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**OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
ALASKA**

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Janell Andrews
Department of Education and Early Development

FROM: April Simpson, Office of the Lieutenant Governor 
465.4081

DATE: September 26, 2022

RE: Filed Permanent Regulations: Department of Education and Early Development
Department of Education and Early Development regulations re: Teacher Certification
(4 AAC 12)

Attorney General File:	2021200589
Regulation Filed:	9/26/2022
Effective Date:	10/26/2022
Print:	244, January 2023

cc with enclosures: Colleen Bailey, Department of Law
Judy Herndon, LexisNexis

ORDER CERTIFYING THE CHANGES TO
REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

The attached 28 pages of regulations, dealing with amendments to 4 AAC 12 Teacher Certification is certified to be a correct copy of the regulation changes that the State Board of Education and Early Development adopted at its September 7, 2022, meeting, under the authority of AS 14.07.010, AS 14.07.020, and AS 14.07.060, and after compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), specifically including notice under AS 44.62.190 and 44.62.200 and opportunity for public comment under AS 44.62.210.

This action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

On the record, in considering public comments, the State Board of Education and Early Development paid special attention to the cost to private persons of the regulatory action being taken.

The regulation changes described in this order take effect on the 30th day after they have been filed by the lieutenant governor, as provided in AS 44.62.180.

Date: 9/12/2022

Lacey Sanders
Lacey Sanders, Deputy Commissioner
Department of Education and Early Development

April Simpson for

FILING CERTIFICATION

I, Kevin Meyer, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Alaska, certify that on

September 26, 2022 at 2:33 p.m., I filed the attached regulations according to the provisions of AS 44.62.040 - 44.62.120.

for April Simpson
Lieutenant Governor Kevin Meyer

Effective: October 26, 2022.

Register: 244, January 2023 .

FOR DELEGATION OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY

**I, KEVIN MEYER, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA,
designate the following state employees to perform the Administrative Procedures Act
filing functions of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor:**

**Josh Applebee, Chief of Staff
Kady Levale, Notary Administrator
April Simpson, Regulations and Initiatives Specialist**

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have
signed and affixed the Seal of the State of
Alaska, in Juneau, on December 11th,
2018.**




.....

**KEVIN MEYER
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

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4 AAC 04.220(c) is amended to read:

(c) Except as provided in (d) of this section, and in addition to the requirements of (b) of this section, each district shall ensure that a paraprofessional has met at least one of the following requirements:

(1) completed at least two years, or 48 semester hours or equivalent, of study at a regionally or nationally accredited institution of higher education;

(2) obtained an associate's or higher degree at a regionally or nationally accredited institution of higher education; or

(3) achieved [EITHER]

(A) a score of at least 459 on the ParaPro Assessment, published by the Educational Testing Service; [OR]

(B) the following minimum scores on the Higher Education Learning Profile, published by Educational Resources Incorporated:

(i) essential math, 54 percent;

(ii) [ii] reading comprehension, 41 percent; and

(iii) written expression, 55 percent;

(C) the following minimum scores on the Paraeducator Online Training and Assessments by Master Teacher, Inc.:

(i) Assessment 1 Reading, Writing, and Math: Instructional Support, 65 percent; and

(ii) Assessment 2 Reading, Writing, and Math, 70 percent;

(D) the following minimum levels on the WorkKeys by ACT, Inc.:

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(i) Workplace Documents, level 4;

(ii) Applied Math, level 4; and

(iii) Graphic Literacy, level 3; or

(E) qualifying competency examination scores under 4 AAC 12.310.

(Eff. 6/10/2004, Register 170; am 5/18/2006, Register 178; am 2/28/2010, Register 193; am 10/20/2018, Register 228; am 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.50.080

Editor's note: Information about [THE ALASKA STATE PARAPROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS, ADOPTED BY REFERENCE IN 4 AAC 04.220, AND INFORMATION ON] the ParaPro Assessment, published by Educational Testing Service, may be obtained at <https://www.ets.org/parapro>; about Paraeducator Online Training and Assessments by Master Teacher, Inc., at <https://www.masterteacher.com/paraeducator-online-training>; about WorkKeys by ACT, Inc., at <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/workkeys-for-job-seekers/assessments.html>; or by writing to the Department of Education and Early Development, 801 W. 10th Street, Suite 200, P.O. Box 110500, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500.

