

**RULES OF
THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**CHAPTER 0520-02-03
EDUCATOR LICENSURE**

0520-02-03-.03 REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHER LICENSES.

- (1) Prospective educators seeking a practitioner teacher license shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 - (a) Pathway 1. The prospective educator:
 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 2. Has completed a State Board-approved educator preparation program;
 3. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 4. Submits qualifying scores that are no more than five (5) years old on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
 - (b) Pathway 2. The prospective educator:
 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 2. Is enrolled in a State Board-approved educator preparation program with a job-embedded clinical practice;
 3. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 4. Submits qualifying scores that are no more than five (5) years old on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
- (2) Prospective educators from a state other than Tennessee seeking a practitioner teacher license shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 - (a) Out-of-State Pathway 1. The out-of-state prospective educator:
 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 2. Has completed an educator preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee;
 3. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 4. Submits qualifying scores that are no more than five (5) years old on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
 - (b) Out-of-State Pathway 2. The out-of-state prospective educator:

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1. Holds a bachelor’s degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 2. Holds a valid initial level license from a state other than Tennessee;
 3. Has completed an educator preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee; and
 4. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider.
- (c) Out-of-State Pathway 3. The out-of-state prospective educator:
1. Holds a bachelor’s degree from a regionally-accredited college or university; and
 2. Holds a valid professional level license from a state other than Tennessee.
- (d) Out-of-State Pathway 4. The out-of-state prospective educator:
1. Holds a bachelor’s degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 2. Is enrolled in an educator preparation program with job-embedded clinical practice that is approved by a state other than Tennessee that has a state-recognized partnership with a Tennessee local education agency (LEA);
 3. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 4. Submits qualifying scores that are no more than five (5) years old on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
- (3) At the time of application for a Tennessee license, out-of-state prospective educators who hold a valid certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards shall be issued a professional level teacher license.
- (4) Out-of-state prospective educators who are military spouses and who hold an active license (initial or professional) from a state other than Tennessee shall be issued the practitioner license upon providing documentation of active military dependent status.
- (5) A practitioner license may be renewed once upon completion of an approved educator preparation program and submission of qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy prior to the end of the validity period of the first (1st) issuance of the practitioner license.
- (6) If the requirements for practitioner license renewal are not met prior to the end of the validity period of the first (1st) issuance of the practitioner license, the license shall become inactive.
- (7) An educator with a practitioner teacher license may seek to advance to a professional teacher license. In order to advance from a practitioner license to a professional license, an educator shall meet the following requirements:
- (a) Completed an approved educator preparation program and submitted qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy prior to the end of the validity period of the first (1st) issuance of the practitioner license;

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- (b) Obtained three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department; and
 - (c) Earned thirty (30) professional development points.
- (8) If the requirements for licensure advancement are not met prior to the end of the validity period of the second (2nd) issuance of the practitioner license, the license shall become inactive.
- (9) Educators who obtained the practitioner teaching license through the out-of-state pathway 3 shall not be required to submit qualifying scores on State Board-required assessments to advance if:
- (a) The educator has been employed in a Tennessee public school in the candidate's area of endorsement; and
 - (b) The educator earned a level of overall effectiveness (LOE) score of "above expectations" or "significantly above expectations" in each of the first two (2) years immediately following the issuance of the individual's initial practitioner license.
- (10) To renew the professional license, an educator shall earn sixty (60) qualifying professional development points as indicated in SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
- (11) If the educator has not met the requirements for renewal at the end of the validity period of the professional license, then the license shall become inactive.
- (12) In order to reactivate a license and endorsements held, an educator shall submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved educator preparation program and shall submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments that are not more than five (5) years old.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302, T.C.A. § 49-5-108. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal and new rules filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. Amendments filed October 16, 2017; effective January 14, 2018.

