
Educator Licensure Policy 5.502

The Background:

The Educator Licensure Policy outlines requirements related to the issuance, renewal, and advancement of educator licenses in Tennessee.

Chapter 270 of the Public Acts of 2017 requires the State Board of Education to approve American Sign Language (ASL) as a world language required for graduation. This item adds ASL to the list of active endorsements available in Tennessee (page 18).

While ASL will now satisfy the foreign language requirement for graduation, not all postsecondary institutions accept ASL as a world language for entrance criteria purposes.

Since first reading, the following revisions have been made:

- Page 1 – Added clarifying paragraph on the purpose of the educator licensure policy.
- Page 3 – Created a new section for advancement and renewal of a license.
- Page 3 – Clarified that charter school leaders may recommend teachers in their charter school for advancement and renewal of an educator license.
- Page 20 – Added Computer Science K-12 to the list of active endorsements.
- Deleted Appendix C, which was only valid through December 31, 2017.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

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

The Recommendation:

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