| **Advisory Board on Teacher Education**  **and Licensure** |  |
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**AGENDA ITEM: 3**

**DATE: September 21, 2020**

**TOPIC: Recommendations for Licensure Renewal Requirements in the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel***

BACKGROUND INFORMATION**:**

The process of license renewal has evolved over the years. Below is a chronology of significant revisions to the requirements.

## 1958

In 1958, the Virginia Board of Education issued ten-year renewable certificates. Collegiate Professional Licenses and Postgraduate Professional License Certificates could be renewed for periods equal to their original period of validity when:

* Recommendation for renewal had been given by the division superintendent;
* Six semester hours had been completed in an accredited college or university in courses recommended by the division superintendent or the Examination on Recommended Reading List for Teachers had been successfully completed on three books selected in consultation with the division superintendent from the Recommended Reading List for Teachers;
* The holder of a Postgraduate Professional Certificate or a Collegiate Professional Certificate had 20 years of teaching experience (supervisory and administrative experience accepted) and if recommended by his or her division superintendent. If the applicant was not employed by a local school board, renewal could have been obtained upon the recommendation of an official who was in a positon to evaluate the applicant’s qualifications.

## 1968

In July 1, 1968, the Postgraduate Professional Certificate was subject to renewal after a period of ten years. Other certificates were subject to renewal for a period of five years.

## 1978

In January 1978, Postgraduate Professional Certificates continued to be renewed for ten years, and other renewable certificates were renewed for a five-year period. The following renewal requirements were required:

* Recommendation for renewal or revival by the employing division superintendent and completion of a minimum of six semester hours of course work (three of which may have been in non-credit courses completed through a program which had received prior approval from the Division of Teacher Education) taken at an accredited college or university.
* The expired Virginia teaching certificate was to be submitted for renewal or revival.

## 1979

Effective July 1, 1979, all certificates were renewed for five years.

## 1982

Certification Regulations for Teachers, effective July 1, 1982, required the completion of 90 clock hours of professional development work. A minimum of 45 clock hours (3 semester hours) must have been taken from an accredited college or university. The remaining work may have been taken through an accredited college or university, non-college credit courses. Persons who completed an earned doctorate degree in the area in which they were employed could submit to the Department of Education, with the approval of the employing educational agency, a program for renewal of their certificate in lieu of formal course work.

## 1990

Virginia implemented the **Recertification Point System** in July 1990. The point system for certificate renewal was developed to provide educators with options and opportunities for professional development. License holders were required to accrue a total of 180 points during the five-year validity period of the license based on an individualized professional development plan.

The renewal requirements were intended to give the professional educator a choice of options. License holders selected from ten options for renewal:

1. College Credit
2. Professional Conference
3. Peer Observation
4. Educational Travel
5. Curriculum Development
6. Publication of Article
7. Publication of Book
8. Mentorship/Supervision
9. Educational Project
10. Employing Educational Agency Professional Development Activity

A minimum of 90 points (3 semester hours) must have been earned through graduate-level course work (undergraduate course work if (1) a graduate course was not available within a radius of 50 miles; (2) the division superintendent granted prior approval because of particular need of a particular teacher) from an accredited four-year college or university in the certificate holder’s endorsement area(s) if a master’s degree was not held, or through vocational education workshops at institutes or through undergraduate college course work from an accredited two- or four-year college or university if a baccalaureate degree was not held. With prior approval by the division superintendent, undergraduate course work from an accredited two- or four-year institution would satisfy the 90 points (3 semester hours) graduate requirements if the course was taken to satisfy a new teaching endorsement area. The remaining 90 points could be accrued by activities drawn from one or more of the ten options.

## 1992

Effective July 1, 1992, the term, “certificate” was changed to “license” in Virginia.

## 2003

On and after July 1, 2003, persons seeking initial licensure or licensure renewal were required to demonstrate proficiency in the use of educational technology.

## 2004

On July 1, 2004, the following requirement became effective:

**Child Abuse and Neglect Recognition and Intervention Training** – Individuals seeking license renewal must complete study in child abuse and neglect recognition and intervention in accordance with curriculum guidelines approved by the Virginia Board of Education.

## 2007

On March 29, 2007, the Board of Education approved eliminating “peer observation” and “educational travel” as options for license renewal. Eight options became allowable for renewal.

1. College Credit
2. Professional Conference
3. Curriculum Development
4. Publication of Article
5. Publication of Book
6. Mentorship/Supervision
7. Educational Project
8. Employing Educational Agency Professional Development Activity

## 2013

On July 1, 2013, the following requirements became effective:

**Emergency First Aid, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, and the Use of Automated External Defibrillators** – The 2013 General Assembly passed House Bill 2028 and Senate Bill 986 that, effective on July 1, 2013, required every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license is required to provide evidence of completion of certification or training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators. The certification or training program shall be based on the current national evidence-based emergency cardiovascular care guidelines for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator, such as a program developed by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross. The Board shall provide a waiver for this requirement for any person with a disability whose disability prohibits such person from completing the certification or training…

**Virginia History or State and Local Government Module** – In response to Senate Bill 1345 of the 2013 General Assembly, the Virginia Board of Education amended the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel* to require the following:

