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Sequence
Number: 07-20-22
Notice ID(s): 3522-3526
File Date: 7/26/2022

Notice of Rulemaking Hearing

Hearings will be conducted in the manner prescribed by the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, T.C.A. § 4-5-204. For questions and copies of the notice, contact the person listed below.

Agency/Board/Commission:	State Board of Education
Division:	N/A
Contact Person:	Angie Sanders
Address:	500 James Robertson Parkway, 5 th Floor, Nashville, TN 37243
Phone:	(615) 253-5707
Email:	Angela.C.Sanders@tn.gov

Any Individuals with disabilities who wish to participate in these proceedings (to review these filings) and may require aid to facilitate such participation should contact the following at least 10 days prior to the hearing:

ADA Contact:	Angie Sanders
Address:	500 James Robertson Parkway, 5 th Floor, Nashville, TN 37243
Phone:	(615) 253-5707
Email:	Angela.C.Sanders@tn.gov

Hearing Location(s) (for additional locations, copy and paste table)

Address 1:	500 James Robertson Parkway		
Address 2:	Davy Crockett Building, Conference Room 1C, 1 st Floor		
City:	Nashville, TN		
Zip:	37243		
Hearing Date :	09/15/2022		
Hearing Time:	9:00 am	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CST/CDT	<input type="checkbox"/> EST/EDT

Additional Hearing Information:

<p>**Anyone wishing to participate electronically may access the hearing using the following information:**</p> <p>URL: https://tn.webex.com/tn/j.php?MTID=ma975272d7510b88b935ea7eb5b1ea48e</p> <p>Meeting number: 2301 772 6251</p> <p>Password: SBERules</p> <p>Phone: +1-415-655-0001</p>

Access Code: 2301 772 6251

Please check the State Board's website at <https://www.tn.gov/sbe/meetings.html> for any additional information regarding this rulemaking hearing.

Oral comments are invited at the hearing.
In addition, written comments may be submitted via email at angela.c.sanders@tn.gov or mailed to:
Tennessee State Board of Education
Attention: Angie Sanders
Davy Crockett Tower, 5th Floor
500 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Written comments must be received by **4:00 PM CT on September 19, 2022** in order to ensure consideration.

*****Email comments are preferred as mail is running very slow and may not arrive in time*****

For further information, please contact Angie Sanders by e-mail at angela.c.sanders@tn.gov.

If attending the hearing in-person, please bring identification so that you may be checked into the building by security. Conference room 1C is located on the first floor.

Revision Type (check all that apply):

- Amendment
 New
 Repeal

Rule(s) (ALL chapters and rules contained in filing must be listed. If needed, copy and paste additional tables to accommodate more than one chapter. Please enter only **ONE** Rule Number/Rule Title per row.)

Chapter Number	Chapter Title
0520-07-01	Non-Public Schools Administrative Rules
Rule Number	Rule Title
0520-07-01-.01	Creation of the Advisory Council for Non-Public Schools
0520-07-01-.02	Repository for Permanent Records
0520-07-01-.03	Student Transfers
0520-07-01-.04	Reporting and Monitoring Requirements

Chapter Number	Chapter Title
0520-07-02	Non-Public Schools Approval Process
Rule Number	Rule Title
0520-07-02-.01	Categories
0520-07-02-.02	Category I: Department of Education Approval
0520-07-02-.03	Category II: Agency Accreditation
0520-07-02-.04	Category III: Regional Accreditation
0520-07-02-.05	Category IV: Church-Related Schools
0520-07-02-.06	Category V: Registered for Operation

0520-07-02-.07	Repealed
0520-07-02-.08	Repealed
0520-07-02-.09	Reserved

Chapter Number	Chapter Title
0520-01-03	Academic and Instructional Requirements
Rule Number	Rule Title
0520-01-03-.02	Uniform Grading System

Chapter Number	Chapter Title
0520-02-03	Educator Licensure
Rule Number	Rule Title
0520-02-03-.02	Educator License Types
0520-02-03-.03	Requirements for Teacher Licenses
0520-02-03-.04	Requirements for Occupational Teacher Licenses
0520-02-03-.05	Requirements for School Services Personnel Licenses
0520-02-03-.10	Requirements for Instructional Leader Licenses
0520-02-03-.11	Endorsements
0520-02-03-.12	Permits
0520-02-03-.13	Requirements for the Limited License
0520-02-03-.14	Emergency Teacher License
0520-02-03-.15	Professional Development Points
0520-02-03-.16 through 0520-02-03-.94	Repealed

Chapter Number	Chapter Title
0520-01-03	Academic and Instructional Requirements
Rule Number	Rule Title
0520-01-03-.06	Graduation Requirements

**RULES
OF
THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**CHAPTER 0520-07-01
NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

0520-07-01-.01	Creation of the Advisory Council for Non-Public Schools	0520-07-01-.03	Student Transfers
0520-07-01-.02	Repository for Permanent Records	0520-07-01-.04	Reporting and Monitoring Requirements

0520-07-01-.01 CREATION OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

- (1) The Commissioner of Education shall appoint a nine (9) member Advisory Council for Non- Public Schools to advise the Department of Education on policies relating to non-public school administration.
- (2) The term of each council member shall be for three (3) years, and members may be re- appointed.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-201, 49-1-302, 49-50-801, and 49-6-3001. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed April 24, 1987; effective June 8, 1987. Repealed and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendments filed March 24, 2017; effective June 22, 2017.

0520-07-01-.02 REPOSITORY FOR PERMANENT RECORDS.

- (1) Category I, II, III, and V private schools and Category IV church-related schools which cease operation shall place their student academic and attendance records with the local public school system where the school was located. Category II, III and IV schools shall also send a copy of student academic and attendance records to the school's accrediting or membership agency, if required by the agency. These records may be maintained electronically.
- (2) Category I, II, III, and V private schools and Category IV church-related schools which cease operation shall notify the Director of Schools of the public school system where the school was located and the State Department of Education ("Department") utilizing the closing form provided by the Department.
- (3) Category I, II, III, and V private schools and Category IV church-related schools which cease operation shall give adequate public notice of the location of student records, including, but not limited to, publication in local newspapers and on their website, and shall send written communication to all parents of enrolled students, with a copy submitted to the Department.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-201, 49-1-302, 49-50-801, and 49-6-3001. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed April 24, 1987; effective June 8, 1987. Repealed and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendments filed March 24, 2017; effective June 22, 2017.

0520-07-01-.03 STUDENT TRANSFERS.

- (1) Students may transfer among public schools and Category I, II, or III private schools without loss of credit for completed work.
- (2) The school which the student leaves must supply a certified transcript showing the student's record of attendance, achievement, and the units of credit earned. To be certified, a transcript must be sent by the custodian of records at the student's former school to the requesting school with a signed certification acknowledging the accuracy of the transcript. The parent or guardian of the student shall be notified by the school that the transcript is being sent. However, this rule shall not be construed as to supersede any contractual obligation of parents with the private school (e.g., withholding of grades until all tuition/fees are paid).
- (3) Local boards of education and public charter schools shall not prohibit or impede the transfer of a student from a Category IV church-related school, Category V private school, or a home school to a public school of this state. Local boards of education and public charter schools may, however, place students transferring from a Category IV church-related school, Category V private school, or home school to a public school in a grade level and confer credit for courses based upon the student's performance on a test administered by the local board or public charter school for that purpose.
 - (a) If a local board of education or public charter school administers a test to students transferring from a Category IV church related school, Category V private school, or home school to a public school, students shall be allowed credit only when they have passed comprehensive written examinations approved, administered, and graded by the principal or designee of the public school. Student scores from a recognized standardized test may substitute for the required comprehensive written examinations. If the local board of education or charter school requires tests for students transferring from another public school system, the same test shall be administered to students transferring from a Category IV church-related school, Category V private school, or home school.
 - (b) The examination administered to students in grades one through eight (1-8) shall cover only the last grade completed.
 - (c) The examinations administered to students in grades nine through twelve (9-12) shall cover the individual subjects appearing on the certified transcripts. The examination for graduation requirement subjects may only cover the last course completed by the student (for example, if a student has completed English I, II, and III, the examination may only cover English III).
 - (d) The parent of a home school student is authorized to transmit transcripts of a student to any school to which the student transfers or applies for admission when the records are requested by the receiving school.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-302, 49-50-801, 49-6-3050 and 49-6-3001. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed April 24, 1987; effective June 8, 1987. Repealed and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Repeal and new rule filed December 28, 2005; effective April 28, 2006. Amendments filed March 24, 2017; effective June 22, 2017.

0520-07-01-.04 REPORTING AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS.

- (1) The Department shall develop reporting procedures for Category I, II, III, and V private schools and Category IV church-related schools and shall establish corresponding deadlines for submission of required reports to the Department.

- (2) Category I, II, III, and V private schools and Category IV church-related schools approved by the State Board pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-50-801(e)(1) and State Board rule 0520-02-.05(2) may be subject to monitoring conducted by the Department to ensure compliance with this Chapter, State Board rules Chapter 0520-07-02, and any applicable state or federal laws. Monitoring of Category II and III schools shall be conducted in consultation with the school's accrediting or membership agency.
- (3) Category II, III, and IV accrediting and membership agencies shall publish accreditation policies and lists of all accredited and/or member schools on a publicly available website. Category II, III and IV accrediting and membership agencies shall also submit an updated list of all accredited or member schools annually to the Department by the deadline established by the Department. Category II, III and IV accrediting agencies shall also notify the Department of any schools that are added or removed from the agency's list of accredited or member schools within ten (10) business days of the addition or removal.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-302, 49-50-801, and 49-6-3001. **Administrative History:**

**RULES
OF
THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**CHAPTER 0520-07-02
NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

0520-07-02-.01	Categories	0520-07-02-.06	Category V: Registered for
0520-07-02-.02	Category I: Department of Education		Operation
	Approval	0520-07-02-.07	Repealed
0520-07-02-.03	Category II: Agency Accreditation	0520-07-02-.08	Repealed
0520-07-02-.04	Category III: Regional Accreditation	0520-07-02-.09	Reserved
0520-07-02-.05	Category IV: Church-Related Schools		

0520-07-02-.01 CATEGORIES.

- (1) There shall be six (6) types of non-public schools in Tennessee as set forth in this Chapter: Categories I, II, III, and V private schools, Category IV church-related schools, and independent home schools.
- (2) Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-3001, Category I, II, III, and V private schools, Category IV church-related schools, and independent home schools as defined in T.C.A. § 49-6-3050 satisfy the compulsory school attendance requirements for students who are ages six (6) through seventeen (17), inclusive.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-302, 49-50-801, 49-6-3001, and 49-6-3050. **Administrative History:** (For history prior to June 1987, see pages ii-iii). New rule filed April 24, 1987; effective June 8, 1987. Repealed and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed December 19, 2002; to be effective April 30, 2003; however, on April 29, 2003, the State Board of Education stayed amendment to 0520-07-02-.01(1)(f) until June 28, 2003. Amendment to become effective June 28, 2003. Repeal and new rule filed December 28, 2005; effective April 28, 2006. Amendment filed February 20, 2008; effective June 27, 2008. Repeal and new rule filed July 29, 2011; effective December 29, 2011. Amendments filed August 11, 2017; effective November 9, 2017.

0520-07-02-.02 CATEGORY I: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION APPROVAL.

- (1) Category I schools are schools approved individually by the Department of Education (“Department”). Special purpose schools that address a student’s education while receiving short-term medical or transient care may also be approved as Category I special purpose schools.
- (2) A school seeking approval as a Category I school shall submit an application for approval to the Department on a form developed by the Department and meet any deadlines for application established by the Department.
- (3) The criteria for approval as a Category I school shall include the following:
 - (a) Attendance.

1. Each school shall comply with the requirements of T.C.A. § 49-6-3007 regarding the
 SS-7037 (March 2020) RDA 1693

reporting of the names, ages, and addresses of all pupils in attendance to the Director of Schools for the public school district in which the student resides.

2. Each school shall ensure students entering Kindergarten have reached five (5) years of age on or before August 15 pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-201(b)(3), unless the principal or head of school finds through evaluation and testing, at the request of the parent or legal guardian, that a child who is five (5) on or before September 30 is sufficiently mature emotionally and academically to enter Kindergarten and the school has a policy permitting testing by the principal or head of school to obtain early admission to Kindergarten.
3. Each school shall have at least ten (10) full-time school-age students enrolled each school year.

(b) Facilities, Health, and Safety.

1. Each school shall comply with all laws, rules and regulations, and codes of the city, county, and state regarding planning of new buildings, alterations and health and safety.
2. Each school shall observe all fire safety regulations and procedures promulgated by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office.
3. Each school shall conduct at least one (1) fire safety inspection annually based on the fire safety inspection checklist developed by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office and maintain copies of the inspection reports, including findings of non-compliance and actions taken to comply for review by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office and the Department.
4. Each school shall construct, remodel, renovate, expand, or modify school buildings or other structures in accordance with any applicable state and/or federal requirement regarding building accessibility, which may include, but is not limited to, the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
5. Each principal or head of school shall comply with the requirements of Department of Health rules and, subject to any applicable exemptions set forth in state law or Department of Health rules.
6. Each school shall conduct a criminal history records check prior to employment for any person applying for or holding a position as a teacher or any other position requiring proximity to school children. Criminal history records checks shall also be required for any person or employee of the person, corporation, or other entity who contracts with a school and who will have direct contact with school children or access to the grounds of the school when children are present. The criminal history records check shall be fingerprint based or social security number based and shall also include a check of the Tennessee and National Sex Offender Registries and the Tennessee Department of Health Abuse Registry. Schools may also search the Tennessee educator licensure database (TNCompass) to determine if an applicant for a teaching position or any other position requiring proximity to school children has had a Tennessee educator license suspended or revoked for misconduct.