4 AAC 12.300(b) is amended to read:

(b) A teacher applying for a teacher certificate must submit

(1) a **complete** [COMPLETED] application [; THE APPLICATION MUST BE] signed **by the applicant** [AND NOTARIZED];

(2) official transcripts of all college work necessary for the required degree or approved program;

(3) the certificate fee;

(4) 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 a person from the agency performing the background check if the requirements of AS 14.20.020(j) are met; and

(5) a copy of a valid picture identification issued by a state or federal agency

[THE OFFICIAL SCORES DEMONSTRATING THAT THE APPLICANT MEETS OR EXCEEDS THE QUALIFYING SCORES FOR THE STATE ON ONE OF THE COMPETENCY EXAMINATIONS DESIGNATED IN 4 AAC 12.310].

4 AAC 12.300(l) is amended to read:

(l) In place of the information required of an applicant by (b)(4) of this section, the department will accept the results of a successful criminal history background check of the applicant conducted under 4 AAC 30.020(b) if the applicant submits an application to the department under (b) of this section not later than

(1) 12 months [60 DAYS] after the applicant's last day of student teaching; or
[AND]

(2) 24 [18] months after the date of the department's notification that the applicant passed the criminal history background check conducted under 4 AAC 30.020(b). (Eff.

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9/29/2005, Register 175; am 9/30/2005, Register 175; am 12/20/2005, Register 176; am
9/20/2006, Register 179; am 6/7/2015, Register 214; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am
10/20/2018, Register 228; am 10 / 20 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020 AS 14.20.030
AS 14.20.010

4 AAC 12.305(a) is amended to read:

(a) Except as provided in AS 14.20, the department will issue an initial teacher certificate, valid for up to **five** [THREE] years **from the issue date or for a period described** under (d) of this section, to an applicant who

(1) has satisfied a baccalaureate degree requirement under AS 14.20;

(2) for purposes of competency examination requirements under AS 14.20.020 or 14.20.022, meets or exceeds the qualifying scores for this state on one of the competency examinations designated in 4 AAC 12.310;

(3) has met or will meet within two years the requirements of AS 14.20.020(h);

(4) meets the certification requirements of AS 14.20.015, 14.20.017, 14.20.020, or 14.20.022;

(5) if the applicant seeks to qualify for certification under AS 14.20.020 or 14.20.022, provides

(A) a recommendation or proof of program enrollment from an approved preparation program accepted under 4 AAC 12.307(a); and

(B) for each endorsement area listed on the recommendation or proof of

program enrollment provided under (A) of this paragraph, a score that meets or exceeds the required score on a content area examination for any endorsement area designated in 4 AAC 12.407 or each equivalent content area examination required by a certifying state agency for an endorsement on a comparable certificate held by the applicant;

(6) if the applicant has completed an approved program accepted under 4 AAC 12.307(a)(2), provides evidence of a comparable certificate issued by the certifying state agency with jurisdiction over the program or an assurance by the certifying state agency or preparing institution that all requirements, including testing required by the jurisdiction, have been satisfied by the applicant and that the applicant is eligible to gain the comparable certification in the state where the preparing institution is located; [AND]

(7) [IF THE APPLICANT SEEKS TO QUALIFY FOR CERTIFICATION UNDER AS 14.20.020,] has met the requirements of 4 AAC 12.397(a); **and**

(8) satisfies the requirements for an initial teacher certificate under AS 14.20.020.

