

Item 10:**Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification Provisions, Subchapter A, Certificate Renewal and Continuing Professional Education Requirements, §232.9, Inactive Status and Late Renewal****DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

SUMMARY: This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) an opportunity to discuss and propose an amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification Provisions, Subchapter A, Certificate Renewal and Continuing Professional Education Requirements, §232.9, Inactive Status and Late Renewal, which would clarify procedures used by the automated system to process late applications submitted for standard certificate renewal.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: The statutory authority for 19 TAC Chapter 232, Subchapter A, is the Texas Education Code (TEC), §§21.003(a), 21.0031(f), 21.031, 21.041(b)(1)-(4) and (9), and 21.054.

TEC, §21.003(a), states that a person may not be employed as a teacher, teacher intern or teacher trainee, librarian, educational aide, administrator, educational diagnostician, or school counselor by a school district unless the person holds an appropriate certificate or permit issued as provided by the TEC, Chapter 21, Subchapter B.

TEC, §21.0031(f), clarifies and places certain limits on provisions authorizing termination of an educator's contract for failure to maintain a valid certificate.

TEC, §21.031, authorizes the SBEC to regulate and oversee all aspects of the certification, continuing education, and standards of conduct of public school educators.

TEC, §21.041(b)(1), requires the SBEC to propose rules that provide for the regulation of educators and the general administration of the TEC, Chapter 21, Subchapter B, in a manner consistent with the TEC, Chapter 21, Subchapter B.

TEC, §21.041(b)(2), requires the SBEC to propose rules that specify the classes of educator certificates to be issued, including emergency certificates.

TEC, §21.041(b)(3), requires the SBEC to propose rules that specify the period for which each class of educator certificate is valid.

TEC, §21.041(b)(4), requires the SBEC to propose rules that specify the requirements for the issuance and renewal of an educator certificate.

TEC, §21.041(b)(9), requires the SBEC to propose rules that provide for continuing education requirements.

TEC, §21.054, requires the SBEC to propose rules establishing a process for identifying continuing education courses and programs that fulfill educators' continuing education requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: If approved for filing as proposed in March 2017 and if adopted, subject to State Board of Education (SBOE) review, at the June 2017

An individual who submits an online renewal application within the first six months after the certificate expiration date is required to pay a late fee in addition to the renewal fee. If all CPE hours were completed before or by the certificate expiration date, once the late renewal application has been processed, there will be no break in certification validity periods for the certificates being renewed (i.e., the beginning of the next certificate renewal period is dated to begin immediately after the last certificate expiration date).

An individual who submits a renewal application more than six months after the certificate expiration date is required to pay the late fee, a reactivation fee, and the renewal fee. If all CPE hours have been completed, once the late renewal application has been processed, the certification will have a new effective date, which will have a break in validity from the prior expiration date to the new effective date. The next certificate renewal period will be the date the educator enters as the completion of CPE requirements, provided it is not more than 60 days prior to the date of the application.

Between September 1, 2012, through December 31, 2016, approximately 80% of the total applications submitted (181,401) were processed as on-time certificate renewals; approximately 15% of the total applications submitted (28,160) were processed as late renewals within the first six months after the expiration of the certificate validity period; and approximately 5% of the total applications submitted (12,893) were processed as late renewals more than six months after the expiration of the certificate validity period.

§232.9. Inactive Status and Late Renewal

Language in 19 TAC §232.9(b) would be amended to clarify that the automated processing of late renewal applications submitted within six months of the certificate expiration date involves the dating of an educator's next certificate renewal begin date to the expiration date of the last certificate as long as the educator has submitted a complete online application, paid renewal fee(s), completed the fingerprinting process, and confirmed that he or she has completed

Texas Education Code, §21.054, Continuing Education:

- (a) The board shall propose rules establishing a process for identifying continuing education courses and programs that fulfill educators' continuing education requirements.
- (b) Continuing education requirements for an educator who teaches students with dyslexia must include training regarding new research and practices in educating students with dyslexia.
- (c) The training required under Subsection (b) may be offered in an online course.
- (d) Continuing education requirements for a classroom teacher must provide that not more than 25 percent of the training required every five years include instruction regarding:
 - (1) collecting and analyzing information that will improve effectiveness in the classroom;
 - (2) recognizing early warning indicators that a student may be at risk of dropping out of school;
 - (3) integrating technology into classroom instruction; and
 - (4) educating diverse student populations, including:
 - (A) students with disabilities, including mental health disorders;
 - (B) students who are educationally disadvantaged;
 - (C) students of limited English proficiency; and
 - (D) students at risk of dropping out of school.
- (e) Continuing education requirements for a principal must provide that not more than 25 percent of the training required every five years include instruction regarding:
 - (1) effective and efficient management, including:
 - (A) collecting and analyzing information;
 - (B) making decisions and managing time; and
 - (C) supervising student discipline and managing behavior;
 - (2) recognizing early warning indicators that a student may be at risk of dropping out of school;
 - (3) integrating technology into campus curriculum and instruction; and
 - (4) educating diverse student populations, including:
 - (A) students with disabilities, including mental health disorders;
 - (B) students who are educationally disadvantaged;
 - (C) students of limited English proficiency; and
 - (D) students at risk of dropping out of school.
- (f) Continuing education requirements for a counselor must provide that not more than 25 percent of training required every five years include instruction regarding:
 - (1) assisting students in developing high school graduation plans;
 - (2) implementing dropout prevention strategies; and

ATTACHMENT II
Text of Proposed Revision to 19 TAC

Chapter 232. General Certification Provisions

Subchapter A. Certificate Renewal and Continuing Professional Education Requirements

§232.9. Inactive Status and Late Renewal.

(a)