(c) Curriculum and Graduation.

1. The instructional program shall include, but not be limited to, the areas of English language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, art, music, health and physical education, and world language.
2. Each school shall use textbooks and instructional materials that adequately cover all subjects in the school's instructional program.
3. Each high school shall adopt a graduation requirements policy requiring students to earn at least the minimum number of total credits required for graduation set by the State Board in Chapter 0520-01-03-.06. The school's policy shall also require students to achieve the required minimum number of credits set by the State Board in Chapter 0520-01-03-.06 in the subjects of English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. This provision shall not be construed as requiring the same courses in the subjects of English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies that are required for public schools. The school shall determine the additional subject areas and credits necessary for graduation from high school as set forth in the school's graduation requirements policy to meet or exceed the minimum total number of credits set by the State Board in Chapter 0520-01-03-.06.
4. At least once every school year, each school shall give a nationally standardized achievement test covering the areas of English language arts and mathematics to each student in third (3rd) through twelfth (12th) grades; the results must be communicated to teachers and parents and kept as part of the student's permanent record.

(d) Teacher Licensure and Evaluation.

1. Each school shall ensure that all teachers and principals possess an active Tennessee educator license as provided in State Board Rules Chapter 0520-02-03.
2. Each school shall develop procedures for the annual evaluation of all teachers and principals in accordance with State Board Evaluations Rule 0520-02-01-.15.
3. Teaching experience shall count towards years of experience in the Department's Educator Data Management System.
4. Each school shall provide a sufficient number of appropriately qualified administrators, supervisors, and other personnel, which may include, but is not limited to, librarians and school counselors, for the student body served.

(e) Administrative Rules.

1. Each school shall maintain an operating schedule that includes the minimum number of instructional days (180) and minimum number of hours per day (6 ½) required of public schools. In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-6-3004, a school that exceeds the required six and one-half (6 ½) hours of instructional time per day for the full academic year shall be credited with the additional instructional time in amounts up to, but not exceeding, thirteen (13) instructional days each school year. Schools that are unable to meet the required 180 instructional day requirement due to natural disaster or serious outbreak of illness affecting or endangering students or staff during the school year may request a waiver of the minimum instructional day requirement from the Commissioner.

2. Each school shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws prohibiting

discrimination on the basis of disability, including but not limited to the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

3. Each school shall develop and implement a written policy on promotion and retention. The written policy shall be communicated to students and parents via the school handbook.
 4. Each school shall ensure that class sizes do not exceed the class size maximums for public schools set forth in state law.
 5. Each school shall maintain complete and accurate permanent records of the following for all students; attendance, disciplinary matters, work completed while enrolled at the school, and promotion or retention determinations.
 6. Each school shall provide periodic reports of student needs and academic progress to parents or legal guardians during each school year.
 7. Any school seeking approval of a pre-K program shall satisfy the standards for infant/toddler, preschool, and school-age extended care programs outlined in State Board Rules Chapter 0520-12-01.
- (4) The criteria for approval as a Category I Special Purpose school shall include the criteria listed in Paragraph (3) of this Rule in addition to the following:
- (a) Compliance with the following laws and rules, as applicable:
 1. T.C.A. § 49-6-3023 and State Board of Education Rules Chapter 0520-01-12 regarding students incarcerated in juvenile detention centers;
 2. T.C.A. § 49-3-370 and State Board of Education Rules Chapter 0520-01-20 regarding students admitted to licensed residential mental health treatment facilities; and/or
 3. T.C.A. § 49-3-308 and State Board of Education Rules Chapter 0520-01-15 regarding students admitted to court-ordered day treatment facilities.
 - (b) Category I Special Purpose schools shall be deemed appropriate placement sites for educator candidates seeking specialized clinical placements.
- (5) Monitoring and Revocation.
- (a) Category I and Category I Special Purpose schools shall report all required data annually to the Department as required by State Board Rule 0520-07-01-.04 and in any Department-provided procedures.
 - (b) The Department shall notify a school of non-compliance with this rule, State Board Rules Chapter 0520-07-01, and any applicable state or federal laws and establish a deadline by which the school shall show evidence of compliance. If the school does not come into compliance by the specified deadline, the Department may revoke approval of the school after providing notice of revocation to the school. Revocation of approval shall take effect at the end of the school year in which the non-compliance was reported to the school, or on another date identified by the Department.

1. A school may appeal the revocation decision. Appeals must be submitted to the Department within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Department electronically sending the notice of revocation that is being appealed. The day that the Department sends the notice of revocation shall not count as part of the fourteen (14) calendar days. The Commissioner or Commissioner's Designee shall make a determination and issue an electronic notification to the appealing party within forty-five (45) calendar days of receiving the appeal.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-302, 49-6-101, 49-6-3001, and 49-50-801. **Administrative History:** (For history prior to June 1987, see pages ii-iii). New rule filed April 24, 1987; effective June 8, 1987. Repealed and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed October 29, 2008; effective February 28, 2009. Repeal and new rule filed July 29, 2011; effective December 29, 2011. Amendment filed March 24, 2014; effective August 29, 2014. Amendments filed August 11, 2017; effective November 9, 2017.

0520-07-02-.03 CATEGORY II: AGENCY ACCREDITATION.

- (1) Category II schools are approved by an agency whose ability to accredit schools in Tennessee is approved by the State Board. The Department shall review and recommend to the State Board for approval a list of private school accrediting agencies. Agencies approved by the State Board to accredit Category II schools shall be listed in State Board Policy 3.500. Agencies seeking approval by the State Board shall submit an application to the Department and meet all requirements set forth in this rule to be recommended for approval.
 - (a) Home schools that may affiliate with an approved agency are not approvable under this category.
- (2) Procedures for Application as an Approved Private School Accrediting Agency.
 - (a) An agency seeking approval shall submit an application for approval as a Category II private school accrediting agency to the Department on a form developed by the Department and meet any deadlines for application established by the Department.
 - (b) The Department shall review the completed application of the agency with respect to the criteria for approval set forth in this rule and recommend to the State Board that the application be approved or denied. The applicant agency may address the State Board at the time its application is being considered by the Board by providing notice to the Board of its request to speak in accordance with State Board Policy 1.400.
- (3) Approval, Probationary Approval, and Revocation of Approval.
 - (a) A Category II accrediting agency is approved for a period of five (5) years, unless the agency is subsequently placed on probationary approval as set forth in this rule during the five (5) year approval period. Approved agencies shall re-apply for approval at the expiration of the five (5) year approval period. Applications will not be considered mid-cycle.
 - (b) The Department shall notify an agency of non-compliance with this rule or the non-compliance of any of its accredited schools located in Tennessee with this rule, State Board Rules Chapter 0520-07-01, and any applicable state or federal laws and establish a deadline by which the agency shall show evidence of compliance. If the agency does not come into compliance by the specified deadline, the Department may provide notice to the agency of intent to recommend

to the State Board that the agency be placed on probationary approval status.

- (c) If the Department recommends to the State Board that the agency be placed on probationary approval, the Department shall provide to the State Board:
 - 1. Information regarding the non-compliance;
 - 2. Reasons supporting the recommendation to place the agency on probationary approval; and
 - 3. All notices provided to the agency regarding non-compliance and responses of the agency.
 - (d) Representatives of the agency may request to speak at the State Board meeting at which the recommendation for probationary approval is under consideration pursuant to State Board Policy 1.400.
 - (e) If the State Board votes to place the agency on probationary approval status, the agency shall submit a corrective action plan to the Department. If the agency successfully completes the terms of the corrective action plan, the Department shall bring a recommendation to the State Board that the agency be removed from probationary approval status and granted full approval. Any agency that is restored to full approval after being placed on probationary approval status will still be required to re-apply for full approval at the expiration of its initial five (5) year approval period. If the agency does not successfully complete the terms of the corrective action plan, the Department shall bring a recommendation that the State Board revoke the agency's approval.
 - (f) If the Department recommends to the State Board that the agency's approval be revoked due to failure to successfully complete the corrective action plan, the Department shall provide to the State Board:
 - 1. Information regarding the non-compliance;
 - 2. Reasons supporting the recommendation to revoke the agency's approval; and
 - 3. All notices provided to the agency regarding non-compliance and responses of the agency.
 - (g) The agency may address the State Board at the meeting where the revocation recommendation is being considered by the Board by providing notice to the Board of its request to speak in accordance with State Board Policy 1.400.
 - (h) If the State Board votes to revoke approval of the agency, the agency's approval shall expire at the end of the school year during which the vote takes place, or on another date specified by the State Board.
- (4) Criteria for Approval of a Category II Private School Accrediting Agency.
- (a) Scope of Operation of Agency. The agency shall:
 - 1. Have a clearly written statement of objectives;

2. Delineate the process by which it accredits schools; and
 3. Have at least five (5) member schools, each with at least ten (10) full-time students enrolled each school year.
- (b) Organization of Agency. The agency shall:
1. Specify qualifications for professional personnel for the agency; and
 2. Employ at least one (1) full-time agency head or director.
- (c) Agency Responsibilities. The agency shall:
1. Maintain written descriptions of the requirements for school accreditation and of the levels or types of membership granted;
 2. Re-evaluate approved schools annually;
 3. Give advance publication of proposed changes in accreditation standards to schools. These changes must be approved in advance by the Department;
 4. Advise schools or directly provide them with technical assistance to address deficiencies in meeting the accreditation standards of the agency;
 5. Notify the Department within ten (10) business days of adding or removing an accredited school from its list;
 6. Require schools to report to the accrediting agency on deficiencies that could affect accredited status;
 7. Have procedures for revocation of accreditation for any school that does not comply with the agency's standards for approved schools. Such procedures shall include how the agency monitors approved schools for compliance with agency standards, including working with schools to remedy areas of non-compliance that are identified by the Department; and
 8. Publish and follow minimum standards for approved schools, including, at a minimum:
 - (i) Attendance.
 - (I) Each school shall comply with the requirements of T.C.A. § 49-6-3007 regarding the reporting of the names, ages, and addresses of all pupils in attendance to the director of schools for the public school district in which the student resides.
 - (II) Each school shall ensure students entering Kindergarten have reached five (5) years of age on or before August 15 pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-201(b)(3), unless the principal or head of school finds through evaluation and testing, at the request of the parent or legal guardian, that a child who is five (5) on or before September 30 is sufficiently mature emotionally and academically to enter Kindergarten and the

school has a policy permitting testing by the principal or head of school to obtain early admission to Kindergarten.

(ii) Facilities, Health, and Safety.

- (I) Each school shall comply with all laws, rules and regulations, and codes of the city, county, and state regarding planning of new buildings, alterations and health and safety.
- (II) Each school shall observe all fire safety regulations and procedures promulgated by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office.
- (III) Each school shall conduct at least one (1) fire safety inspection annually based on the fire safety inspection checklist developed by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office, and maintain copies of the inspection reports, including findings of non-compliance and actions taken to comply for review by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office.
- (IV) Each school shall construct, remodel, renovate, expand, or modify school buildings or other structures in accordance with any applicable state and/or federal requirements regarding building accessibility, which may include, but is not limited to, the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- (V) Each principal or head of school shall comply with the requirement of Department of Health rules and T.C.A. § 49-6-5001 that each child enrolled in school be vaccinated against disease, subject to any applicable exemptions set forth in State law or Department of Health rules.
- (VI) Each school shall conduct a criminal history records check prior to employment for any person applying for or holding a position as a teacher or any other position requiring proximity to school children. Criminal history records checks shall also be required for any person or employee of the person, corporation, or other entity who contracts with a school and who will have direct contact with school children or access to the grounds of the school when children are present. The criminal history records check shall be fingerprint based or social security number based and shall also include a check of the Tennessee and National Sex Offender Registries and the Tennessee Department of Health Abuse Registry. Schools may also search the Tennessee educator licensure database (TNCompass) to determine if an applicant for a teaching position or any other position requiring proximity to school children has had a Tennessee educator license suspended or revoked for misconduct.

(iii) Curriculum and Graduation.

- (I) The instructional program shall include, but not be limited to, the areas of English language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, art, music, health and physical education, and world language.