4 AAC 12.305(b) is amended to read:

(b) The department will issue a professional teacher certificate, valid for five years to an applicant who has

- (1) met the requirements of (a) of this section for an initial teacher certificate;
- (2) passed

(A) the competency examination by achieving qualifying scores as described in (a)(2) of this section, if under AS 14.20.015, 14.20.017, or 14.20.022 the applicant had not yet met competency examination requirements as of the date of the initial teacher certificate; and

(B) a content area examination for any requested endorsement area designated in 4 AAC 12.407 by meeting or exceeding the required score, or each equivalent content area examination required by a certifying state agency for a comparable endorsement held by the applicant;

(3) completed three semester hours in Alaska studies and three semester hours in multicultural education or cross cultural communications;

(4) completed a teacher education program, or an alternate teacher preparation program accepted by the commissioner under 4 AAC 12.307 or (e) of this section, and from which the applicant has obtained a recommendation for certification;

(5) completed any academic or other training that the department designated, at the time of application, as necessary for professional development, based on student achievement data;

(6) **within the five years immediately preceding application,** earned at least

(A) six semester hours of college credit;

(B) 90 hours of continuing education units; or

(C) equivalent microcredentials

(i) aligned with one of the statewide goals adopted by the board under AS 14.07.165;

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(ii) approved by the department; and

(iii) based on a completed application form submitted to the department by a district or an educational organization [WITHIN THE FIVE YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING APPLICATION];

(7) had at least two years of employment as a teacher while holding a valid teacher certificate issued by a state **with an evaluation under the state's evaluation system indicating the applicant's performance is proficient or exemplary on the state's standards for teachers**; and

(8) met the requirements of 4 AAC 12.397(a).

4 AAC 12.305(c) is amended to read:

(c) The department will issue a master teacher certificate, valid for **five** [10] years, to an applicant who has met

(1) the requirements of (a) and (b) of this section for a professional teacher certificate;

(2) one of the following requirements:

(A) national board certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards; **or**

(B) master certification from a recognized national certification program as approved by the department; and

(3) the requirements of 4 AAC 12.397(a).

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4 AAC 12.305(d) is amended to read:

(d) An initial teacher certificate is valid for five [THREE] years, or for the period set in AS 14.20.015, 14.20.017, 14.20.020(h), or 14.20.022 if the initial teacher certificate is issued under one of those provisions. [HOWEVER, IF THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER RECEIVED INITIAL CERTIFICATION FOR LESS THAN THREE YEARS UNDER AS 14.20.015, 14.20.020(h), OR 14.20.022, COMPLIES WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF AS 14.20.015, 14.20.017, 14.20.020(h), OR 14.20.022, AND MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF (a) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONSIDER THE INITIAL TEACHER CERTIFICATE VALID FOR THREE YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THE CERTIFICATE.]

4 AAC 12.305(g) is amended to read:

(g) A teacher who has not met the qualifications for a professional teacher certificate under (b) of this section when the teacher's initial teacher certificate issued under AS 14.20.020 expires under (d) of this section may apply for renewal of the initial teacher certificate [NO LONGER BE EMPLOYED AS A TEACHER, EXCEPT THAT A PERSON WHO HAS NOT MET THE EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT OF (b)(7) OF THIS SECTION MAY REAPPLY FOR AN INITIAL CERTIFICATE].

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 9/30/2005, Register 175; am 8/15/2008, Register 187; am 10/31/2008, Register 188; am 9/17/2011, Register 199; am 9/7/2012, Register 203; am 6/7/2014, Register 210; am 6/24/2014, Register 210; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am 2/5/2017, Register 221; am 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020

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4 AAC 12.308(a) is amended to read:

(a) A regionally accredited institution of higher education or a nationally accredited institution of higher education if approved by the commissioner under AS 14.20.020(b) in this state may apply to the board for approval of the following educator preparation programs:

- (1) a teacher preparation program;
- (2) a special education teacher preparation program;
- (3) an education administrator preparation program; the program may include a specialization for principal or superintendent;
- (4) a special education administrator preparation program;
- (5) a special services preparation program in school psychology, school counseling, school social work, or school library science.

(Eff. 9/7/2012, Register 203; am 12/27/2012, Register 204; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am

10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority:	AS 14.07.060	AS 14.20.020	AS 14.20.620
	AS 14.20.010	AS 14.20.022	AS 14.20.630

4 AAC 12.330(a) is amended to read:

(a) A person employed by or on behalf of a school district to teach special education to a child with a disability must possess a teacher certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.305 or a special education alternate program certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.340 and must obtain a special education endorsement under this section, based upon completion of a teacher training program in special education accepted by the commissioner under 4 AAC 12.307, completion of [OR] an

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alternate program accepted by the commissioner under 4 AAC 12.307, or by meeting the requirements for a special education alternate program certificate under 4 AAC 12.340.

