
**Educator Licensure Rule – Permits 0520-02-03 -.12
Emergency Rule**

The Background:

Tennessee State Board of Education Educator Licensure Rule 0520-02-03 outlines the license types issued in Tennessee and pathways toward licensure. Section -.12 governs the issuance of temporary academic and occupational permits for unlicensed individuals to teach specific classes for which an LEA or public charter school cannot find a licensed teacher.

Chapter 284 of the Public Acts of 2023 (PC 284) created a new temporary permit pathway by allowing the Commissioner of Education to issue temporary permits to individuals who have completed all required coursework in an Educator Preparation Program (EPP) except for the clinical experience requirement.

To align with PC 284, this item proposes an emergency rule with the following revisions to Rule 0520-02-03-.12:

- Adds a new category of temporary permits titled Clinical Practice Permits and outlines the requirements to be eligible to obtain a Clinical Practice Permit, including how an individual who teaches under a clinical practice permit may use this time to satisfy the clinical experience required pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-5-5604.
- Clarifies that “clinical experience” means “clinical practice” as outlined in the State Board of Education Rule Educator 0520-02-04-.02 and Educator Preparation Policy 5.504 which includes student teaching, internship, or job-embedded opportunities.
- Clarifies requirements for mentor teachers who oversee individuals teaching under clinical practice permits and who make recommendations regarding completion of all EPP clinical practice requirements.

This item is being proposed as an emergency rule to ensure the Department of Education can begin issuing Clinical Practice Permits ahead of the 2023-24 school year, as required by PC 284. First reading of a permanent rule will be brought to the Board for approval at its August 4, 2023 quarterly meeting.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Connection to the [Master Plan](#):

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Teachers and Leaders outlined in the Master Plan by providing additional options for individuals to complete their clinical practice requirements, thus helping remove barriers for educators and aspiring educators.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends approval of this item on first and final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.