- (II) Each school shall use textbooks and instructional materials that adequately cover all subjects in the school's instructional program.
 - (III) Each high school shall adopt a graduation requirements policy requiring students to earn at least the minimum number of total credits required for graduation set by the State Board in Chapter 0520-01-03-.06. The school's policy shall also require students to achieve the required minimum number of credits set by the State Board in Chapter 0520-01-03-.06 in the subjects of English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. This provision shall not be construed as requiring the same courses in the subjects of English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies that are required for public schools. The school shall determine the additional subject areas and credits necessary for graduation from high school as set forth in the school's graduation requirements policy to meet or exceed the minimum total number of credits set by the State Board in Chapter 0520-01-03-.06.
 - (IV) At least once every school year, each school shall give a nationally standardized achievement test covering the areas of English language arts and math to each pupil in third (3rd) through twelfth (12th) grades; the results must be communicated to teachers and parents and kept on file at the school for one (1) calendar year.
- (iv) Teacher Licensure and Evaluation.
- (I) Each school shall ensure that all teachers and principals are appropriately licensed or credentialed, as defined by the agency.
 - (II) Each school shall develop procedures for evaluation of all teachers and principals.
 - (III) Each school shall provide a sufficient number of appropriately qualified administrators, supervisors, and other personnel, which may include, but is not limited to, librarians, and school counselors, for the student body served.
- (v) Administrative Rules.
- (I) Each school shall maintain an operating schedule that includes the minimum number of instructional days (180) and minimum number of hours per day (6 ½) required of public schools, In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-6-3004, a school that exceeds the required six and one-half (6 ½) hours of instructional time per day for the full academic year shall be credited with the additional instructional time in amounts up to, but not exceeding, thirteen (13) instructional days each school year. Schools that are unable to meet the required 180 instructional day requirement due to natural disaster or serious outbreak of illness affecting or endangering students or staff during the school year may request a waiver of the minimum instructional day requirement from the Commissioner.

- (II) Each school shall comply with applicable state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, including but not limited to the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- (III) Each school shall develop and implement a written policy on promotion and retention. The written policy shall be communicated to students and parents via the school handbook.
- (IV) Each school shall ensure that class sizes do not exceed the class size maximums set forth in state law.
- (V) Each school shall maintain complete and accurate permanent records of the following for all students, attendance, disciplinary matters, work completed while enrolled at the school, and promotion or retention determinations.
- (VI) Each school shall provide periodic reports of student needs and academic progress to parents or legal guardians during each school year.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-302, 49-6-3001 and 49-50-801. **Administrative History:** (For history prior to June 1987, see pages ii-iii). New rule filed April 24, 1987; effective June 8, 1987. Repealed and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed August 31, 2001; effective December 28, 2001. Amendment filed October 29, 2008; effective February 28, 2009. Amendment filed March 24, 2014; effective August 29, 2014. Amendments filed August 11, 2017; effective November 9, 2017.

0520-07-02-.04 CATEGORY III: REGIONAL ACCREDITATION

- (1) Schools in this category are regionally accredited by one (1) of the Category III regional accrediting agencies identified in State Board Policy 3.500.
- (2) Each Category III accrediting agency shall publish and follow minimum standards for approved schools, including, at a minimum:
 - (a) Agency Responsibilities. The agency shall:
 - 1. Maintain written descriptions of the requirements for school accreditation and of the levels or types of membership granted;
 - 2. Re-evaluate approved schools on a regular basis established by the agency;
 - 3. Give advance publication of proposed changes in accreditation standards to schools.
 - 4. Advise schools or directly provide them with technical assistance to address deficiencies in meeting the accreditation standards of the agency;
 - 5. Notify the Department within ten (10) business days of adding or removing an accredited school from its list;

6. Require schools to report to the accrediting agency on deficiencies that could affect accredited status;
7. Have procedures for revocation of accreditation for any school that does not comply with the agency's standards for approved schools. Such procedures shall include how the agency monitors approved schools for compliance with agency standards, including working with schools to remedy areas of non-compliance that are identified by the Department; and
8. Publish and follow minimum standards for approved schools in Tennessee, including, at a minimum:
 - (i) Attendance.
 - (I) Each school shall comply with the requirements of T.C.A. § 49-6-3007 regarding the reporting of the names, ages, and addresses of all pupils in attendance to the director of schools for the public school district in which the student resides.
 - (II) Each school shall ensure students entering Kindergarten have reached five (5) years of age on or before August 15 pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-201(b)(3), unless the principal or head of school finds through evaluation and testing, at the request of the parent or legal guardian, that a child who is five (5) on or before September 30 is sufficiently mature emotionally and academically to enter Kindergarten and the school has a policy permitting testing by the principal or head of school to obtain early admission to Kindergarten.
 - (ii) Facilities, Health, and Safety.
 - (I) Each school shall comply with all laws, rules and regulations, and codes of the city, county, and state regarding planning of new buildings, alterations and health and safety.
 - (II) Each school shall observe all fire safety regulations and procedures promulgated by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office.
 - (III) Each school shall conduct at least one (1) fire safety inspection annually based on the fire safety inspection checklist developed by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office, and maintain copies of the inspection reports, including findings of non-compliance and actions taken to comply for review by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office.
 - (IV) Each school shall construct, remodel, renovate, expand, or modify school buildings or other structures in accordance with any applicable state and/or federal requirements regarding building accessibility, which may include, but is not limited to, the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
 - (V) Each principal or head of school shall comply with the requirement of Department of Health rules and T.C.A. § 49-6-5001 that each child

enrolled in school be vaccinated against disease, subject to any applicable exemptions set forth in State law or Department of Health rules.

(VI) Each school shall conduct a criminal history records check prior to employment for any person applying for or holding a position as a teacher or any other position requiring proximity to school children. Criminal history records checks shall also be required for any person or employee of the person, corporation, or other entity who contracts with a school and who will have direct contact with school children or access to the grounds of the school when children are present. The criminal history records check shall be fingerprint based or social security number based and shall also include a check of the Tennessee and National Sex Offender Registries and the Tennessee Department of Health Abuse Registry. Schools may also search the Tennessee educator licensure database (TNCompass) to determine if an applicant for a teaching position or any other position requiring proximity to school children has had a Tennessee educator license suspended or revoked for misconduct.

(iii) Curriculum and Graduation.

(I) The instructional program shall include, but not be limited to, the areas of English language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, art, music, health and physical education, and world language.

(II) Each school shall use textbooks and instructional materials that adequately cover all subjects in the school's instructional program.

(III) Each high school shall adopt a graduation requirements policy requiring students to earn at least the minimum number of total credits required for graduation set by the State Board in Chapter 0520-01-03-.06. The school's policy shall also require students to achieve the required minimum number of credits set by the State Board in Chapter 0520-01-03-.06 in the subjects of English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. This provision shall not be construed as requiring the same courses in the subjects of English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies that are required for public schools. The school shall determine the additional subject areas and credits necessary for graduation from high school as set forth in the school's graduation requirements policy to meet or exceed the minimum total number of credits set by the State Board in Chapter 0520-01-03-.06.

(IV) At least once every school year, each school shall give a nationally standardized achievement test covering the areas of English language arts and math to each pupil in third (3rd) through twelfth (12th) grades; the results must be communicated to teachers and parents and kept on file at the school for one (1) calendar year.

(iv) Teacher Licensure and Evaluation.

- (I) Each school shall ensure that all teachers and principals are appropriately licensed or credentialed, as defined by the agency.
- (II) Each school shall develop procedures for evaluation of all teachers and principals.
- (III) Each school shall provide a sufficient number of appropriately qualified administrators, supervisors, and other personnel, which may include, but is not limited to, librarians, and school counselors, for the student body served.

(v) Administrative Rules.

- (I) Each school shall maintain an operating schedule that includes the minimum number of instructional days (180) and minimum number of hours per day (6 ½) required of public schools, In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-6-3004, a school that exceeds the required six and one-half (6 ½) hours of instructional time per day for the full academic year shall be credited with the additional instructional time in amounts up to, but not exceeding, thirteen (13) instructional days each school year. Schools that are unable to meet the required 180 instructional day requirement due to natural disaster or serious outbreak of illness affecting or endangering students or staff during the school year may request a waiver of the minimum instructional day requirement from the Commissioner.
- (II) Each school shall comply with applicable state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, including but not limited to the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- (III) Each school shall develop and implement a written policy on promotion and retention. The written policy shall be communicated to students and parents via the school handbook.
- (IV) Each school shall ensure that class sizes do not exceed the class size maximums set forth in state law.
- (V) Each school shall maintain complete and accurate permanent records of the following for all students: attendance, disciplinary matters, work completed while enrolled at the school, and promotion or retention determinations.
- (VI) Each school shall provide periodic reports of student needs and academic progress to parents or legal guardians during each school year.

(3) Approval, Probationary Approval, and Denial of Approval.

- (a) The Department shall notify an agency of non-compliance with this rule or the non-compliance of any of its accredited schools located in Tennessee with this rule, State Board Rules Chapter 0520-07-01, and any applicable state or federal laws and establish a deadline by which the

agency shall show evidence of compliance. If the agency does not come into compliance by the specified deadline, the Department may provide notice to the agency of intent to recommend to the State Board that the agency be placed on probationary approval status.

- (b) If the Department recommends to the State Board that the agency be placed on probationary approval, the Department shall provide to the State Board:
 - 1. Information regarding the non-compliance;
 - 2. Reasons supporting the recommendation to place the agency on probationary approval; and
 - 3. All notices provided to the agency regarding non-compliance and responses of the agency.
- (c) Representatives of the agency may request to speak at the State Board meeting at which the recommendation for probationary approval is under consideration pursuant to State Board Policy 1.400.
- (d) If the State Board votes to place the agency on probationary approval status, the agency shall submit a corrective action plan to the Department. If the agency successfully completes the terms of the corrective action plan, the Department shall bring a recommendation to the State Board that the agency be removed from probationary approval status and granted full approval. If the agency does not successfully complete the terms of the corrective action plan, the Department shall bring a recommendation that the State Board revoke the agency's approval.
- (e) If the Department recommends to the State Board that the agency's approval be revoked due to failure to successfully complete the corrective action plan, the Department shall provide to the State Board:
 - 1. Information regarding the non-compliance;
 - 2. Reasons supporting the recommendation to revoke the agency's approval; and
 - 3. All notices provided to the agency regarding non-compliance and responses of the agency.
- (f) The agency may address the State Board at the meeting where the revocation recommendation is being considered by the Board by providing notice to the Board of its request to speak in accordance with State Board Policy 1.400.
- (g) If the State Board votes to revoke approval of the agency, the agency's approval shall expire at the end of the school year during which the vote takes place, or other date specified by the State Board.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-302, 49-6-3001, and 49-50-801. **Administrative History:** (For history prior to June 1987, see pages ii-iii). New rule filed April 24, 1987; effective June 8, 1987. Repealed and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Repeal and new rule filed February 20, 2008; effective June 27, 2008. Amendment filed March 25, 2010; effective August 29, 2010. Amendment filed October 23, 2013; effective March 31, 2014. Amendments filed August 11, 2017; effective November 9, 2017.

0520-07-02-.05 CATEGORY IV: CHURCH-RELATED SCHOOLS

- (1) Category IV schools are schools that are “church-related” and exempt from certain regulations regarding faculty, textbooks, and curriculum. T.C.A. § 49-50-801 defines a church-related school as a school operated by denominational, parochial or other bona fide church organizations, which are required to meet the standards of accreditation or membership of the Tennessee Association of Christian Schools, the Association of Christian Schools International, the Tennessee Association of Independent Schools, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the Tennessee Association of Non-Public Academic Schools, the Tennessee Association of Church Related Schools, the Association of Classical and Christian Schools, the Tennessee Alliance of Church Related Schools, or a school affiliated with Accelerated Christian Education, Inc.
- (2) In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-6-3050, a parent may enroll their child in a Category IV school and participate as a parent-teacher in the Category IV school for the purposes of home schooling their children. Such parent-teachers shall meet the requirements established in T.C.A. § 49-6-3050 and shall be subject to the requirements established by the Category IV school for home school parent-teachers. Students who are enrolled in a Category IV school with a parent-teacher as provided in this paragraph and T.C.A. § 49-6-3050 shall be reported as enrolled students as required by paragraph (3)(f) below, in the same manner as all other enrolled students.
- (3) Each agency shall ensure all of its accredited or member schools:
 - (a) Comply with all laws, rules and regulations, and codes of the city, county, and state regarding planning of new buildings, alterations, and health and safety.
 - (b) Comply with all fire safety regulations and procedures promulgated by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office.
 - (c) Conduct at least one (1) fire safety inspection annually based on the fire safety inspection checklist developed by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office, and maintain copies of the inspection reports, including findings of non-compliance and actions taken to comply for review by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office.
 - (d) Construct, remodel, renovate, expand, or modify school buildings or other structures in accordance with any applicable state and/or federal requirements regarding building accessibility, which may include, but is not limited to, the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
 - (e) Comply with the requirement of Department of Health rules and T.C.A. § 49-6-5001 that each child enrolled in school be vaccinated against disease, subject to any applicable exemptions set forth in State law or Department of Health rules.
 - (f) Comply with the requirement of T.C.A. § 49-6-3007 that the names, ages, and addresses of all pupils in attendance be reported to the director of schools of the public school district in which the student resides.
 - (g) Ensures students entering Kindergarten have reached five (5) years of age on or before August 15 pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-201(b)(3), unless the principal or head of school finds through evaluation and testing, at the request of the parent or legal guardian, that a child who is five (5) on or before September 30 is sufficiently mature emotionally and academically to enter Kindergarten and the school has a policy permitting testing by the principal or head of school to obtain early admission to Kindergarten.

