| **Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item** | **Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia** |
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# Agenda Item: L

## Date: April 25, 2019

## Title: First Review of Revisions to the List of 2019-2020 Board of Education Approved Industry Certifications, Occupational Competency Assessments, and Professional Licenses

**Presenter: Mr. George R. Willcox, Director, Operations and Accountability, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education**

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## Purpose of Presentation:

Action required by Board of Education regulation.

## Executive Summary:

The process for reviewing and validating industry credentials for the purpose of awarding verified credit is based on the following criteria: 1) the test must be standardized and graded independently of the school or school division in which the test is given; 2) the test must be knowledge based; 3) the test must be administered on a statewide, multistate or international basis, or administered as part of another state’s accountability assessment program; and 4) to be counted in a specific academic area, the test must measure content that incorporates or exceeds the Standards of Learning content in the course for which verified credit is given. Important to this process is ensuring that the credential is relevant and recognized in the workplace.

The **27**, recommended industry or trade association certification examinations, professional licenses, and occupational competency assessments, meet the Board’s graduation requirements as identified for the Standard and Advanced Studies Diplomas in [8VAC20-131-50](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/) (effective for students entering ninth grade prior to the 2018-2019 school year) and the Board’s graduation requirements as identified for the Standard and Advanced Studies Diplomas in [8VAC20-131-51](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/) (effective with the students who enter the ninth grade in the 2018-2019 school year). Students shall earn the required standard and verified units of credit described in subdivision 2 of the appropriate subsection.

The industry credentials listed on pages H and I meet the criteria to satisfy requirements for the Career and Technical Education Seal, Seal of Advanced Mathematics and Technology, and Seal of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM).

Industry or trade association certification examinations, professional licenses, and occupational competency assessments are continually being revised or discontinued to stay current with technology and new techniques. Industry Credentialing providers have discontinued **six** previously approved certification examinations. These certifications are recommended for deletion from the Board-approved list. (Page I)

These changes may be such that individual certifications are no longer available or no longer meet the Board of Education’s criteria for the student-selected verified credit or the academic specific verified credit, the Standard Diploma’s Career and Technical Education credential or the additional requirements for graduation in accordance with the Standards of Quality, and the diploma seals awards for exemplary student performance in Career and Technical Education, Advanced Mathematics and Technology, and STEM.

This Board item aligns with Board of Education Priority 1 – provide high-quality, effective learning environments for all students.

## Action Requested:

Other. Specify below:

The Board is requested to waive first review and approve the 27 additions to the Board of Education Approved Industry Certifications, Occupational Competency Assessments, and Professional Licenses and remove six previously approved credentials.

## Superintendent’s Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education waive first review and approve the 27 new industry certification examinations, occupational competency assessments, and professional licenses to meet the Board of Education’s requirements for (1) graduation effective for the students who entered ninth grade prior to the 2018-2019 school year, (2) requirements for graduation effective with the students who enter the ninth grade in the 2018-2019 school year, and (3) requirements for the Career and Technical Education, Advanced Mathematics and Technology, and STEM Seals. Further, that the Board approve the removal of six credentials which are no longer offered by the providers.

## Rationale for Action:

The Board’s action is to ensure compliance with the following *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*:

* Standard and Verified Units of Credit – 8 VAC 20-131-110.C
* Requirements for Graduation (Effective for the Students Entering Ninth Grade Prior to the 2018–2019 School Year) – 8VAC20-131-50
* Requirements for a Standard Diploma – 8 VAC 20-131-50.B.2 (Footnotes 5, 6 and 8)
* Requirements for an Advanced Studies Diploma – 8 VAC 20-131-50.C.2 (Footnote 5)
* Awards for Exemplary Student Performance – 8VAC 20-131-50.H
* Board of Education’s Career and Technical Education Seal – 8VAC 20-131-50.H.3
* Board of Education’s Seal of Advanced Mathematics and Technology – 8 VAC 20-131-50.H.4
* Requirements for Graduation (Effective with the Students Who Enter the Ninth Grade in the 2018–2019 School Year) – 8VAC20-131-51
* Requirements for a Standard Diploma – 8 VAC 20-131-51.B.2
* Requirements for an Advanced Studies Diploma – 8 VAC 20-131-51.C.2
* Awards for Exemplary Student Performance – 8VAC 20-131-51.H
* Board of Education’s Career and Technical Education Seal – 8VAC 20-131-51.H.3
* Board of Education’s Seal of Advanced Mathematics and Technology – 8 VAC 20-131-51.H.4

## Previous Review or Action:

Previous review and action. Specify date and action taken below:

Dates: September 28, 2000; April 26, 2001; April 24 & 25, 2002; May 28, 2003; June 25, 2003; February 25, 2004; February 23, 2005; November 30, 2005; November 29, 2006;

January 10, 2008; January 15, 2009; January 14, 2010; February 17, 2011; May 24, 2012;

June 27, 2013; April 24, 2014; April 23, 2015; April 28, 2016; May 25, 2017; and

April 26, 2018.