4 AAC 12.330(c) is repealed:

(c) Repealed 10 / 26 / 2022.

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 9/7/2012, Register 201; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.017 AS 14.20.025
AS 14.20.015 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.335 is repealed:

4 AAC 12.335. Requirements for teachers of gifted children. Repealed. (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; repealed 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

4 AAC 12.340 is amended to read:

4 AAC 12.340. Special education or special services alternate program certificate.

(a) If a school district superintendent is unable to recruit and hire a [NEW-TO-THE-DISTRICT] teacher who holds a valid teacher certificate under 4 AAC 12.305 with a special education endorsement [,] or [A RELATED SERVICES SPECIALIST WHO HOLDS] a special services certificate (Type C) under 4 AAC 12.355 [WITH AN ENDORSEMENT IN SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY], the superintendent may request that the commissioner issue [TO GRANT] a special education or special services alternate program certificate for the hiring of a

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person who does not have the **required** endorsement **or certificate**.

(b) The commissioner may grant **an** [A SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate under this section only if the chief school administrator of the district requests it through formal action of the school board.

(c) An application for **an** [A SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate under this section must be submitted on a form provided by the department and include

(1) proof that the person for whom the [SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate is requested holds **at least a bachelor's degree**

[(A) A TEACHER CERTIFICATE UNDER 4 AAC 12.305, IF THE POSITION WILL BE TEACHING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES; OR

(B) A TEACHER CERTIFICATE UNDER 4 AAC 12.305 OR A SPECIAL SERVICES CERTIFICATE (TYPE C), IF THE POSITION WILL BE PERFORMING THE DUTIES OF A SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST];

(2) a letter from the school district superintendent that details the actions taken by the district to recruit a person who holds a teacher certificate under 4 AAC 12.305 with a special education endorsement **or a special services certificate under 4 AAC 12.355**, including, at a minimum, either

(A) recruiting through the University of Alaska Fairbanks Alaska Teacher Placement program; or

(B) advertising in one or more newspapers of general circulation; [AND]

(3) official transcripts [AND A LETTER FROM A TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM APPROVED UNDER 4 AAC 12.330(a),] evidencing that the person for whom the

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[SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate is requested

[(A)] has completed a minimum of nine semester or 12 quarter hours of [SPECIAL EDUCATION] coursework required to complete the approved program under 4 AAC 12.307; [AND]

(4) a letter from a program approved under 4 AAC 12.307 evidencing that the person for whom the alternative program certificate is requested

[(B)] is enrolled in an educational [INDIVIDUALIZED SPECIAL EDUCATION TRAINING] program that will qualify the person to receive a teaching certificate under 4 AAC 12.305 with a special education endorsement or a special services certificate under 4 AAC 12.355 not later than [4 AAC 12.330 WITHIN] three years after the date of the application;

(5) for an applicant applying for an alternate program certificate with a special education endorsement, qualifying scores on one of the competency examinations designated in 4 AAC 12.310; and

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

(d) An [A SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate under this section is valid for up to three school years, contingent on the annual submission by the district of evidence from the educational [TEACHER TRAINING] program that the teacher or special services provider for whom the [SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate was granted continues to be enrolled in and is making satisfactory yearly progress on the individualized educational [SPECIAL EDUCATION] program set out in the application [,] and can complete the program not later than [WITHIN] three years after the date of the application for an [A

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SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate under this section.

(e) **An** [A SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate issued under this section is valid only in the district to which it is granted. **The duration of an alternate program certificate may not be extended beyond three school years.** [NO EXTENSION OF TIME ON THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ALTERNATE PROGRAM CERTIFICATE WILL BE GRANTED.] (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 3/24/2007, Register 181; am 10/26/2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020 AS 14.30.250

4 AAC 12.345(b) is repealed:

(b) Repealed 10/26/2022.