- (h) Each school shall maintain an operating schedule that includes the minimum number of instructional days (180) and minimum number of hours per day (6 ½) required of public schools, In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-6-3004, a school that exceeds the required six and one-half (6 ½) hours of instructional time per day for the full academic year shall be credited with the additional instructional time in amounts up to, but not exceeding, thirteen (13) instructional days each school year. Schools that are unable to meet the required 180 instructional day requirement due to natural disaster or serious outbreak of illness affecting or endangering students or staff during the school year may request a waiver of the minimum instructional day requirement from the Commissioner.
 - (i) Each school shall conduct a criminal history records check prior to employment for any person applying for or holding a position as a teacher or any other position requiring proximity to school children. Criminal history records checks shall also be required for any person or employee of the person, corporation, or other entity who contracts with a school and who will have direct contact with school children or access to the grounds of the school when children are present. The criminal history records check shall be fingerprint based or social security number based and shall also include a check of the Tennessee and National Sex Offender Registries and the Tennessee Department of Health Abuse Registry. Schools may also search the Tennessee educator licensure database (TNCompass) to determine if an applicant for a teaching position or any other position requiring proximity to school children has had a Tennessee educator license suspended or revoked for misconduct.
- (4) Church-related schools not accredited by or members of one of the agencies set forth in paragraph (1) of this rule may seek approval from the State Board as provided for in T.C.A. § 49-50-801(e)(1) by submitting the application on a form developed by the State Board staff and meet any deadlines for application established by the State Board staff. State Board staff shall review any complete and timely submitted application and provide a recommendation for approval or denial of the application to the State Board.
 - (5) Schools approved as Category IV schools by the State Board shall be monitored by the Department for continued compliance with the requirements set forth in paragraph (3) of this rule, State Board Rule Chapter 0520-07-01, and all applicable state and federal laws.
 - (6) Reporting of Non-Compliance and Revocation of Approval.
 - (a) For accrediting agencies listed in T.C.A. § 49-50-801, the Department shall notify an agency of non-compliance of any of its accredited or member schools with this rule, State Board Rules Chapter 0520-07-01, and any applicable state or federal laws and establish a deadline by which the agency shall show evidence of its accredited or member schools' compliance. If the agency does not produce evidence of compliance by the specified deadline, the Department may provide notice of the continued non-compliance to the Chairs of the Education Committees of the Tennessee House and Senate.
 - (b) For schools approved by the State Board as provided in paragraph (4) of this rule, approval may be revoked by the State Board for non-compliance. The Department shall notify the school of non-compliance with this rule, State Board Rules Chapter 0520-07-01, and any applicable state or federal laws and establish a deadline by which the school shall show evidence of compliance. If the school does not establish compliance by the specified deadline, the Department may provide notice to the school of intent to recommend to the State Board that the school's approval be revoked.

1. If the Department recommends revocation of approval of a school to the State Board,

the Department shall provide to the State Board:

- (i) Information regarding the non-compliance;
 - (ii) Reasons supporting the recommendation to revoke school approval; and
 - (iii) All notices provided to the school regarding non-compliance and responses from the school.
- (2) Representatives of the school may request to speak at the State Board meeting at which revocation is under consideration pursuant to State Board Policy 1.400.
 - (3) If the State Board votes to revoke approval of a school, the revocation shall take effect at the end of the school year in which the vote takes place, or on another date identified by the State Board.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-302, 49-6-3001, 49-6-3050, and 49-50-801. **Administrative History:** (For history prior to June 1987, see pages ii-iii). New rule filed April 24, 1987; effective June 8, 1987. Repealed and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed February 20, 2008; effective June 27, 2008. Amendment filed October 29, 2008; effective February 28, 2009. Amendment filed March 25, 2010; effective August 29, 2010. Amendment filed March 24, 2014; effective August 29, 2014. Amendments filed August 11, 2017; effective November 9, 2017.

0520-07-02-.06 CATEGORY V: REGISTERED FOR OPERATION.

- (1) Schools in this category are registered for operation with the Department. Schools in this category shall not include home schools.
- (2) Each school seeking registration for operation shall furnish to the Department the following information by October 15th of each year:
 - (a) Name, mailing address, and telephone number of the school;
 - (b) Name and academic credentials of the principal or head of school;
 - (c) Number of students in each grade level as of October 1 of current school year;
 - (d) Name and academic credentials of each teacher and the subjects taught by that teacher; and
 - (e) Certification that the school meets all requirements set forth in paragraph (3).
- (3) Each school shall ensure compliance with the following:
 - (a) Keep on file the curriculum offered and make copies available for inspection by the Department and the public upon request.
 - (b) Each school shall comply with all of the laws, rules and regulations, and codes of the city, county, and state regarding planning of new buildings, alterations, and health and safety.
 - (c) Each school shall observe all fire safety regulations and procedures promulgated by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office.

- (d) Each school shall conduct at least one (1) fire safety inspection annually based on the fire safety inspection checklist developed by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office, and maintain copies of the inspection reports, including findings of non-compliance and actions taken to comply for review by the Tennessee Fire Marshal's Office.
- (e) Each school shall construct, remodel, renovate, expand, or modify school buildings or other structures in accordance with any applicable state and/or federal requirements regarding building accessibility, which may include, but is not limited to, the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- (f) Each school shall comply with the requirement of Department of Health rules and T.C.A. § 49-6-5001 that each child in school be vaccinated against disease, subject to any applicable exemptions set forth in State law or Department of Health rules.
- (g) Each school shall comply with the requirement of T.C.A. § 49-6-3007 that the names, ages, and addresses of all pupils in attendance be reported to the director of schools for the public school district in which the student resides.
- (h) Each teacher shall possess at least a baccalaureate degree.
- (i) At least once every school year, each school shall administer a nationally standardized achievement test covering, at a minimum, English language arts and math to each student in third (3rd) through twelfth (12th) grades. Results of the test shall be communicated to teachers and parents and kept on file at the school for at least one (1) calendar year.
- (j) Each school shall ensure students entering Kindergarten have reached five (5) years of age on or before August 15 pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-201(b)(3) unless the principal or head of school finds through evaluation and testing, at the request of the parent or legal guardian, that a child who is five (5) on or before September 30 is sufficiently mature emotionally and academically to enter Kindergarten and the school has a policy permitting testing by the principal or head of school to obtain early admission to Kindergarten.
- (k) Each school shall have at least ten (10) full-time students enrolled each school year.
- (l) Each school shall conduct a criminal history records check prior to employment for any person applying for or holding a position as a teacher or any other position requiring proximity to school children. Criminal history records checks shall also be required for any person or employee of the person, corporation, or other entity who contracts with a school and who will have direct contact with school children or access to the grounds of the school when children are present. The criminal history records check shall be fingerprint based or social security number based and shall also include a check of the Tennessee and National Sex Offender Registries and the Tennessee Department of Health Abuse Registry. Schools may also search the Tennessee educator licensure database (TNCompass) to determine if an applicant for a teaching position or any other position requiring proximity to school children has had a Tennessee educator license suspended or revoked for misconduct.
- (m) Each school shall maintain an operating schedule that includes the minimum number of instructional days (180) and minimum number of hours per day (6 ½) required of public schools, In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-6-3004, a school that exceeds the required six and one-half (6 ½) hours of instructional time per day for the full academic year shall be credited with the additional instructional time in amounts up to, but not exceeding, thirteen (13) instructional days

each school year. Schools that are unable to meet the required 180 instructional day requirement due to natural disaster or serious outbreak of illness affecting or endangering students or staff during the school year may request a waiver of the minimum instructional day requirement from the Commissioner.

(4) Monitoring and Revocation.

- (a) Category V schools shall report all required data annually to the Department as required by State Board Rule 0520-07-01-.04 and in any Department-provided procedures.
- (b) The Department shall notify a school of non-compliance with this rule, State Board Rules Chapter 0520-07-01, and any applicable state or federal laws and establish a deadline by which the school shall show evidence of compliance. If the school does not come into compliance by the specified deadline, the Department may revoke the registration of the school after providing notice of revocation to the school. Revocation of the registration of the school shall take effect at the end of the school year in which the non-compliance was reported to the school, or on another date identified by the Department.
 - 1. A school may appeal the revocation decision. Appeals must be submitted to the Department within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Department electronically sending the notice of revocation that is being appealed. The day that the Department sends the notice of revocation shall not count as part of the fourteen (14) calendar days. The Commissioner or Commissioner's Designee shall make a determination and issue an electronic notification to the appealing party within forty-five (45) calendar days of receiving the appeal.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-302, 49-6-3001 and 49-50-801. **Administrative History:** (For history prior to June 1987, see pages ii-iii). New rule filed April 24, 1987; effective June 8, 1987. Repealed and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed October 29, 2008; effective February 28, 2009. Amendment filed March 24, 2014; effective August 29, 2014. Amendments filed August 11, 2017; effective November 9, 2017.

0520-07-02-.07 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302 and 49-6-3001. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 19, 2002; to be effective April 30, 2003; however, on April 29, 2003, the State Board of Education stayed rule 0520-07-02-.07 until June 28, 2003. Original rule to become effective June 28, 2003. Repeal filed February 7, 2018; effective May 8, 2018.

0520-07-02-.08 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-201, 49-1-302, 49-6-101, 49-6-3001, and 49-50-801. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 28, 2005; effective April 28, 2006. Amendment filed October 29, 2008; effective February 28, 2009. Repeal filed July 29, 2011; effective December 29, 2011.

0520-07-02-.09 RESERVED.

Authority: Executive Order No. 14 of 2020 (and applicable, subsequent Executive Orders addressing COVID-19 relief) and Public Chapter 652 of 2020. **Administrative History:** Emergency rules filed April 16, 2020; SS-7037 (March 2020) RDA 1693

effective through October 13, 2020. Emergency rules expired effective October 14, 2020, and the rules reverted to their previous statuses.

**RULES
OF
THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**CHAPTER 0520-01-03
ACADEMIC AND INSTRUCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

0520-01-03-.02 UNIFORM GRADING SYSTEM.

- (1) Until the 2022-2023 school year, LEAs shall use the following uniform grading system for students enrolled in grades nine through twelve (9-12) for purposes of application for postsecondary financial assistance administered by the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation:

Uniform Grading System					
Grade	Percentage Range		Honors Courses	Local and Statewide Dual Credit Courses, Industry Certification-Aligned Courses, and Dual Enrollment Courses	Advanced Placement, Cambridge International, College Level Exam Program (CLEP), and International Baccalaureate Courses
A	93	100	Shall include the addition of 3 percentage points to the grades used to calculate the semester average.	Shall include the addition of 4 percentage points to the grades used to calculate the semester average.	Shall include the addition of 5 percentage points to the grades used to calculate the semester average.
B	85	92			
C	75	84			
D	70	74			
F	0	69			

- (2) Beginning with grades issued in the 2022-2023 school year and thereafter, LEAs shall use the following uniform grading system for students enrolled in grades nine through twelve (9-12) for purposes of application for postsecondary financial assistance administered by the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation:

Uniform Grading System					
Grade	Percentage Range		Honors Courses	Local and Statewide Dual Credit Courses, Industry Certification-Aligned Courses, and Dual Enrollment Courses	Advanced Placement, Cambridge International, College Level Exam Program (CLEP), and International Baccalaureate Courses
A	90	100	Shall include the addition of 3 percentage points to the grades used to calculate the semester average.	Shall include the addition of 4 percentage points to the grades used to calculate the semester average.	Shall include the addition of 5 percentage points to the grades used to calculate the semester average.
B	80	89			
C	70	79			
D	60	69			
F	0	59			

- (3) Assigning additional quality points above 4.0 for honors courses, Advanced Placement (AP), College Level Exam Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Cambridge International, dual credit, dual enrollment, and Industry Certification-aligned courses is not allowed for the purpose of determining eligibility for the lottery scholarships.
- (4) LEAs must utilize the Uniform Grading System to calculate eligibility for financial assistance administered by the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation. However, LEAs may adopt an additional local grading scale(s) for other purposes.
- (5) LEAs may adopt the Uniform Grading System for grades pre-K through eight (8) or they may adopt a local grading scale for those grades.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-6-407 and 49-6-3004. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified June 10, 1974. Amendment filed July 15, 1976; effective August 16, 1976. Amendment filed February 28, 1978; effective March 30, 1978. Amendment filed January 9, 1979; effective February 23, 1979. Amendment and new rule filed October 15, 1979; effective January 8, 1980. Amendment filed April 14, 1980; effective May 28, 1980. Amendment filed November 13, 1981; effective March 16, 1982. Amendment filed April 13, 1982; effective May 28, 1982. Repeal and new rule filed April 18, 1983; effective May 18, 1983. Amendment filed January 6, 1984; effective April 15, 1984. Amendment filed August 20, 1984; effective November 13, 1984. Amendment filed October 3, 1985; effective January 14, 1986. Amendment filed March 25, 1986; effective June 14, 1986. Amendment filed May 28, 1986; effective June 27, 1986. Amendment filed July 10, 1986; effective October 29, 1986. Amendment filed October 29, 1986; effective December 13, 1986. Amendment filed July 22, 1987; effective October 28, 1987. Amendment filed November 18, 1987; effective February 28, 1988. Amendment filed July 21, 1988; effective October 29, 1988. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed November 3, 1993; effective March 30, 1994. Amendment filed March 14, 1995; effective July 28, 1995. Amendment filed April 29, 1996; effective August 28, 1996. Amendments filed October 25, 2017; effective January 23, 2018. Amendments filed March 20, SS-7037 (March 2020)

RDA 1693

2018; to have been effective June 18, 2018. However, on May 24, 2018, the Government Operations Committee filed a 5-day stay; new effective date June 23, 2018. Amendments filed January 11, 2019; effective April 11, 2019; Amendments filed August 20, 2020; effective November 18, 2020.