Action: Technical changes, additions, and/or deletions were approved to the list of Board-approved certification examinations, assessments, and licenses.

* Currently, there are 418 [Board-Approved](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/career_technical/path_industry_certification/cte_credentials/protected-industry-certifications-2018.docx) industry or trade association certification examinations, professional licenses, and occupational competency assessments.

## Background Information and Statutory Authority:

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, [8 VAC20-131-50.](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50), Requirements for Graduation (Effective for the Students Entering Ninth Grade Prior to the 2018-2019 School Year).

[*8 VAC20-131-50.B.2*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/)*. Requirements for a Standard Diploma – Footnotes 5, 6, and 8*

The requirements for a student to earn a diploma and graduate from a Virginia high school shall be those in effect when that student enters the ninth grade for the first time.

Beginning with the ninth-grade class of 2013-2014 and through the ninth-grade class of 2017-2018, students shall earn the required verified units of credit related to the career and technical education industry credentials as follows:

*5 “A student may utilize additional tests for earning verified credit in computer science, technology, career and technical education, economics or other areas as prescribed by the board in* [*8VAC20-131-110*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section110/)*.”*

*6 “Students who complete a career and technical education program sequence and pass an examination or occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education field that confers certification or an occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, or trade or professional association, or acquire a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia may substitute the certification, competency credential, or license for (i) the student-selected verified credit and (ii) either a science or history and social science verified credit when the certification, license, or credential confers more than one verified credit. The examination or occupational competency assessment must be approved by the board as an additional test to verify student achievement.”*

*8 “Students shall earn a career and technical education credential approved by the Board of Education, except when a career and technical education credential in a particular subject area is not readily available or appropriate or does not adequately measure student competency, in which case the student shall receive satisfactory competency-based instruction in the subject area to satisfy the standard diploma requirements. The career and technical education credential, when required, could include the successful completion of an industry certification, a state licensure examination, a national occupational competency assessment, or the Virginia workplace readiness assessment.”*

[*8 VAC20-131-50. C.2*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/)*. Requirements for an Advanced Studies Diploma - Footnotes 6*

*6 “A student may utilize additional tests for earning verified credit in computer science, technology, career or technical education, economics or other areas as prescribed by the board in* [*8VAC20-131-110*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section110/)*.”*

[*8 VAC20-131-110.C*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section110/) *– Standard and Verified Units of Credit*

*“The board may from time to time approve additional tests for the purpose of awarding verified credit. Such additional tests, which enable students to earn verified units of credit, must, at a minimum, meet the following criteria:*

*1. The test must be standardized and graded independently of the school or school division in which the test is given;*

*2. The test must be knowledge based;*

*3. The test must be administered on a statewide, multistate, or international basis, or administered as part of another state's accountability assessment program; and*

*4. To be counted in a specific academic area, the test must measure content that incorporates or exceeds the Standards of Learning content in the course for which verified credit is given.*

[*8 VAC20-131-50. H. 3*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/) *– Awards for exemplary student performance*

*Students who demonstrate academic excellence and outstanding achievement may be eligible for the career and technical education awards:*

*3.“The Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Seal shall be awarded to students who earn a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma and complete a prescribed sequence of courses in a career and technical education concentration or specialization that they choose and maintain a "B" or better average in those courses; or (i) pass an examination or an occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education concentration or specialization that confers certification or occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, trade or professional association or (ii) acquire a professional license in that career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia. The board shall approve all professional licenses and examinations used to satisfy these requirements.”*

[*8 VAC20-131-50*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/)and [*8 VAC20-131-51*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/) *– Awards for exemplary student performance*