*Any individual licensed and endorsed to teach (i) middle school civics or economics or (ii) high school government or history who is seeking renewal of such license is required to demonstrate knowledge of Virginia history or state and local government by completing a module or professional development course specifically related to Virginia history or state and local government that has a value of five professional development points. This requirement applies for purposes of the individual's next or initial renewal occurring after July 1, 2014.*

## 2017

On July 1, 2017, the following requirements became effective:

**Dyslexia Awareness Training** – The *Code of Virginia* requires every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license to complete awareness training, provided by the Virginia Department of Education, on the indicators of dyslexia, as that term is defined by the board pursuant to regulations, and the evidence-based interventions and accommodations for dyslexia. (HB 842 of the 2016 General Assembly)

**School Counselor Training**– The *Code of Virginia*requires every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license with an endorsement as a school counselor to complete training in the recognition of mental health disorder and behavioral distress, including depression, trauma, violence, youth suicide, and substance abuse. (SB 1117 of the 2017 General Assembly)

On September 1, 2017, the following requirement became effective:

[**Emergency First Aid, CPR (including Hands-on Practice), and AED Certification or Training**](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/licensure/emergency_first_aid_cpr_aed/index.shtml) – The *Code of Virginia*specifies that the certification or training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators **shall include hands-on practice** of the skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation. (HB 1829 of the 2017 General Assembly)

## 2018

On July 1, 2018, the following requirements became effective:

**Demonstration of Educational Technology for License Renewal Eliminated** – Effective July 1, 2018, House Bill 1125 eliminated the requirement that teachers seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license demonstrate proficiency in the use of educational technology for instruction.

**Ten-year Renewable Licenses** – In response to 2018 General Assembly legislation (House Bill 1125 and Senate Bill 349), effective July 1, 2018, the Board of Education issues ten-year renewable licenses.  No longer are five-year renewable licenses issued.  On January 24, 2019, the Board of Education approved that individuals renewing ten-year licenses will be required to complete 270 professional development points for renewal.  All statutory renewal requirements also are required.Individuals who hold a five-year renewable license must complete 180 points for renewal, as well as the statutory requirements for renewal.

# RENEWAL FEE

The license renewal fee is currently $50 per license (remains $5 per year). On January 1, 2019, the fee schedule approved by the Board of Education became effective, and the fee for renewal was increased from $25 to $50. This revision coincided with the change from renewing licenses for a five-year period to ten years.

# INDIVIDUALIZED RENEWAL – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POINTS

The following chart shows the number of professional development points required to renew five-year and ten-year licenses.

| **Validity Period of License** | **Number of Professional Development Points to Renew** |
| --- | --- |
| **Five-Year License** | **180** |
| **Ten-Year License** | **270** |

The Board of Education approved the following maximum points for each of the eight options to earn points to renew a ten-year license.

1. College Credit 270 points
2. Professional Conference 60 points
3. Curriculum Development 135 points
4. Publication of Article 135 points
5. Publication of Book 135 points
6. Mentor/Supervision 135 points
7. Educational Project 135 points
8. Professional Development Activities 270 points

# SUGGESTED REVISIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION

**The following draft revisions to the renewal requirements are for ABTEL discussion and consideration. ABTEL previously recommended that all licenseholders should complete professional development and learning in the area of cultural competence.**

**DRAFT FOR ABTEL DISCUSSION**

Professional development and learning activities must be earned in one of the eight options and must clearly align with one or more of the topics listed below. The topic areas on the bottom row suggest the minimum number of points to be earned. Additional points may be earned from the other topic areas, using the eight options. Those individuals who have earned acceptable renewal points on the effective date of the revisions to the license renewal requirements are not required to earn additional points for renewal. Reciprocity among employing agencies of the Commonwealth is required for approved renewal points earned by the license holder. Statutory requirements must be completed by all licenseholders.

For those individuals who hold a ten-year license, at least one-half of the 270 points required for renewal should be earned in the first five years.

**EIGHT TOPICS FOR RENEWAL**

**(WITH APPLICABLE MINIMUM POINT REQUREMENTS --** DRAFT)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Diversity, Equity, and Cultural Competence**  (a minimum of 15 points) | **School Division Professional Development and Learning**  (a minimum of 15 points if employed by a Virginia school division) | **Social Emotional Learning/ Trauma Informed Teaching Strategies/Classroom Management**  (a minimum of 15 points) | **Mandatory Statutory Requirements for Renewal**  (Refer to note for minimum points.\*) |
| **Data Analysis and Instructional Planning** | **Content Knowledge**  (to add an endorsement or expand knowledge or expertise in teaching assignment) | **Technology Integration and Computer Science** | **Instructional and Assessment Practices** |

\*Mandatory statutory requirements include the following:

* Child Abuse and Neglect Recognition and Intervention Training (5 points)
* Emergency First Aid, CPR (including hands-on training) and AED Certification or Training (5 points)
* Dyslexia Awareness Training (5 points)
* **SCHOOL COUNSELORS ONLY: School Counselor Training in t**he recognition of mental health disorder and behavioral distress, including depression, trauma, violence, youth suicide, and substance abuse. (5 points)
* **LICENSEES ENDORSED TO TEACH MIDDLE SCHOOL CIVICS OR ECONOMICS OR HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNMENT OR HISTORY ONLY**: Virginia History or State and Local Government Module (5 points)

**ACTION:**

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure is to make recommendations on requirements for licensure renewal to the Board of Education.