**RULES
OF
THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

0520-02-03-.01	General Information and Regulations	0520-02-03-.09	Denial, Formal Reprimand, Suspension and Revocation
0520-02-03-.02	Educator License Types	0520-02-03-.10	Requirements for Instructional Leader Licenses
0520-02-03-.03	Requirements for Teacher Licenses	0520-02-03-.11	Endorsements
0520-02-03-.04	Requirements for Occupational Teacher Licenses	0520-02-03-.12	Permits
0520-02-03-.05	Requirements for School Services Personnel Licenses	0520-02-03-.13	Requirements for the Limited License
0520-02-03-.06	Requirements for the JROTC License	0520-02-03-.14	Emergency Teacher License
0520-02-03-.07	Requirements for Licenses of Postsecondary Educators	0520-02-03-.15	Professional Development Points
0520-02-03-.08	Requirements for the Adjunct License	0520-02-03-.16	
		through	
		0520-02-03-.94	Repealed

0520-02-03-.02 EDUCATOR LICENSE TYPES.

- (1) All educators in Tennessee shall hold one (1) of the following license types:
- (a) The practitioner license is the first level license issued to applicants who meet the requirements set forth in this Rule. There are three (3) types of practitioner licenses: practitioner teacher license, practitioner occupational teacher license, and practitioner school services personnel license.
 - (b) The professional license is issued to educators who have met licensure expectations at the practitioner level and who meet the requirements for advancement set forth in this Rule. There are three (3) types of professional licenses: professional teacher license, professional occupational teacher license, and professional school services personnel license.
 - (c) The JROTC license is issued to active or retired military personnel who seek to serve as Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) teachers.
 - (d) The license for postsecondary educators (PSE) is issued to applicants who have been a full-time or part-time college professor or instructor and who meet the requirements set forth in this Rule.
 - (e) The adjunct license is issued to applicants seeking to teach no more than three (3) classes in a content area of critical shortage identified by the State Board who meet the requirements set forth in this Rule.
 - (f) The Instructional Leader License-Aspiring (ILL-A) is issued to applicants who hold a bachelor's degree, are enrolled in an instructional leadership preparation program approved by the State Board of Education, and meet the requirements set forth in this Rule.
 - (g) The Instructional Leader License (ILL) is issued to applicants who hold a bachelor's degree, have completed an instructional leadership preparation program approved by the State Board of Education, and meet the requirements set forth in this Rule.

- (h) The Instructional Leader License-Professional (ILL-P) is issued to educators currently holding the ILL who meet the requirements for advancement set forth in this Rule.
 - (i) The Limited License is issued to educators who hold a valid temporary teaching permit who meet the requirements set forth in this Rule.
- (2) The validity period of each license type shall be outlined in the SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502, however:
- (a) The validity period of the practitioner license shall be no more than four (4) years;
 - (b) The validity period of the professional license shall be no more than seven (7) years;
 - (c) The validity period of the ILL-A shall be no more than four (4) years;
 - (d) The validity period of the ILL shall be no more than four (4) years; and
 - (e) The validity period of the ILL-P shall be no more seven (7) years.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302 and 49-5-108. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed July 31, 2008; effective November 28, 2008. Amendment filed July 17, 2009; effective December 29, 2009. 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 August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019.

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 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 on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy or holds a degree with a major in the specialty area.
- (c) Pathway 3. The prospective educator:
1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 2. Holds an active Tennessee practitioner or professional occupational teacher license with an endorsement covering the secondary grade span;
 3. Has completed a State Board-approved occupational educator preparation program;
 4. Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
- (2) Prospective educators from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement and who are 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 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:
1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university;
 2. Holds a full and valid initial level teacher license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement;
 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
 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 on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
- (3) Prospective educators from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement and who are seeking a professional academic teacher license shall meet requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
- (a) Out-of-State Pathway 4. The out-of-state prospective educator:
 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university; and
 2. Holds a full and valid professional-level license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (b) Out-of-State Pathway 5. The out-of-state prospective educator:
 1. Holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university; and
 2. Holds a valid certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.
- (4) 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.
- (5) 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.
- (6) 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 one (1) of the following sets of requirements:
- (a) Option 1:
 1. 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;
 2. Obtained three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department; and
 3. Earned thirty (30) professional development points or obtained the recommendation from a Director of Schools or leader of a charter school or the school's charter management organization (CMO).
 - (b) Option 2: Holds a full and valid professional-level license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (c) Option 3: Holds a valid certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

- (7) 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.
- (8) Educators who obtained the practitioner teaching license through the out-of-state pathway 4 prior to enactment of Public Chapter 125 of 2021 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; or
 - (c) If the educator did not receive an overall performance effectiveness level during one (1) or both of the two (2) years immediately following issuance of the educator's practitioner license, then the educator may:
 - 1. Choose to use the educator's most recent overall performance effectiveness level that is available to demonstrate an overall performance effectiveness level of "above expectations" or "significantly above expectations"; or
 - 2. The educator may request that the Director of Schools or the Director of the public charter school submit a recommendation to the Department of Education on the educator's effectiveness.
- (9) To renew the professional license, an educator shall earn sixty (60) qualifying professional development points as defined in Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
- (10) 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.
- (11) In order to reactivate a license and endorsements held, an educator shall meet one (1) of the following sets of requirements:
 - (a) Option A: Submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved educator preparation program (if not already provided) and submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy;
 - (b) Option B: Present a full and valid professional-level teaching license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement; or
 - (c) Option C: Submit to the Department evidence of current National Board Certification issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-108, and 49-5-5603. **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. Amendments filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019. Emergency rules filed April 16, 2020; effective through October 13, 2020. Amendments filed April 16, 2020; effective July 15, 2020. Emergency rules filed July 9,

2021; effective through January 5, 2022. Emergency rules expired effective January 6, 2022, and the rules reverted to their previous statuses. Amendments filed December 2, 2021; effective March 2, 2022.

0520-02-03-.04 REQUIREMENTS FOR OCCUPATIONAL TEACHER LICENSES.

- (1) Prospective educators seeking a practitioner occupational teaching license shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 - (a) Pathway 1. The prospective educator:
 1. Holds a high school diploma or higher;
 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;
 4. Has a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department; and
 5. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
 - (b) Pathway 2. The prospective educator:
 1. Holds an active Tennessee practitioner academic teacher license or professional academic teacher license with an endorsement covering any of the grades six (6) through twelve (12);
 2. Has completed a State Board-approved academic educator preparation program; and
 3. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
- (2) Prospective educators from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement and who are seeking a practitioner occupational teacher license shall meet requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 - (a) Out-of-State Pathway 1. The out-of-state prospective educator:
 1. Holds a high school diploma or higher;
 2. Has completed an educator preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee;
 3. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider;
 4. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable; and

5. Submits qualifying scores 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:
1. Holds a high school diploma or higher;
 2. Has completed an educator preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee;
 3. Holds a full and valid initial level license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement;
 4. Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 5. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
- (3) Prospective educators from a state other than Tennessee seeking a professional occupational teacher license shall meet the following requirements:
- (a) Out-of-State Pathway 3. The out-of-state prospective educator:
1. Holds a high school diploma or higher;
 2. Holds a full and valid professional-level occupational license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement; and
 3. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
- (4) A practitioner occupational teacher 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.
- (5) 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.
- (6) In order to advance from a practitioner occupational teacher license to a professional occupational teacher license, an educator shall meet one of the following sets of requirements:
- (a) Option 1:
1. Complete three (3) years of qualifying experience as an educator as defined by the Department;
 2. Complete a State Board-approved educator preparation program;
 3. Earn thirty (30) professional development points, a minimum of twenty (20) which shall come from new teacher training provided by the Department as indicated by SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502;

4. Hold an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable; and
 5. For educators that received the practitioner occupational teacher license on or after July 1, 2018, submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
- (b) Option 2:
1. Holds a full and valid professional-level occupational license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement; and
 2. Holds an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable
- (7) 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 occupational teacher license, the license shall become inactive.
- (8) In order to renew the professional occupational teacher license educators must meet the following requirements:
- (a) Earn sixty (60) professional development points as indicted by SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502; and
 - (b) Provide verification of an active industry certification for the area of endorsement as defined by the Department, if applicable.
- (9) 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.
- (10) Teachers who hold an active professional occupational teacher license may add additional occupational endorsements through one (1) of the following pathways:
- (a) Hold an active industry certification, as determined by the Department, for the area of endorsement, if applicable; or
 - (b) If the endorsement area does not require a certification, then have a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department.
- (11) A practitioner or professional occupational teacher license may be reactivated by completion of both of the following:
- (a) Meeting one (1) of the following requirements:
 1. Hold an active industry certification, as determined by the Department, for the area of endorsement, if applicable; or
 2. If the endorsement area does not require a certification, then have a minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience, completed within the last ten (10) years, in the area of endorsement or equivalent education attainment as defined by the Department; and

- (b) Meeting one (1) of the following requirements:
 1. Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy;
 2. Present a full and valid professional-level occupational license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement; or
 3. Submit to the Department evidence of current National Board Certification issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-108, and 49-5-5603. **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 7, 2016; effective January 5, 2017. Amendments filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019. Emergency rules filed July 9, 2021; effective through January 5, 2022. Emergency rules expired effective January 6, 2022, and the rules reverted to their previous statuses. Amendments filed December 2, 2021; effective March 2, 2022.

0520-02-03-.05 REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL SERVICES PERSONNEL LICENSES.

- (1) School services personnel licenses are available in the following areas:
 - (a) School speech-language pathologist;
 - (b) School speech-language pathology assistant;
 - (c) School audiologist;
 - (d) School psychologist;
 - (e) School counselor;
 - (f) School social worker; and
 - (g) School educational interpreter.
- (2) School speech-language pathologists shall hold a school services personnel license with the school speech-language pathologist endorsement.
 - (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as a school speech-language pathologist shall meet one (1) of the following requirements:
 1. Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy and hold an advanced degree in speech-language pathology from a regionally-accredited institution of higher education with a speech-language program approved by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology; or

2. Hold an advanced degree in speech-language pathology and hold a full and valid out-of-state initial level speech-language pathology license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (b) Candidates seeking a professional school services personnel license as a school speech-language pathologist shall hold an advanced degree in speech-language pathology and meet one (1) of the following requirements:
1. Hold a full and valid out-of-state professional level speech-language pathology license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement;
 2. Hold a valid license issued by the Tennessee Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences;
 3. Hold a valid license issued by an out-of-state Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences; or
 4. Hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language Hearing Association.
- (3) School speech-language pathology assistants shall hold a school services personnel license with the school speech-language pathology assistant endorsement.
- (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as a school speech-language pathology assistant shall meet one (1) of the following requirements:
1. Hold a current Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Certification (SLPA-C) from the American Speech-Language & Hearing Association (ASHA);
 2. Hold a bachelor's degree with a major or concentration in speech-language pathology, communication disorders, or speech and hearing sciences from a regionally accredited institution of higher education;
 3. Hold a valid registration with the Tennessee Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences as a speech-language pathology assistant;
 4. Hold a degree from a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Program; or
 5. Hold a full and valid out-of-state initial level speech-language pathology assistant license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement and hold a bachelor's degree with a major or concentration in speech-language pathology, communication disorders, or speech and hearing sciences from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
- (b) Out-of-state candidates seeking a professional school services personnel license as a school speech-language pathology assistant shall hold a bachelor's degree with a major or concentration in speech-language pathology, communication disorders, or speech and hearing sciences from a regionally accredited institution of higher education and hold a full and valid out-of-state professional level speech-language pathology assistant license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (4) School audiologists shall hold a school services personnel license with the audiologist endorsement.

- (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as a school audiologist shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways
 - 1. Pathway 1: Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy and meet one (1) of the following:
 - (i) Hold an advanced degree in audiology from a state or regionally-accredited institution of higher education with a graduate level program approved by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology; or
 - (ii) Hold a valid audiology license issued by the Tennessee Board of Communication Disorders and Sciences or the licensing board of a state other than Tennessee;
 - 2. Pathway 2: Hold an advanced degree in audiology and hold a full and valid out-of-state initial level school audiologist license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (b) Out-of-state candidates seeking a professional school services personnel license as a school audiologist shall hold an advanced degree in audiology and hold a full and valid out-of-state professional level school audiologist license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (5) School psychologists shall hold a school services personnel license with the school psychologist endorsement.
- (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as a school psychologist shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
 - 1. Pathway 1: Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy and meet one (1) of the following:
 - (i) Complete a State Board-approved graduate level educator preparation program in school psychology or a graduate level educator preparation program in school psychology approved for licensure by a state other than Tennessee; or
 - (ii) Hold a valid certificate as a Nationally Certified School Psychologist issued by the National School Psychology Certification System;
 - 2. Pathway 2: Hold an advanced degree in school psychology and hold a full and valid out-of-state initial level school psychologist license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (b) Out-of-state candidates seeking a professional school services personnel license as a school psychologist shall hold an advanced degree in school psychology and hold a full and valid out-of-state professional level school psychologist license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (6) School counselors shall hold a school services personnel license with the school counselor endorsement.

