

Tennessee Department of Education Employment Standards Waiver Application

Read and complete ALL sections of the application to ensure timely response.

Section 1 – General Information		
Last Name (First, Middle, Last): Messer	First Name Christopher	Middle Initial Jhawn
Social Security #: [REDACTED]	TN License#: 000234278 ✓	Expiration Date: 8/31/2018 ✓
Area Code + Phone Number [REDACTED]	Email Address: [REDACTED]	
Certificate Type(s) Professional	Current Endorsement(s) Held Phys Ed K-12 (420)	
System Name: Dyersburg City Schools	System #: 231	
School Name: Dyersburg High School	School #: 015	
School Year: 2014-2015	Date of Hire: 5-16-2013	Date Educator Placed in Waiver Position: 7-31-2013
Subject(s) and Course Code(s) of Waiver Position to be Filled: COMP PROGRAM GRADEST-12 - Inclusion Course Code 9433		Endorsement(s) Needed for the Waiver Position: ✓ Sp Ed Modified K-12 460
Year of Waiver Request: (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st Year <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 nd Year (passed tests and/or enrolled in program, required) <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd Year (all tests passed and evidence of progress in coursework, required)		

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Section 2 – Recruiting and Staffing Information
Approval criteria checklist:
<input type="checkbox"/> The waiver is being requested to fill a vacant, high need position
<input type="checkbox"/> The waiver is being requested to fill a mission-critical position [core academic, non-instructional leader]
<input type="checkbox"/> The school district has engaged in thorough, responsible position-specific recruitment efforts to find appropriately endorsed candidates for the position for which a waiver is being requested AND has been unsuccessful in those efforts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The educator being recommended for the waiver is the most qualified candidate for the position for which a waiver is being requested

Section 3 – Plans to Obtain Proper Endorsement	
Is applicant registered to take appropriate Praxis test(s): (Check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Praxis registration date: 9-10-14 SpEd: CR + Mild Mod Applications (5543)
Has applicant taken and passed appropriate Praxis test(s): 543 (Check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Score(s) 129	Is applicant enrolled in a university/college program: (Check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Name of university/college program: UT Martin	Number of program hours COMPLETED: 9 hrs ✓

I hereby certify the information provided in this application is true and correct, and the district is in urgent need of a waiver.

Educator Name- Print Christopher Messer		Educator Signature/Date 9-7-14	
Human Resources Contact – Print Sandy Baker	Human Resources Contact – Email sbaker@k12tn.net	Human Resources Signature/Date 9/17/14	
Director of Schools Name – Print Neel Durbin		Director of Schools Signature/Date 9/17/14	

Submit completed application to:

Tennessee Dept. of Education, Office of Educator Licensing 12th floor, 710 James Robertson Pkwy, Nashville TN 37243-0376

Section 4 – TO BE COMPLETED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Teachers & Leaders Recommendation
 Approve Deny (See Comments Below)

<i>Teachers & Leaders Name - Print</i> Jennifer Anderson	<i>Teachers & Leaders Signature/Date</i> Jennifer M Anderson 9/27/14
<i>Kevin Huffman, Commissioner of Education</i>	<i>Kevin Huffman, Commissioner of Education Signature /Date</i> Kevin's Huffman HK 10/15/14.
<i>Additional Comments</i>	

**Employment Standards Waiver Application
Frequently Asked Questions**

Question: Who can apply for a waiver?

Answer: Only school districts [not individual educators] may apply for waivers.

Question: Are there any restrictions on the endorsements for which the system may acquire a waiver?

Answer: Courses which conclude with an end-of-course exam for high school credit may not be taught on waivers.

Question: Where do I locate the Subject and Course Code(s) assignment?

Answer: The information can be found in the Correlations of Course & Endorsement Codes Document.

<http://www.tn.gov/education/districts/correlations.shtml>

Question: When must my system apply for a waiver?

Answer: A waiver must be requested and approved if an educator holding an Apprentice, Transitional, or Professional License is scheduled to teach more than one course or more than two sections of one course outside the area of endorsement.

Question: What supplemental information or documents should we provide in order to strengthen this application?

Answer: Evidence [original or photocopied documentation] that the educator for whom the waiver is being requested is actively pursuing or engaged in coursework to obtain the endorsement AND/OR registered to take the relevant Praxis exam.

Question: How long is an approved waiver valid?

Answer: One academic year [July 1 – June 30]. Waivers must be renewed each year and must include evidence of the applicant's progression toward the additional endorsement.

Question: Where can I send this application?

Answer: Please send completed application and supporting documentation to: Tennessee Department of Education, Office of Educator Licensing, 12th floor, 710 James Robertson Pkwy, Nashville TN 37243-0376. Completed applications can be faxed to (615) 532-1448 or emailed to Education.Licensing@tn.gov.

Question: If the waiver application is denied, what should we do?

Answer: The system should develop a plan to recruit an educator with the proper endorsement.

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