposed change would help school districts by allowing CTE teacher candidates more flexibility in obtaining proper licensure for open teaching positions. It could also increase the number of professionals who could be considered as viable candidates for these teaching positions.</p> <p>Together with Dr. Lollar, I would like to thank Mr. Brett Robinson, Dr. Cory Murphy, Mr. John Ferrell, and the staff at the Office of Career Technical Education and the Office of Licensure. Their willingness to listen to our concerns and work with us as our teacher obtained proper licensure for the past school year is greatly appreciated. By proposing this pathway, they have supported the effort to retain good teachers in the field of education for many years to come.</p> <p>Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions. We look forward to these changes.</p> <p>-- Bill Hardin, Ed. S., D. Min. Director of Career & Technical Education</p>	