- (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel licensure and endorsement as a school counselor shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:
1. Pathway 1. The candidate:
 - (i) Holds an advanced degree in school counseling from a regionally- accredited college or university;
 - (ii) Has completed a State Board-approved educator preparation program in school counseling;
 - (iii) Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 - (iv) Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
 2. Pathway 2. The candidate:
 - (i) Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited college or university;
 - (ii) Is enrolled in a State Board-approved educator preparation program in school counseling with a job embedded clinical practice;
 - (iii) Has completed all coursework required of the educator preparation program;
 - (iv) Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; and
 - (v) Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
 3. Pathway 3. The candidate:
 - (i) Holds an advanced degree in a counseling field;
 - (ii) Is enrolled in a State Board-approved educator preparation program in school counseling;
 - (iii) Has completed a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours of coursework in school counseling;
 - (iv) Is recommended by the approved educator preparation provider;
 - (v) Submits required supervision agreement between the LEA and approved educator preparation provider; and
 - (vi) Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.
 4. Pathway 4. The candidate:

- (i) Holds an advanced degree in school social work or school psychology from a State Board-approved educator preparation program or from an educator preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee;
- (ii) Is enrolled in a State Board-approved educator preparation program in school counseling;
- (iii) Is recommended by the approved school counseling educator preparation provider;
- (iv) Submits required supervision agreement between the LEA and approved educator preparation provider; and
- (v) Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.

5. Pathway 5. The out-of-state candidate:

- (i) Holds an advanced degree in school counseling from a regionally- accredited college or university;
- (ii) Has completed an educator preparation program in school counseling approved by a state other than Tennessee as evidenced by a recommendation from the out-of-state educator preparation provider where the educator completed preparation; and
- (iii) Submits qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy.

6. Pathway 6. The out-of-state candidate:

- (i) Holds an advanced degree in school counseling from a regionally-accredited college or university; and
- (ii) Holds a full and valid out-of-state initial level school counselor license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

(c) Out-of-state candidates seeking a professional school services personnel licensure and endorsement as a school counselor shall hold an advanced degree in school counseling and hold a full and valid out-of-state professional level educator license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.

(d) School counselors who serve in a supervisory role shall have a professional school services personnel license with an endorsement in school counseling.

(7) School social workers shall hold a school services personnel license with the school social worker endorsement.

(a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as a school social worker shall meet the requirements of one (1) of the following pathways:

1. Pathway 1: Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy and meet one (1) of the following sets of requirements:
 - (i) Complete a State Board-approved educator preparation program in school social work, or an educator preparation program in school social work approved for licensure by a state other than Tennessee, and be recommended by the approved educator preparation provider; or
 - (ii) Hold a full and valid social worker license issued by the Tennessee Board of Social Workers or the licensing board of a state other than Tennessee;
 2. Pathway 2: Hold a bachelor's degree or higher in social work from a regionally-accredited college or university and hold a full and valid out-of-state initial level school social work license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (b) Out-of-state candidates seeking a professional school services personnel licensure and endorsement as a school social worker shall hold a bachelor's degree or higher in social work and hold a full and valid out-of-state professional level license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (8) School educational interpreters shall hold a school services personnel license with the educational interpreter endorsement.
- (a) Candidates seeking a practitioner school services personnel license as an educational interpreter shall meet the following requirements:
1. Hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university; and
 2. Meet one (1) of the following:
 - (i) Hold a current, nationally recognized certification in interpreting which includes a written examination related to ethics and practice;
 - (ii) Submit qualifying scores on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy; or
 - (iii) Holds a full and valid out-of-state initial level educational interpreter license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
 - (b) Out-of-state candidates seeking a professional school services personnel license and endorsement as an educational interpreter shall hold a bachelor's degree or higher in educational interpreting and hold a full and valid out-of-state professional level educational interpreter license from a state that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (9) A practitioner school services personnel license may be renewed once if advancement requirements are not met.
- (10) In order to advance from a practitioner school services personnel license to a professional school services personnel license, an educator shall meet one (1) of the following sets of requirements:
- (a) Option 1:

1. Three (3) years of qualifying experience as defined by the Department; and
 2. Earn thirty (30) qualifying professional development points as defined in Educator Licensure Policy 5.502 or obtain the recommendation from a Director of Schools or leader of a charter school or the school's charter management organization (CMO).
- (b) Option 2: Hold a full and valid professional-level school services personnel license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (11) 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.
- (12) In order to reactivate a school services personnel license and endorsements held, an educator must meet one (1) of the following sets of requirements:
- (a) Option 1: Submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved educator preparation program (if not already provided) and submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy;
 - (b) Option 2: Present a full and valid professional-level school services personnel license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement; or
 - (c) Option 3: Submit evidence of an active national credential in the area of endorsement as outlined below:
 1. Speech-language Pathologists – Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-language Pathology (CCC-SLP) issued by the American Speech-language Hearing Association
 2. Audiologist – Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology (CCC-A) issued by the American Speech-language Hearing Association
 3. School Psychologist – National Certification in School Psychology issued by the National School Psychology Certification Board
 4. School Counselor – National Counselor Certification (NCC, CCMHC, MAS, or NCSC) issued by the National Board for Certified Counselors
 5. School Social Worker – Certified School Social Work Specialist (C-SSWS) issued by the National Association of Social Workers or Certification by the Academy of Certified Social Workers (NASW)
 6. Educational Interpreter – Professional Deaf Interpreter Credential issued by the National Association for the Deaf or Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Certification.
- (13) In order to renew the professional school services personnel license, educators must earn sixty (60) qualifying professional development points as defined in Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302 49-5-108, and 49-5-5603. **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 August 16, 2019; effective November 14,

2019. Emergency rules filed July 9, 2021; effective through January 5, 2022. Emergency rules expired effective January 6, 2022, and the rules reverted to their previous statuses. Amendments filed December 2, 2021; effective March 2, 2022.

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
 - (e) Submit qualifying scores 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 following requirements:
 - (a) Out-of-State Pathway 1: The out-of-state 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 on all required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy; and
 - (i) Have completed an instructional leader preparation program approved by a state other than Tennessee as demonstrated by a provider recommendation from the out-of-state instructional leader preparation program where the educator completed preparation; or

Hold a full and valid license, comparable to the Tennessee ILL, from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (5) Educators from a state other than Tennessee who are seeking the Instructional Leader License - Professional (ILL-P) shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Out-of-State Pathway 2. The out-of-state 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, assistant principal, or instructional supervisor; and
 3. Hold a full and valid license comparable to the ILL-P from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (6) 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.
- (7) 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;
 - (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.
- (8) 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; and
 - (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 that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement; or
 2. A provider recommendation from the out-of-state instructional leader preparation program where the educator completed preparation.
- (9) The ILL-A shall become inactive at the end of the validity period. The ILL-A is not renewable and cannot be reactivated.
- (10) Educators currently holding the ILL may seek advancement to the 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 or director of the public charter school 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 or director of the public charter school 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.
- (11) Educators may renew the ILL-P through one (1) of the following pathways:
- (a) TASL Pathway. Educators who currently serve in a TASL-mandated position shall 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.
- (12) If the educator has not met the requirements for renewal or advancement at the end of the validity period of the instructional leader license, then the license shall become inactive.
- (13) In order to reactivate an instructional leader license and endorsements held (with the exception of the ILL-A which is not eligible for reactivation), an educator shall submit to the Department evidence of completion of an approved leader preparation program (if not already provided) and shall either:
- (a) Submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments as defined in the Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy; or
 - (b) Present a full and valid professional-level instructional leader license from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement.
- (14) Out-of-state prospective educators who are military spouses and who hold an active instructional leader license (initial or professional) from a state other than Tennessee that is a partner in the NASDTEC interstate agreement shall be issued the ILL-P upon providing documentation of active military dependent status and a recommendation from an approved educator preparation provider verifying completion of an approved instructional leader preparation program in a state other than Tennessee.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-108, and 49-5-5603. **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 filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. New rules filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019. Emergency rules filed April 16, 2020; effective through October 13, 2020. Amendments filed April 16, 2020; effective July 15, 2020. Emergency rules filed July 9, 2021; effective through January 5, 2022. Emergency rules expired effective January 6, 2022, and the rules reverted to their previous statuses. Amendments filed December 2, 2021; effective March 2, 2022.

0520-02-03-.11 ENDORSEMENTS.

- (1) All educators shall hold a full and valid Tennessee educator license with an endorsement covering the work assignment as provided in T.C.A. Title 49, Chapter 5.
- (2) Prospective educators seeking initial licensure shall meet requirements in at least one (1) area of endorsement.
- (3) In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-5-5619, beginning August 1, 2023, educators seeking to obtain or maintain endorsements identified in the Educator Licensure Policy 5.502 as requiring passage of a foundational literacy skills assessment or completion of an approved foundational literacy skills professional development course, must submit required documentation demonstrating completion of the foundational literacy skills assessment or foundational literacy skills professional development course as set forth below. If an educator chooses to complete the foundational literacy skills professional development course, evidence of completion of the course shall be submitted to the Department within the twelve (12) months preceding the applicable licensure transaction.
 - (a) Educators seeking licensure and endorsement in an applicable area as identified in Policy 5.502 must demonstrate meeting this requirement at the time of licensure issuance, with the exception of candidates enrolled in an educator preparation program with a job-embedded clinical practice.
 - (b) Educators who hold a license and endorsement(s) in an applicable area as identified in Policy 5.502 while enrolled in a program with a job-embedded clinical practice and all other educators seeking to renew or advance a teacher or instructional leader license with an endorsement in an applicable area as identified in Policy 5.502 must complete this requirement in order to renew or advance the license.
 - (c) Educators seeking to add an endorsement in an applicable area as identified in Policy 5.502 to a teaching license must demonstrate completion of this requirement prior to the endorsement being added to the license.
 - (d) Educators who hold multiple endorsements on a license, at least one (1) of which is not impacted by T.C.A. § 49-5-5619, may maintain licensure and any endorsements not identified in Policy 5.502, without demonstrating completion of this requirement; however, any applicable endorsement(s) identified in Policy 5.502 will become inactive at the time of renewal or advancement of the license unless the educator demonstrates completion of this requirement.
 - (e) Educators who only hold a license with applicable endorsement(s) as identified in Policy 5.502 and who do not complete this requirement will not be able to renew or advance the license and it will become inactive.

- (f) Educators whose license becomes inactive as provided for in subparagraph (e) may reactivate a license and/or applicable endorsement(s) identified in Policy 5.502 held on a license by demonstrating completion of the required foundational skills literacy assessment or approved professional development course required by T.C.A. § 49-5-5619.
 - (g) Once an educator has demonstrated completion of the requirement to pass the foundational literacy skills assessment or complete an approved foundational literacy skills professional development course as provided in subparagraphs (a) through (f), the educator will not have to re-take the course or the assessment to maintain licensure.
- (4) Educators may add additional endorsements to a license in accordance with rules and policies established by the State Board, State Board Educator Licensure Policy 5.502, and guidelines established by the Department.
 - (5) When an endorsement held by an out-of-state applicant does not match the content area or grade span of an available Tennessee endorsement, the Department shall identify the most appropriate match, if possible. In some cases, if there is not an equivalent endorsement and the grade span and/or content area do not have an appropriate match, the Department may request additional evidence to demonstrate knowledge and/or experience in the content area and/or grade span covered by the available Tennessee endorsement prior to issuing or reactivating a license in Tennessee.
 - (6) All educators who teach a course in which a state-level end-of-course examination shall hold the subject-specific endorsement for the course or meet the appropriate employment standard set forth in Employment Standards Rule Chapter 0520-02-06, unless the educator is granted a temporary permit or endorsement exemption by the Commissioner to teach a course in which an end-of-course examination is required pursuant to Public Chapter 932 of 2022 for the 2022-23 or 2023-24 school year.
 - (7) An educator may teach up to two (2) sections of one (1) course outside the educator's area of endorsement each school year, with the exception of courses in which a state-level end of course examination is required, elementary physical education courses, or special education courses.
 - (8) An educator who holds a full and valid and active license may teach more than one (1) course or more than two (2) sections of one (1) course outside of the educator's area of endorsement if an endorsement exemption is requested by the director of schools or director of public charter school and approved by the Commissioner.
 - (a) In reviewing an initial endorsement exemption for approval, the Commissioner shall consider:
 - 1. The educator's previous teaching experience;
 - 2. The educator's postsecondary coursework and degrees held; and
 - 3. The content and grade span of endorsements held on the educator's current license.
 - (b) Endorsement exemptions shall be valid for one (1) school year. A director of schools or director of public charter school may request renewal of an endorsement exemption for an educator who demonstrates progress toward earning the relevant endorsement. An endorsement exemption may be renewed no more than two (2) times.

