

4 AAC 12 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 12.388. World language expert limited teacher certificate. (a) The department will issue a limited world language certificate (Type W limited) with an endorsement in the world language of expertise if the commissioner determines that

(1) the applicant has demonstrated world language expertise and has the educational background described in (b) or (e) of this section;

(2) the school board for the district in which the applicant will be employed, through its superintendent, has requested issuance of a world language limited teacher certificate for the applicant under this section;

(3) the school board for the district in which the applicant will be employed provides an experienced mentor for at least the first two years of the applicant's employment with the school district; the mentor must hold or have held the position of a world language teacher in a school district in this state under a valid certificate;

(4) the applicant has successfully passed the criminal history background check in the same manner as a teacher certified under AS 14.20.020 and 4 AAC 12.300;

(5) the applicant submits to the department

(A) one completed fingerprint card, with fingerprinting performed by a law enforcement agency or a person who has been trained in recording fingerprints, for separate submittal to the Department of Public

Safety and the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the department will accept a name-based criminal history background check on an applicant from the agency performing the background check if the requirements of AS 14.20.020(j) are met;

(B) the fee for the criminal history background check in the amount charged by the Department of Public Safety as set out in 13 AAC 68.900; and

(C) the fee for the issuance of a teacher certificate as established in 4 AAC 12.300(g); and

(6) the applicant has met the requirements of 4 AAC 12.397(a).

(b) To demonstrate the competency required under (a) of this section for a one year initial certificate, the applicant must

(1) hold at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education accredited by a recognized regional accrediting association;

(2) have met or exceeded the required scores on the associate world language content examination, as described in 4 AAC 12.407 and met or exceeded the required scores on the math subtest of one of the competency examination required under 4 AAC 12.310; and

(3) currently be enrolled in an approved post-baccalaureate teacher education program at a regionally accredited institution meeting the requirements of AS 14.20.020(b) that provides for completion of the regular teacher certificate education

requirements within two years after receipt of a world language expert limited initial teacher certificate under this section; or have completed an approved teacher education program at a regionally accredited institution.

(c) The department may extend the one-year limited world language certificate issued under (b) of this section for an additional year, if the applicant demonstrates that the applicant shows substantial progress toward completion of the teacher education preparation program described in (b) of this section

(d) The department may approve an additional one-year extension of the extended certificate issued under (c) of this section, if the applicant has completed three semester hours of Alaska studies and three semester hours in multicultural education or cross-cultural communications as described in AS 14.20.020(h) and the teacher education preparation program described in (b) of this section.

(e) To demonstrate the competency required under (a) of this section for a five year renewable certificate, the applicant must

(1) hold at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education accredited by a recognized regional accrediting association;

(2) have met or exceeded the required scores on the associate world language content examination, as described in 4 AAC 12.407 and met or exceeded the required scores on the math subtest of one of the competency examination required under 4 AAC 12.310; and

(3) have completed an approved teacher education program at a regionally accredited institution;

(4) have completed three semester hours of Alaska studies and three semester hours in multicultural education or cross-cultural communications as described in AS 14.20.020(h); and

(5) have two years of employment as a teacher while holding a valid teaching certificate issued by a state; and

(6) have earned at least six semester hours of college credit within the five years immediately preceding application.

(f) A public school district shall only employ a world language expert teacher to teach subject areas the individual has earned endorsements, as described in 4 AAC 12.395 and 4 AAC 12.396, or in the subject area of the teacher preparation program in which the teacher is enrolled. A world language expert teacher may only provide instruction in the language of expertise.

(g) Except for a certificate issued under (e) of this section, the department will not issue to an applicant more than once a certificate or extension of a certificate available under this section.

(h) The department shall renew the world language limited certificate issued under (e) of this section if the applicant satisfies the requirements described in 4 AAC 12.405.

(i) In this section, "world language expert teacher" is an individual who holds a valid world language limited teacher certificate.

(j) In this section, "world language" means any language, excluding the English language that can be tested by an appropriate content area examination listed or referenced under 4 AAC 12.407.

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