*The Board of Education's Seal for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) shall be awarded to students who earn either a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma and (i) satisfy all Math and Science requirements for the Advanced Studies diploma with a “B” average or better in all course work; and (ii) successfully complete a 50 hour or more work-based learning opportunity in a STEM area; and (iii) satisfy all requirements for a Career and Technical Education concentration (A concentration is a coherent sequence of two or more state-approved courses as identified in the course listing within the*[*CTE Administrative Planning Guide*](http://cteresource.org/apg/)*); and (iv) pass one of the following: (a) a Board of Education CTE STEM-H credential examination, or (b) an examination approved by the Board that confers a college-level credit in a STEM field. NOTE: This seal was established by*[*House Bill 167*](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?181+ful+CHAP0482)*(2018) to replace the Board’s Seal of Advanced Mathematics and Technology.  This seal is available to graduating seniors in the Class in 2019 and beyond. The Board’s Seal of Advanced Mathematics and Technology remains available to students that entered the ninth grade prior to the 2018-2019 school year.*

[*8 VAC20-131-50. H. 4*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/) *– Awards for exemplary student performance*

*4. “The Board of Education's Seal of Advanced Mathematics and Technology shall be awarded to students who earn either a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma and (i) satisfy all of the mathematics requirements for the Advanced Studies Diploma (four units of credit including Algebra II; two verified units of credit) with a "B" average or better; and (ii) either (a) pass an examination in a career and technical education field that confers certification from a recognized industry, trade, or professional association; (b) acquire a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia; or (c) pass an examination approved by the board that confers college-level credit in a technology or computer science area. The board shall approve all professional licenses and examinations used to satisfy these requirements.”*

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, [8 VAC20-131-51.](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/), Requirements for Graduation (Effective with the Students Who Enter the Ninth Grade in the 2018-2019 School Year)

[*8 VAC20-131-51. B. 2*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/)*. Requirements for a Standard Diploma*

The requirements for a student to earn a diploma and graduate from a Virginia high school shall be those in effect when that student enters the ninth grade for the first time.

Beginning with the ninth-grade class of 2018-2019 and beyond, students shall earn the required verified units of credit related to the career and technical education industry credentials as follows:

*“Students who complete a career and technical education program sequence and pass an examination or occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education field that confers certification or an occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, or trade or professional association, or acquire a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia may substitute the certification, competency credential, or license for either a laboratory science or history and social science verified credit when the certification, license, or credential confers more than one verified credit. The examination or occupational competency assessment must be approved by the board as an additional test to verify student achievement.”*

*“In accordance with the Standards of Quality, students shall either (i) complete an Advanced Placement, honors, or International Baccalaureate course, or (ii) earn a career and technical education credential approved by the board, except when a career and technical education credential in a particular subject area is not readily available or appropriate or does not adequately measure student competency, in which case the student shall receive satisfactory competency-based instruction in the subject area to satisfy the standard diploma requirements. The career and technical education credential, when required, could include the successful completion of an industry certification, a state licensure examination, a national occupational competency assessment, or the Virginia workplace readiness assessment.”*

[*8 VAC20-131-51. C.2*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/)*. Requirements for an Advanced Studies Diploma*

The requirements for a student to earn a diploma and graduate from a Virginia high school shall be those in effect when that student enters the ninth grade for the first time. Beginning with the ninth-grade class of 2018-2019 and beyond, students shall earn the required verified units of credit related to the career and technical education industry credentials as follows:

*“In accordance with the Standards of Quality, students shall either (i) complete an Advanced Placement, honors, or International Baccalaureate course, or (ii) earn a career and technical education credential approved by the board, except when a career and technical education credential in a particular subject area is not readily available or appropriate or does not adequately measure student competency, in which case the student shall receive satisfactory competency-based instruction in the subject area to satisfy the advanced studies diploma requirements. The career and technical education credential, when required, could include the successful completion of an industry certification, a state licensure examination, a national occupational competency assessment, or the Virginia workplace readiness assessment.”*

[*8 VAC20-131-51. B. 2*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/)*… A “verified unit of credit” or “verified credit” is a credit awarded for a course in which a student earns a standard unit of credit and (i) achieves a passing score on a corresponding end-of-course Standards of Learning (SOL) test; (ii) achieves a passing score on an additional test, as defined in* [*8VAC 20-131-5*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section5/) *as part of the Virginia Assessment Program; (iii) meets the criteria for the receipt of a locally awarded verified credit conferred in accordance with board criteria and guidelines as provided in* [*8VAC 20-131-110.B.3*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section110/) *when the student has not passed a corresponding SOL test in English, mathematics, laboratory science, or history and social science; (iv) meets the criteria for the receipt of a verified credit for history and social science by demonstrating mastery of the content of the associated course on an authentic performance assessment, as provided in* [*8VAC20-131-110. B.4*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section110/)*; or (v) meets the criteria for the receipt of a verified credit for English (writing) by demonstrating mastery of the content of the associated course on authentic performance assessments as provided in* [*8VAC20-131-110. B. 5*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section110/)*.*