4 AAC 12.345(d) is amended to read:

(d) The commissioner may issue a nonrenewable provisional certificate (provisional Type B), valid for no longer than two years, to an applicant who has completed the requirements of this section, except for the requirements in [(b) OR] (c) of this section.

4 AAC 12.345(f) is amended to read:

(f) The commissioner may convert a provisional certificate (provisional Type B) to an administrative certificate (Type B) upon satisfactory completion of the courses required under [(b) AND] (c) of this section and payment of the fee for an administrative certificate.

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 8/31/2008, Register 187; am 9/17/2011, Register 199; am

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9/7/2012, Register 203; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020 AS 14.30.255

4 AAC 12.347(b) is repealed:

(b) Repealed 10 / 26 / 2022.

4 AAC 12.347(d) is amended to read:

(d) The commissioner may issue a nonrenewable provisional certificate (provisional Type F), valid for no longer than two years, to an applicant who has completed the requirements of this section, except for the requirements in [(b) OR] (c) of this section.

4 AAC 12.347(f) is amended to read:

(f) The commissioner may convert a provisional certificate (provisional Type F) to a special education administrator certificate (Type F) upon satisfactory completion of the courses required under [(B) AND] (c) of this section and payment of the fee for a special education administrator certificate.

(Eff. 8/31/2008, Register 187; am 9/17/2011, Register 199; am 9/7/2012, Register 203; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020 AS 14.30.255

4 AAC 12.355(b) is repealed:

(b) Repealed 10 / 26 / 2022.

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4 AAC 12.355(f) is amended to read:

(f) The commissioner may issue a nonrenewable provisional certificate (provisional Type C), valid for no longer than two years, to an applicant who has completed the requirements of this section, except for the requirements in [(b) OR] (e) of this section.

4 AAC 12.355(h) is amended to read:

(h) The commissioner may convert a provisional certificate (provisional Type C) to a special services certificate (Type C) upon satisfactory completion of the courses required under [(b) AND] (e) of this section and payment of the fee for a special services certificate.

4 AAC 12.355(k) is amended to read:

(k) For the "school psychology" endorsement, the applicant must

(1) hold a master's or higher degree in school psychology and

(A) be recommended for endorsement by an institution whose psychology program has been approved by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification, the National Association of School Psychologists, or the American Psychological Association; or [AND]

(B) have completed a 1,200-hour internship in school psychology, 600 hours of which must be completed on site in preschool or kindergarten - grade 12 programs; or

(2) hold a master's or higher degree in a related field and be a nationally certified

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school psychologist under the National School Psychologist Certification System established by the National Association of School Psychologists.

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 9/17/2011, Register 199; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am

10/16/2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.375 is amended to read:

4 AAC 12.375. Limited certificate for instructional assistant [AIDE] continuing teacher education program (Type I). (a) The department will issue an instructional assistant [A] limited certificate (Type I) [IN THE SPECIALTY AREA OF ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE] to an applicant who

(1) is nominated by a school district, through a formal action of the local school board;

(2) provides documentation of at least two [THREE] years of successful employment as a paraprofessional [AN INSTRUCTIONAL AIDE] in the nominating school district;

(3) is currently employed by the nominating school district;

(4) demonstrates basic competency by satisfying the requirements of 4 AAC 04.220(b)(1) and (2) and at least one of the requirements of 4 AAC 04.220(c)(1), (2), or (3) [EXPERTISE IN THE LOCAL ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE BY SUBMITTING

(A) A RESUME DEMONSTRATING AT LEAST FOUR YEARS
EXPERIENCE INVOLVING AN ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE AND VERIFIED BY

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THE NOMINATING DISTRICT; AND

(B) TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FROM MEMBERS OF
THE LOCAL NATIVE COMMUNITY ATTESTING TO CULTURAL EXPERTISE];

(5) is currently enrolled in an approved baccalaureate degree teacher education
program at an institution of higher education accredited

(A) by a recognized regional accrediting association; or

(B) by a nationally recognized accrediting association if approved by
the commissioner under AS 14.20.020(b) [AT A REGIONALLY ACCREDITED
INSTITUTION AS DESCRIBED IN AS 14.20.020] and 4 AAC 12.305(b)(4);