- (c) Educators may teach on an approved endorsement exemption for no more than a total of three (3) school years.
 - (d) Unless otherwise stipulated in paragraph (6) of this Rule, an endorsement exemption shall not be issued by the Commissioner to an individual to teach an elementary physical education class required under T.C.A. § 49-6-1021(e), a course in which an end of course examination is required, in accordance with T.C.A. § 49-6-6006, or a special education course in accordance with Federal laws.
- (9) Licensed educators enrolled in an additional endorsement program in special education offered by a State Board-approved educator preparation provider may add a provisional special education endorsement by:
- (a) Submitting a recommendation from the educator preparation provider verifying:
 - 1. Enrollment in a program of study for additional endorsement in the special education endorsement area; and
 - 2. An assurance that the educator will be assigned a mentor who is endorsed in the special education endorsement area.
 - (b) In order to transition from a provisional endorsement to a full endorsement, educators shall submit qualifying scores on all State Board-required assessments and successfully complete the program of study within three (3) years of receiving a provisional endorsement. The provisional endorsement shall be valid for three (3) years and shall not be renewed.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-106, 49-5-108, 49-5-403, 49-6-303, 49-5-5619, and 49-6-6006.
Administrative History: Original rule filed November 16, 1989; effective February 29, 1990. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed May 28, 1999; effective September 28, 1999. 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 filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. New rules filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019. Emergency rules filed July 9, 2021; effective through January 5, 2022. Emergency rules expired effective January 6, 2022, and the rules reverted to their previous statuses. Amendments filed December 2, 2021; effective March 2, 2022.

0520-02-03-.12 PERMITS.

- (1) After the director of schools or the director of a charter school notifies the director's local board of education or the governing body of the director's charter school, as applicable, that the LEA or charter school is unable to secure a qualified teacher with a valid license for the type and kind of school in which a vacancy exists, the director of schools or the director of a charter school may certify to the Commissioner that the LEA or charter school is unable to secure a qualified teacher with a valid license for the position in which a vacancy exists.
- (2) In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-5-106, upon the Commissioner's receipt of the certification, the Commissioner may grant a temporary permit to teach in the unfilled position to an individual who does not hold an active Tennessee educator license under the conditions set forth in this rule.
- (3) The LEA or charter school shall provide evidence of a targeted recruitment strategy for the vacant position.

- (4) The director of schools or charter school leader shall recommend the individual for a teaching permit.
- (5) The recommended individual shall hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university
- (6) If an individual indicates an affirmative answer on the personal affirmation section of the application for a permit, the individual shall show cause why the permit should be issued despite the individual's affirmative answers. The permit application of any individual who indicates an affirmative answer on the personal affirmation section of the application shall be sent to the State Board for review in accordance with State Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09 for a determination of whether the permit may be issued by the Commissioner.
- (7) If an individual teaching on a permit issued by the Commissioner is reported to the State Board by a Director as described in State Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09 and the misconduct, if substantiated, would warrant disciplinary action under State Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09, the State Board may direct the Commissioner to not to issue a subsequent permit to the individual upon expiration of the individual's current permit pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-5-106 and State Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09.
- (8) In reviewing a permit application for approval, the Commissioner may consider, but is not limited to, the following:
 - (a) The individual's previous work experience;
 - (b) The individual's postsecondary coursework and degrees held;
 - (c) The individual's relevant experience in the subject area where the individual is seeking to teach; and
 - (d) The individual's progress toward obtaining a Tennessee educator license.
- (9) Pursuant to Chapter 932 of the Public Acts of 2022, the Commissioner may re-issue a temporary permit to teach a course in which an end-of-course examination is required for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years if the individual served on a permit to teach a course in which an end-of-course examination was required in the 2021-22 school year.
- (10) Unless otherwise stipulated in paragraph nine (9) of this rule, individuals with a teaching permit shall not teach an elementary physical education class required under T.C.A. § 49-6-1021(e), a course in which a state-level end-of-course examination is required, in accordance with T.C.A. § 49-6-6006, or a special education course in accordance with Federal laws.
- (11) Each permit issued by the Commissioner shall be valid only until June 30 following the date of issuance.
- (12) An individual may be issued no more than three (3) permits. An individual shall meet the requirements set forth in this rule for each issuance of a permit.
- (13) A local board of education or governing body of a charter school may employ an individual holding a permit, but not holding a valid license, only for such period of time for which the local board of education or the governing body of the charter school is unable to secure a qualified teacher with a valid license for the type and kind of school. The permit issued to an unlicensed individual is only valid for the school and LEA identified in the permit application submitted to the Department and shall not be used for any other purpose.

- (14) If an individual has had a permit application denied by the Commissioner pursuant to paragraph six (6) or seven (7) of this rule, the individual must indicate such on any future application for an educator license or permit in Tennessee.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-106, 49-5-108, and 49-5-403. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed November 16, 1989; effective February 29, 1990. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed May 28, 1999; effective September 28, 1999. 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 filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. New rules filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019. Amendments filed November 30, 2020; effective February 28, 2021. Amendments filed August 5, 2021; effective November 3, 2021.

0520-02-03-.13 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LIMITED LICENSE.

- (1) An individual may apply to the Department for a Limited License to continue teaching the course or subject area taught pursuant to the teacher's most recently issued permit, if the teacher meets the following requirements for issuance of a Limited License by the Department:
- (a) Was issued a valid second or third temporary teaching permit pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-5-106 and State Board Permits Rule 0520-02-03-.12 in the 2021-2022 school year or thereafter;
 - (b) Earned a level of overall effectiveness score of "above expectations" or "significantly above expectations" on the teacher's most recent evaluation pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-1-302;
 - (c) Provides a recommendation from the director of schools or from the director of the public charter school, at which the teacher taught on a permit, recommending that the teacher receive a Limited License with the endorsement(s) issued pursuant to the most recently issued permit; and
 - (d) Agrees, in writing, to begin a pathway approved by the State Board for transitioning from a Limited License to a Practitioner license.
- (2) The limited license is valid for two (2) school years and is not renewable.
- (3) A Limited License shall not be issued to an individual to teach an elementary physical education class required under T.C.A. § 49-6-1021, a course for which an end-of-course examination is required, or a special education course.
- (4) Educators seeking to advance from the limited license to the practitioner license shall meet the following requirements:
- (a) Submits a recommendation from a State Board approved educator preparation program or a provider approved by the State Board and the Department, certifying that the educator has completed coursework focused on foundational pedagogical skills and foundational literacy skills in accordance with the Tennessee Literacy Success Act. A State Board approved educator preparation provider or a provider approved by the State Board and the Department shall not require an educator to complete more than six (6) credit hours to meet this requirement.
 - (b) Receives support from a highly effective clinical mentor in accordance with the requirements for clinical mentors set forth in State Board Clinical Experiences Rule 0520-02-04-.10; and

- (c) Submits qualifying scores on all required content assessments as defined in the State Board Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-106, and 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 filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. New rules filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019.

0520-02-03-.14 EMERGENCY TEACHER LICENSE.

- (1) A Tennessee emergency teacher license may be issued to educators who hold a valid license from a state other than Tennessee and who were displaced under one of the following circumstances:
 - (a) The Governor declares a state of emergency or declares a disaster under T.C.A. § 58-2-107, and the Commissioner of Education determines the necessity of conferring an emergency teacher license to displaced persons, or
 - (b) A federal state of emergency is declared anywhere in the United States, and the Commissioner of Education determines the necessity of conferring an emergency teacher license to displaced persons.
- (2) An emergency teacher license shall only be valid for one (1) school year.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-108, 49-5-108, and 49-5-403. **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 filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016. New rules filed August 16, 2019; effective November 14, 2019.

0520-02-03-.15 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POINTS.

- (1) Professional Development Points (PDPs) ensure continuous improvement for educators and are required for licensure advancement and renewal.
- (2) Educators shall earn a total of thirty (30) PDPs in order to advance a practitioner license to a professional license.
- (3) Educators shall earn a total of sixty (60) PDPs in order to renew a professional license.
- (4) PDPs are earned through the successful completion of Department-approved professional development activities as indicated by SBE Educator Licensure Policy 5.502.
- (5) In order to qualify for PDPs, professional development activities shall be related to improving educator effectiveness. Activities not related to improving educator effectiveness do not qualify for PDPs.
- (6) PDPs shall be earned during the validity period of the educator's license.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-5-106, 49-5-108 and 49-5-403. **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. Emergency rules filed April 16, 2020; effective through October 13, 2020. New rule filed April 16, 2020; effective July 15, 2020. Emergency rule filed April 27, 2021; effective through October 24, 2021. Emergency rule expired effective October 25, 2021, and the rule reverted to its previous status.

0520-02-03-.16 THROUGH 0520-02-03-.20 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302. **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 filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016.

0520-02-03-.21 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed November 16, 1989; effective February 28, 1990. Amendment filed November 30, 1990; effective February 27, 1991. Repeal and new rule filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed May 12, 1992; effective August 29, 1992. Amendment filed August 10, 1993; effective December 29, 1993. Amendment filed November 22, 1993; effective March 30, 1994. Amendment filed January 21, 1994; effective May 31, 1994. Amendment filed May 31, 1996; effective September 27, 1996. Amendment filed January 14, 1997; effective May 30, 1997. Amendment filed April 27, 1998; effective August 28, 1998. Amendment filed November 18, 1999; effective March 30, 1999. Amendments filed May 28, 1999; effective September 28, 1999. Amendment filed November 30, 1999; effective March 29, 2000. Amendment filed March 29, 2000; effective July 28, 2000. Amendment filed July 31, 2000; effective November 28, 2000. Amendment filed December 19, 2002; effective April 30, 2003. Amendment filed June 30, 2003; effective October 28, 2003. Repeal and new rule filed March 1, 2005; effective July 29, 2005. Repeal and new rule filed April 17, 2006; effective August 28, 2006. Amendment filed March 23, 2007; effective July 27, 2007. Amendment filed September 6, 2013; effective February 28, 2014. 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 filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016.

0520-02-03-.22 THROUGH 0520-02-03-.94 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302. **Administrative History:** (For history prior to June, 1992, see pages iii-ix). Repeal filed March 16, 1992; effective June 29, 1992. Amendment filed May 28, 1999; effective September 28, 1999. Repeal filed December 18, 2014; effective March 18, 2015. A stay of the rule was filed January 28, 2015; new effective date June 1, 2015. Emergency rules filed August 27, 2015; effective through February 23, 2016. Repeal filed October 27, 2015; effective January 25, 2016.

**RULES
OF
THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**CHAPTER 0520-01-03
ACADEMIC AND INSTRUCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

0520-01-03-.06 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.

(1) Students in Tennessee may earn the following diploma options:

- (a) Traditional high school diploma;
- (b) Special education high school diploma;
- (c) Occupational high school diploma; or
- (d) Alternate academic high school diploma.

(2) In order to earn a traditional high school diploma, a student shall:

(a) Earn the following twenty-two (22) minimum credits required for graduation:

English language arts	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Science	3 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
Physical Education and Wellness	1.5 credits
Personal Finance	0.5 credit
Elective Focus	3 credits
World Language	2 credits
Fine Arts	1 credit

(b) Beginning with students who enroll in ninth (9th) grade in the 2024-25 school year or any subsequent school year, earn at least one (1) credit of computer science in high school;

- 1. Students may fulfill this requirement by substituting computer science for the student's fourth credit of mathematics, third credit of science, or an elective focus credit. Students may only use computer science as a substitution to fulfill one (1) credit in mathematics, or one (1) credit in science, or one (1) or more elective focus credits required for a traditional high school diploma.
- 2. Students who transfer from another state or country, or from a non-public school to a Tennessee high school during their 12th grade year are exempt from this requirement.