0520-02-03-.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER LICENSES

- (1) All principals, assistant principals, and supervisors serving as instructional leaders in Tennessee shall hold the appropriate instructional leader license.
- (2) Dual assignment personnel whose work assignment includes more than fifty percent (50%) instructional leadership responsibilities shall hold the appropriate instructional leader license.
- (3) Educators seeking the Instructional Leader License (ILL) shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Hold an advanced degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
 - (b) Have at least three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department;
 - (c) Have completed a State Board-approved instructional leader preparation program;
 - (d) Be recommended by the State Board-approved instructional leader preparation provider; and

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- (e) Submit qualifying scores that are no more than five (5) years old on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
- (4) Educators from a state other than Tennessee who are seeking the ILL shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
- (a) Out-of-State Pathway 1. The prospective instructional leader shall:
 - 1. Hold an advanced degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 - 2. Have at least three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department;
 - 3. Submit qualifying scores that are no more than five (5) years old on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy; and
 - 4. Have completed an instructional leader preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee as demonstrated by:
 - (i) A full and valid license, comparable to the Tennessee ILL, from a state other than Tennessee; or
 - (ii) A provider recommendation from the out-of-state instructional leader preparation program where the educator completed preparation.
 - (b) Out-of-State Pathway 2. The prospective instructional leader shall:
 - 1. Hold an advanced degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 - 2. Have at least three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department of which one (1) year must be as a school principal;
 - 3. Have completed an instructional leader preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee as demonstrated by:
 - (i) A full and valid license, comparable to the Tennessee ILL, from a state other than Tennessee; or
 - (ii) A provider recommendation from the out-of-state instructional leader preparation program where the educator completed preparation.
- (5) Educators holding the ILL may renew the license through one (1) of the following pathways:
- (a) Serve in a Tennessee Academy for School Leaders (TASL)-mandated position for at least two (2) years of the validity period of the license and be current in all TASL requirements; or
 - (b) Successfully complete a Department-approved instructional leadership training.
- (6) Educators enrolled in a State Board-approved instructional leader preparation program may apply for the Instructional Leader License–Aspiring (ILL-A). Educators holding the ILL-A may only serve as an assistant principal and may not serve as a principal or instructional supervisor. Educators seeking the ILL-A shall meet the following requirements:
- (a) Have at least three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department;

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- (b) Be enrolled in a State Board-approved instructional leader preparation program; and
 - (c) Be recommended by the State Board-approved instructional leader preparation provider.
- (7) Candidates from a state other than Tennessee who are seeking the ILL-A shall meet the following requirements:
- (a) Have at least three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department;
 - (b) Have completed an instructional leader preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee as demonstrated by:
 - 1. A full and valid license, comparable to the Tennessee ILL, from a state other than Tennessee; or
 - 2. A provider recommendation from the out-of-state instructional leader preparation program where the educator completed preparation.
- (8) The ILL-A shall become inactive at the end of the validity period. The ILL-A is not renewable and may not be reactivated.
- (9) Educators currently holding the ILL may seek advancement to the Instructional Leader License - Professional (ILL-P) through one (1) of the following advancement pathways:
- (a) Tennessee Academy for School Leaders (TASL) Pathway. Educators seeking advancement through the TASL pathway shall meet the following requirements:
 - 1. Be recommended by the TASL director;
 - 2. Successfully complete the Beginning Principals' Academy or the Beginning Supervisors' Academy; and
 - 3. Be recommended by the educator's director of schools verifying the educator has a minimum of two (2) years of successful experience as a principal, assistant principal, or an instructional supervisor as demonstrated by an overall evaluation rating of at expectations or higher on a state-approved administrator evaluation model during the most recent validity period of the ILL.
 - (b) Individual Professional Learning Plan (IPLP) Pathway. Educators seeking advancement through the IPLP pathway shall meet the following requirements:
 - 1. Be recommended by the TASL director;
 - 2. Successfully complete an Individual Professional Learning Plan in coordination with an approved instructional leader preparation program; and
 - 3. Be recommended by the educator's director of schools verifying the educator has a minimum of two (2) years of successful experience as a principal, assistant principal, or an instructional supervisor as demonstrated by an overall evaluation rating of at expectations or higher on a state-approved administrator evaluation model during the most recent validity period of the ILL.
- (10) Educators may renew the ILL-P through one (1) of the following pathways:

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- (a) TASL Pathway. Educators who currently serve in a TASL mandated position shall meet the following renewal requirements:
 - 1. Have served as an instructional leader in a TASL-mandated position for at least four (4) years of the validity period of the ILL-P; and
 - 2. Meet all TASL requirements.
- (b) Instructional Leadership Training Pathway. Educators who do not currently serve in a TASL mandated position seeking renewal shall successfully complete a Department approved instructional leadership training.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302, T.C.A. § 49-5-108. **Administrative History:** Repeal and new rules filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rules was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal and new rules filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016.