(6) submits to the department a plan that has been agreed to by the chief school
administrator of the nominating district, the approved baccalaureate degree teacher education
program, the certificated teacher mentor, the cooperating teacher, and the applicant [,] and
that meets the terms and conditions set out in (b) of this section; and

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

(b) The plan described in (a)(6) of this section must, at a minimum, provide

(1) a program for support of the applicant by the teacher education program
[EDUCATIONAL UNIT] of the institution described in (a)(5) of this section during the term of
the plan, including

(A) a schedule of courses to be made available by the [THAT] institution
that will allow the applicant to complete the approved baccalaureate degree teacher
education program and prepare the applicant to pass the examinations
[EXAMINATION] required under 4 AAC 12.300(b)(5) and 4 AAC 12.395(a)(2);

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(B) annual milestones that the applicant must meet to establish satisfactory progress under the plan; and

(C) the nominating district's support and [THAT] institution's [PROGRAM] plan for oversight of the applicant's classroom teaching [AT THE NOMINATING DISTRICT];

(2) a program for

(A) the nominating district's support of the applicant's baccalaureate studies;

(B) supervision of all of the applicant's field experience, including student teaching, [IN CURRICULA THAT ARE OUTSIDE OF THE ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE CERTIFICATION] during the term of the plan [CONTRACT]; and

(C) the provision of a certificated teacher mentor to supervise and assist the applicant with the professional application of teaching theory and methodology in the classroom; and

(3) the applicant's commitment to meet the annual milestones of the plan and to complete the baccalaureate degree program within the time specified in the plan.

(c) A Type I limited certificate is valid for one school year and may be renewed each year for four additional years if [THE DURATION OF] the plan is executed in conformance with (a) and (b) of this section. The department will base its renewal determination on the department's review of documentation establishing conformance with the plan, including accomplishment of all annual milestones by the applicant.

(d) Possession of an instructional assistant limited certificate (Type I) qualifies the

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holder to instruct or teach students if authorized by the preparing institution, the certificated teacher mentor, and the cooperating teacher. Instruction and teaching must be supervised by the cooperating teacher. The cooperating teacher shall

(1) hold a valid teaching certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.305;

(2) have at least one year of teaching experience in the nominating school district;

(3) have at least three years of total teaching experience; and

(4) meet or exceed the teacher performance standards of 4 AAC 04.200(b) as verified by the nominating district's evaluation system. (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am

10/31/2008, Register 188; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am 10 /26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060 [AS 14.20.025]

4 AAC 12.388(b) is amended to read:

(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) a recognized regional accrediting association; or

(B) a national accrediting association if approved by the commissioner under AS 14.20.020(b);

(2) have met or exceeded the required scores on the associated world language content examination as described in 4 AAC 12.407 [AND MET OR EXCEEDED THE

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REQUIRED SCORES ON THE MATHEMATICS SUBTEST OF ONE OF THE
COMPETENCY EXAMINATIONS 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 **not later than** [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.

4 AAC 12.388(e) is amended to read:

(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) a recognized regional accrediting association; or

**(B) a national accrediting association if approved by the
commissioner under AS 14.20.020(b);**

(2) have met or exceeded the required scores on the associated world language content examination as described in 4 AAC 12.407 [AND MET OR EXCEEDED THE
REQUIRED SCORES ON THE MATHEMATICS SUBTEST OF ONE OF THE
COMPETENCY EXAMINATIONS REQUIRED UNDER 4 AAC 12.310]; [AND]

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

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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) [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].

(Eff. 6/29/2018, Register 226; am 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020 AS 14.20.022

4 AAC 12.395 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(c) The endorsements on a professional or master teacher certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.305(b) or (c) must include the endorsements awarded under AS 14.20.015(c). (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 6/27/2014, Register 210; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.396(a) is amended to read:

(a) A current certificate holder or an applicant eligible for certification as described in 4 AAC 12.305 may add an additional endorsement appropriate to the holder's or applicant's certificate by demonstrating

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(1) completion of an endorsement program accepted under 4 AAC 12.307(a) and a passing score on an endorsement-related content examination designated in 4 AAC 12.407 or each equivalent content area examination required by a certifying [STATE] agency **of another jurisdiction** for a comparable endorsement currently or previously held by the applicant;