*No more than one locally awarded verified credit may be used to satisfy these requirements, except as provided in subdivision 3 of this subsection for credit accommodations for students with disabilities.*

[*8 VAC20-131-51. H. 3*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/) *– Awards for exemplary student performance .*

*Students who demonstrate academic excellence and outstanding achievement may be eligible for a career and technical education awards:*

*3.“The Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Seal shall be awarded to students who earn a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma and complete a prescribed sequence of courses in a career and technical education concentration or specialization that they choose and maintain a "B" or better average in those courses; or (i) pass an examination or an occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education concentration or specialization that confers certification or occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, trade or professional association or (ii) acquire a professional license in that career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia. The board shall approve all professional licenses and examinations used to satisfy these requirements.”*

[*8 VAC 20-131-51. H. 4*](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/) *– Awards for exemplary student performance*

*4. “The Board of Education's Seal of Advanced Mathematics and Technology shall be awarded to students who earn either a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma and (i) satisfy all of the mathematics requirements for the Advanced Studies Diploma with a "B" average or better and (ii) pass an examination in a career and technical education field that confers certification from a recognized industry, trade, or professional association; acquire a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia; or pass an examination approved by the board that confers college-level credit in a technology or computer science area. The board shall approve all professional licenses and examinations used to satisfy these requirements.”*

## Timetable for Further Review/Action:

After Board approval, a Superintendent’s Memorandum will notify school divisions of the technical changes and additions to and deletions from the list of industry certifications, occupational competency assessments, and licenses and will be posted on the Virginia Department of Education Web site.

## Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

State funds will be used to assist students to become certified. Federal Perkins CTE funds may be used to help teachers, programs, and students become certified.

### ADDITIONS

#### Agricultural Education

1. Agricultural Business and Management (Precision Exams)
2. Agricultural Systems Technology I (Precisian Exams)
3. Animal Science II (Precisian Exams)
4. Certified Grounds Technician (Professional Grounds Management Society [PGMS])
5. Certified Turfgrass Professional (Virginia Turfgrass Council)
6. Equine Management and Evaluation (National Horse Judging Team Coaches Association)

#### Business and Information Technology

1. App Development with Swift Level 1 Certification (Apple, INC.)
2. Apple Certified iOS Technician (Apple, INC.)
3. Apple Certified MAC Technician (Apple, INC.)
4. Apple Certified Support Professional (Apple, INC.)
5. Oracle Academy Database Design and SQL Credential (Oracle Academy)
6. Oracle Academy Programming with PL/SQL Credential (Oracle Academy)

**Family and Consumer Sciences**

1. Certified Breakfast Attendant (American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute [AHLEI])
2. Certified Guestroom Attendant (American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute [AHLEI])
3. Certified Kitchen Cook (American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute [AHLEI])

#### Health and Medical Sciences Education

1. Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT) (Pharmacy Technician Certification Board)

#### Technology Education

1. Digital Video Editor (Electronics Technicians Association International [ETA])
2. Stratasys Additive Manufacturing Certification-Level 1 (Stratasys)

#### Trade and Industrial Education

1. Apple Certified Pro: Final Cut Pro X 10.4 Professional Post-Production (Apple, INC.)
2. Flux Core Arc Welding (American Welding Society)
3. Gas Metal Arc Welding (American Welding Society)
4. Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (American Welding Society)
5. Shielded Metal Arc Welding (American Welding Society)
6. International Code Council B1 Residential Building Inspector (International Code Council)
7. International Code Council E1 Residential Electrical Exam (International Code Council)
8. International Code Council M1 Residential Mechanical (HVAC) Exam (International Code Council)
9. International Code Council P1 Residential Plumbing Exam (International Code Council)

### DELETIONS

**(Credentials discontinued by providers)**

#### Business and Information Technology

1. Apple Certified Pro Examination (Apple, INC.)
2. Certified Novell Administrator (Novell)
3. Microsoft Certified Professional Examination (Microsoft)

#### Marketing

1. Retail Management Certification Assessment (National Retail Foundation)

#### Trade and Industrial Education

1. Global Logistics Associate Examination (American Society of Transportation and Logistics)
2. Unarmed Security Guard (Virginia Department of Criminal Justice)