(c) Participate in the ACT, SAT, or other eleventh (11th) grade postsecondary readiness assessment as determined by the Commissioner of education; and

(d) Have a satisfactory record of attendance and discipline;

- (3) Beginning in the 2024-25 school year, each public high school shall offer its students access to at least one (1) credit of computer science education.
- (4) To earn a traditional high school diploma, students with disabilities must earn the prescribed twenty-two (22)-credit minimum. Students with disabilities shall be included in general education classes to the degree possible and with appropriate support and accommodations.
- (5) A special education diploma may be awarded at the end of the fourth (4th) year of high school to students with disabilities who:
 - (a) Have not met the requirements for a traditional high school diploma;
 - (b) Have satisfactorily completed an IEP; and
 - (c) Have satisfactory records of attendance and conduct.
- (6) Students who obtain the special education diploma may continue to work toward a traditional high school diploma through the end of the school year in which they turn twenty-two (22) years old.
- (7) An occupational diploma may be awarded at the end of the fourth (4th) year of high school to students with disabilities who:
 - (a) Have not met the requirements for a traditional high school diploma;
 - (b) Have satisfactorily completed an IEP;
 - (c) Have satisfactory records of attendance and conduct;
 - (d) Have completed the occupational diploma Skills, Knowledge, and Experience Mastery Assessment (SKEMA) created by the Department of Education; and
 - (e) Have completed two (2) years of paid or non-paid work experience.
- (8) The determination that an occupational diploma is the goal for a student with a disability shall be made at the conclusion of the student's tenth (10th) grade year or two (2) academic years prior to the expected graduation date. Students who obtain the occupational diploma may continue to work towards the traditional high school diploma through the end of the school year in which they turn twenty-two (22) years old.
- (9) An alternate academic diploma may be awarded to students with significant cognitive disabilities at the end of their fourth (4th) year of high school who have:
 - (a) Participated in the high school alternate assessments;
 - (b) Earned the prescribed twenty-two (22) credit minimum, either through the state-approved standards or through alternate academic diploma modified course requirements approved by the State Board;
 - (c) Received special education services or supports and made satisfactory progress on an IEP;
 - (d) Satisfactory records of attendance and conduct; and

- (e) Completed a transition assessment(s) that measures, at a minimum, preparedness for postsecondary education and training; employment; independent living; and community involvement.
- (10) A student who earns an alternate academic diploma shall continue to be eligible for special education services under IDEA until he or she receives a traditional high school diploma or through the school year in which the student turns twenty-two (22).
 - (11) The required four (4) credits of English shall include English I, English II, English III, and English IV.
 - (12) Three (3) of the required (4) credits of mathematics shall include Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry, or the equivalent Integrated Math I, II, and III. The fourth credit shall be in another mathematics course beyond Algebra I or, Integrated Math I which may include, but is not limited to, Computer Science as set forth in Paragraph (2)(b) of this Rule.
 - (a) Students shall be enrolled in a mathematics course or courses that are approved course substitutions that count as meeting this requirement each year of high school.
 - (b) Students who complete any of the required math credits prior to the ninth (9th) grade shall receive graduation credit for that coursework; however, those students are still required to enroll in math during each high school year.
 - (c) Students with a qualifying disability who have deficits in mathematics as documented in the individualized education program (IEP) shall be required to achieve at least Algebra I and Geometry (or the equivalent Integrated Math I and Integrated Math II). The required number of credits in math will be achieved through strategies such as, but not limited to, increased time, appropriate methodologies, and accommodations as determined by the IEP team.
 - (13) The three (3) credits of science shall include Biology, Chemistry or Physics, and a third lab science which may include, but is not limited to, Computer Science as set forth in Paragraph (2)(b) of this Rule.
 - (a) Students with a qualifying disability as documented in the IEP shall be required to achieve at least Biology I and two (2) other lab science credits. The required number of credits in science will be achieved through strategies such as, but not limited to, increased time, appropriate methodologies, and accommodations as determined by the IEP team.
 - (14) The three (3) credits of social studies shall include United States History and Geography, World History and Geography, Economics, and United States Government and Civics.
 - (15) Students must earn one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) credit in Personal Finance. Three (3) years of JROTC may be substituted for one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) credit of Personal Finance if the JROTC instructor attends the Personal Finance training conducted by the Department.
 - (16) The two (2) world language credits must be earned in the same world language.
 - (17) The three (3) elective focus credits may be earned in CTE, science and math, humanities, fine arts, AP/IB, computer science, or other areas designed to prepare students for the workforce and postsecondary approved by the local board of education.
 - (a) Students completing a CTE elective focus must complete three (3) credits in the same CTE career cluster or state-approved program of study.

- (b) The credit requirement for fine arts or world language may be waived by the director of schools for students, under certain circumstances, to expand and enhance the elective focus. Prior to waiver of the requirement for fine arts or world language, the student's parent or guardian must agree to the waiver in writing.
 - (c) The director of schools may waive the third (3rd) credit requirement of the elective focus during a student's 12th grade year if the completion of the third (3rd) elective focus credit would prevent or delay graduation. This waiver option includes those students who transfer during the 11th or 12th grade year to a Tennessee high school from a school in another state or country, or from a non-public school.
- (18) All full-time students in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) shall be enrolled each semester in subjects that produce a minimum of five (5) units of credit for graduation per year. Students with hardships and gifted students may appeal this requirement to the director of schools and then to the local board of education.
 - (19) Every local board of education shall develop a policy regarding the minimum and maximum units in any course or subject area for which a student may earn credit toward graduation.
 - (20) A public high school student may complete an early high school graduation program through the Move on When Ready Program and be eligible for unconditional entry into a public two (2)-year institution of higher education or conditional entry into a public four (4)-year institution of higher education in accordance with T.C.A. §§ 49-6-8101 - 49-6-8106 and the State Board's High School Policy 2.103. A student who does not participate in the Move on When Ready Program may still graduate earlier than the end of their 12th grade year of high school, provided the student meets all graduation requirements for a traditional high school diploma set forth in this rule and the State Board's High School Policy 2.103, and any additional requirements for early graduation set by the LEA.
 - (21) A variety of honors and distinctions may be awarded to graduating students meeting state or locally specified criteria. Each local school board shall develop a policy prescribing how students meeting honors and distinctions requirements will be noted and recognized.
 - (22) LEAs may design student recognition programs that allow students to graduate with honors if they have met the graduation requirements and have attained an overall grade point average (GPA) of at least a 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale. LEAs may set a higher GPA at their discretion. LEAs may specify additional requirements, such as requiring students to demonstrate performance of distinction in one (1) or more areas.
 - (23) Students who score at or above all the subject area readiness benchmarks on the ACT or equivalent score on the SAT shall graduate with "state honors".
 - (24) Students shall be recognized as graduating with "district distinction" if they have met the graduation requirements for their diploma type, have obtained an overall GPA of at least a 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale, and have earned an industry credential that was on the list promoted by the Department of Education at the time the student earned it.
 - (25) A student who earns a composite score of nineteen (19) or higher on the ACT, or an equivalent score on the SAT, and earns a capstone industry credential as promoted by the Department of Education, shall be recognized as a "Tennessee Tri-Star Scholar" upon graduation from high school. A student who fulfills the requirements of the Tennessee work ethic distinction program shall also be recognized as a Tennessee Tri-Star Scholar upon graduation from high school. The public high school shall recognize the student's achievement at the graduation ceremony by placing an appropriate designation on the student's diploma,

- or other credential, or by providing a ribbon or cord to be worn with graduation regalia. The student shall be noted as a Tennessee Tri-Star Scholar in the school's graduation program.
- (26) Students will be recognized as graduating with “state distinction” by attaining a B or better grade point average and completing one (1) of the following:
- (a) Earning an industry credential that was on the list promoted by the Department of Education at the time the student earned it;
 - (b) Participating in at least one (1) of the Governor’s Schools;
 - (c) Participating in one (1) of the state’s All State musical organizations;
 - (d) Earning statewide recognition or award at a skill- or knowledge-based state tournament, convention, or competition hosted by a statewide student organization, and/or qualifying for national recognition by a national student organization;
 - (e) Being selected as a National Merit Finalist or Semi-Finalist;
 - (f) Attaining a score of thirty-one (31) or higher composite score on the ACT or SAT equivalent;
 - (g) Attaining a score of three (3) or higher on at least two (2) advanced placement exams;
 - (h) Successfully completing the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme; or
 - (i) Earning twelve (12) or more semester hours of postsecondary credit.
- (27) LEAs shall recognize students who have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one (1) or more languages in addition to English with a “Seal of Biliteracy”. Students receiving this recognition shall meet the following criteria:
- (a) Complete all English language arts (ELA) requirements for graduation with an overall grade point average of 3.0 or higher in those classes;
 - (b) Demonstrate English proficiency through one (1) of the following:
 1. Score at the on-track or mastered level on each ELA end-of-course assessment taken;
 2. Score three (3) or higher on an Advanced Placement English Language or English Literature exam; B1 or higher on a Cambridge International English exam; or four (4) or higher on an International Baccalaureate English exam;
 3. Score 22 or higher on the ACT Reading subtest or 480 or higher on the SAT evidence-based reading and writing subtest; or
 4. Score 4.5 or higher on the WIDA Access, if the student is an English learner; and
 - (c) Demonstrate proficiency in a world language through one (1) of the following:
 1. Score Intermediate-Mid or higher in all three (3) communication modes (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) on a world language proficiency assessment recognized by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL);

2. Score three (3) or higher on an Advanced Placement world language exam; B1 or higher on a Cambridge International world language exam; or four (4) or higher on an International Baccalaureate world language exam;
 3. Score at the Intermediate level or higher on the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI: ASL);
 4. Pass a foreign government's approved non-English language exam, or score at a level comparable to Intermediate-mid or higher on the ACTFL proficiency scale on another country's secondary level standardized exam in the country's non- English native language; or
 5. Score at a level comparable to Intermediate-Mid or higher on the ACTFL proficiency scale on an LEA developed alternate model. Alternate models may only be used if the identified world language does not have an associated nationally recognized assessment and must address communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities.
- (d) Each school shall document and track students' progress toward the Seal of Biliteracy.
- (e) Each local board shall affix an appropriate insignia to the diploma of the qualifying student indicating that the student has been awarded a Tennessee Seal of Biliteracy.
- (28) Students who voluntarily complete at least ten (10) hours of community service each semester the student is in attendance at a public high school shall be recognized at their graduation ceremony.
- (29) Students graduating with a gold or platinum medal on National Career Readiness Certificate (WorkKeys) shall be recognized at their graduation ceremony.
- (30) Students graduating with a district-developed work ethic distinction shall be recognized at their graduation ceremony.
- (31) Students who are interested in pursuing a career in a high-need, high-skill industry after graduation may earn an "Industry 4.0 diploma distinction".
- (a) Each public high school, including public charter high schools, shall notify ninth (9th) grade and tenth (10th) grade students enrolled in the high school of the opportunity to pursue an Industry 4.0 diploma distinction no later than ten (10) days after the first day of each semester of the school year.
 - (b) A high school student interested in receiving an Industry 4.0 diploma distinction shall before the end of their tenth (10th) grade year:
 1. Notify the student's counselor or school principal of the student's intent to pursue an Industry 4.0 diploma distinction;
 2. Provide the student's counselor or school principal with documentation signed by the student's parent or legal guardian indicating that the student's parent or legal guardian is aware of the requirements for the parent's or legal guardian's student to obtain an Industry 4.0 diploma distinction and consenting to the student's participation;
 3. Register with a regional American Job Center or other career counseling or community partner approved by the student's school; and.

4. Enroll in at least one (1) work-based learning or dual enrollment course for the student's eleventh (11th) grade year.
- (c) Beginning in the student's eleventh (11th) grade year, a student pursuing an Industry 4.0 diploma distinction shall meet, no less than once per month, with a career coach who has been approved to provide career coaching services by the student's school. The career coach must:
1. Be an American Job Center career coach, a career coach from a career counseling or community partner approved by the United States Department of Labor's regional office for the state of Tennessee, or a licensed school counselor or an educator who holds a work-based learning certificate provided by the Department of Education; and
 2. Meet, no less than once per month during the school year, with students assigned to the career coach by the student's school principal to assist students in:
 - i. Developing the personal attributes required for success in the workforce, which include, but are not limited to, time management, networking, communication, teamwork, creative thinking, and conflict resolution;
 - ii. Applying for dual enrollment grants or other available financial aid opportunities, including, but not limited to, grants and scholarships administered by the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation;
 - iii. Identifying the best combination of dual enrollment, work-based learning, and internship opportunities available to the student; and
 - iv. Preparing for standardized assessments such as the ACT.
- (d) Before the end of the student's eleventh (11th) grade year, a student pursuing an Industry 4.0 diploma distinction shall enroll in work-based learning or dual enrollment courses for the student's twelfth (12th) grade year.
- (e) A student receiving an Industry 4.0 diploma distinction shall successfully complete all coursework required for graduation for their diploma type.
- (f) A student pursuing an Industry 4.0 diploma distinction may earn at least one (1) science credit and at least one (1) math credit through course substitutions approved by the State Board, including, but not limited to, dual enrollment and work-based learning courses that are aligned to a student's chosen career path. Students may only use approved course substitutions to fulfill their third credit of science or fourth credit of math.
- (g) A student receiving an Industry 4.0 diploma distinction shall earn nine (9) credits of dual enrollment or work-based learning in grades nine (9) through twelve (12), which may be satisfied by the student's successful completion of dual enrollment coursework, work-based learning experiences, on-the-job training, or other mentorships or structured educational experiences that allow the student to apply the student's knowledge and skills in a work environment to develop an understanding of workplace expectations.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 49-1-302, 49-6-101, 49-6-3001(c), 49-6-3005, 49-6-6001, 49-6-8301 et seq. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified June 10, 1974. Amendment filed July 18, 1974; effective August 17, 1974. Amendment filed June 30, 1975; effective July 30, 1975. Amendment filed July 15, 1976; effective August 16, 1976. Amendment filed February 28, 1978; effective March 30, 1978. Amendment filed January 9, 1979; effective

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I certify that the information included in this filing is an accurate and complete representation of the intent and scope of rulemaking proposed by the agency.

Date: 07/26/22

Signature: 

Name of Officer: Angela C. Sanders

Title of Officer: General Counsel

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