(2) two years of teaching in the content area and a passing score on the endorsement-related content area examination designated for the middle school, high school, or world language in 4 AAC 12.407(b) - (f), or each equivalent content area examination required by a certifying [STATE] agency **of another jurisdiction** for a comparable endorsement currently or previously held by the applicant;

(3) two years of teaching in a career and technical education (CTE) area, six semester hours of coursework focused on classroom management, student assessment, and teaching strategies specific to career and technical education, and successful completion of an industrial competency examination that is specific to career-and technical-education content, as approved by the department; [OR]

(4) completion of at least one of the following [DEGREES] in the content or specialty area for which the endorsement is sought:

(A) a doctorate degree;

(B) a master's degree;

(C) a baccalaureate degree, with a major or posted minor of at least 18 semester hours in an approved program in the content or specialty area for which an endorsement is sought; **or**

(D) a microcredential as approved by the department, based on a

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completed application form submitted to the department by a district or an educational organization; or

(5) three years of teaching in an elementary classroom and passing scores on

(A) the Praxis II content area examinations in elementary education required under 4 AAC 12.407(a)(2) and examinations 5203 or 5204 in teaching reading under 4 AAC 12.407(a)(1); or

(B) equivalent content area examinations required by a certifying agency of another jurisdiction for a comparable endorsement currently or previously held by the applicant.

(Eff. 4/24/2016, Register 218; am 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.401(e)(1) is amended to read:

(1) not received at least an associate degree from an institution of higher education accredited by a recognized regional or national accrediting association or approved by the commissioner;

(Eff. 12/25/2020, Register 236; am 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.010 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.405(a) is amended to read:

(a) A certificate issued under AS 14.20.020 [4 AAC 12.345, 4 AAC 12.355, OR 4 AAC 12.360] may be renewed any number of times by completing six [THREE] semester hours of

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credit [IN ONE OR MORE SUBJECTS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER 4 AAC 12.305(b)(5), AND THREE SEMESTER HOURS OF UPPER DIVISION OR GRADUATE CREDIT,] or the equivalent of semester hours in trimester or quarter hours or other equivalent, **including microcredentials approved** [AS DETERMINED] by the department, **and** earned during the life of the certificate. The six credits required for renewal under this subsection **may not include the coursework required under AS 14.20.020(h) and** must be

(1) related to the certificated person's employment at the time of renewal, if that employment requires a certificate;

(2) related to the certificated person's endorsement area under **this chapter** [4 AAC 12.395]; or

(3) a required element of a program that will lead to an endorsement under **this chapter** [4 AAC 12.395] that the certificated person seeks to acquire.

4 AAC 12.405(c) is amended to read:

(c) A professional teacher certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.305(b) may be renewed by compliance with (a) and (b) of this section. **The six credits required for renewal under (a) of this section must comply with 4 AAC 12.305(b)(6)** [; AND COMPLIANCE WITH ANY ACADEMIC OR OTHER TRAINING DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER 4 AAC 12.305(b)(5)].

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4 AAC 12.405(d) is amended to read:

(d) A master teacher certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.305(c) may be renewed by compliance with (a), (b), and (c) of this section, and by maintenance of certification **requirements** under **4 AAC 12.305(c)** [4 AAC 12.305(c)(2)(A) OR (B)].

4 AAC 12.405(f) is amended to read:

(f) An initial teacher certificate **issued** under **AS 14.20.020** [4 AAC 12.305(a)] may [NOT] be renewed.

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 9/2/2011, Register 199; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am 10/20/2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.410(e) is amended to read:

(e) Semester credits required for renewal of a certificate under 4 AAC 12.385 and 4 AAC 12.405 must be earned from **a regionally or nationally accredited** [AN] institution of higher education [ACCREDITED BY THE NORTHWEST COMMISSION ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OR ITS COUNTERPART IN OTHER REGIONS].

4 AAC 12.410 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(g) Certificates issued under 4 AAC 12.346, 4 AAC 12.370, 4 AAC 12.372, 4 AAC 12.375, and 4 AAC 12.388 may be transferred from the sponsoring district to another district at the request of the certificate holder and the receiving district board through the chief school

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administrator. The receiving district must agree to the responsibilities and the limitations of the certificate. (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 10/21/2007, Register 184; am 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.010 AS 14.20.020

Editor's note: The subject matter of 4 AAC 12.410 was formerly located at 4 AAC 12.080. The history note for 4 AAC 12.410 does not reflect the history of the earlier section.

[INFORMATION ON INSTITUTIONS ACCREDITED BY THE NORTHWEST COMMISSION ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE NORTHWEST COMMISSION ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, 8060 165TH AVE. NE., SUITE 100, REDMOND, WA 98052. THE COMMISSION'S TELEPHONE NUMBER IS (425) 558-4224, AND INTERNET ADDRESS IS WWW.NWCCU.ORG.]

4 AAC 12.415 is amended to read:

4 AAC 12.415. Current address. The holder of a certificate issued under this chapter shall maintain a current, valid mailing address and electronic mail address on file with the department at all times. The latest mailing address on file for the holder of a current, lapsed, suspended, or revoked certificate is the address for official communications, notifications, or service of legal process. (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020

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4 AAC 12.900(a)(5) is amended to read:

(5) "credit" means credit granted by a regionally or nationally accredited [AN] institution of higher education [ACCREDITED BY THE NORTHWEST COMMISSION ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OR ITS COUNTERPARTS IN OTHER REGIONS];

4 AAC 12.900(a) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

(15) "early career teacher" means an educator in the first or second year of employment as a teacher;

(16) "microcredential" means a competency-based recognition issued by a school district or an educational organization that

(A) is aligned with a statewide priority area adopted under AS 14.07.165;

(B) allows an educator to demonstrate mastery in a skill or set of skills;

and

(C) is approved by the department based on a completed application form submitted to the department by a district or an educational organization;

(17) "statewide priority area" means a goal of the board adopted under AS 14.07.165.

(Eff. 5/30/71, Register 38; am 10/4/73, Register 47; am 8/12/82, Register 83; am 6/9/85, Register 94; am 4/9/87, Register 102; am 7/1/90, Register 114; am 8/8/91, Register 119; am 7/2/93, Register 126; am 6/9/95, Register 134; am 4/4/96, Register 138; am 6/28/98, Register 146; am 3/31/2002, Register 161; am 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 10/21/2007, Register 184; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am 10 / 26 / 2022, Register 244)

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Authority: AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.010 AS 14.20.020



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Law

CIVIL DIVISION

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September 16, 2022

The Honorable Kevin Meyer
Lieutenant Governor
State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99581-0001

Re: *4 AAC 12: Office of the Commissioner - Teacher Certification*
Our file: 2021200589

Dear Lt. Governor Meyer:

The Department of Law has reviewed the attached regulations of the Department of Education and Early Development against the statutory standards of the Administrative Procedure Act. Based upon our review, we find no legal problems. This letter constitutes the written statement of approval under AS 44.62.060(b) and (c) that authorizes your office to file the attached regulations. The regulations were adopted by the Department of Education and Early Development after the close of the public comment period.

The regulations concern amendments to 4 AAC 12, adopting changes regarding the qualification and certification of Alaska educators.

The December 27, 2021 public notice, the August 18, 2022 supplemental public notice, and the September 12, 2022 order certifying the changes all state that this action is not expected to require an increased appropriation. Therefore, a fiscal note under AS 44.62.195 is not required.

We have made some technical corrections to conform the regulations in accordance with AS 44.62.125. The corrections are incorporated into the attached copy of the regulations.

Sincerely,

TREG R. TAYLOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: Rebecca C. Polizzotto
Rebecca C. Polizzotto
Chief Assistant Attorney General
Legislation, Regulations, and
Legislative Research Section

Digitally signed by
Rebecca C. Polizzotto
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RCP/fcb

CC w/enclosure: Janell Andrews, Regulations Contact
Department of Education and Early Development

Susan Sonneborn, Assistant Attorney General
Department of Law

Steven C. Weaver, Assistant Attorney General
Department of Law