

Chapter 6 – Subject Areas

Overview

Background

State Board of Education policy requires that new license areas be designated and established prior to the initiation of new programs. Formal documentation of the Licensure Section's agreement to a proposed area must accompany the presentation of new programs or positions for the SBE's approval. **(See SBE Policy QP-A-001,1.10)**

In this chapter

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Birth - Kindergarten

Introduction Effective August 6, 1992, the State Board of Education approved the creation of an undergraduate licensing program for teachers of children from birth through kindergarten. (See **SBE Policy QP-A-001, 1.20**)

License process A Birth through Kindergarten license can be issued through the standard application process when an individual completes approved program requirements.

Pre-kindergarten license areas The table that follows lists the Pre-kindergarten license area codes and descriptions.

Notes:

- Items marked with an asterisk (*) indicate that initial licenses cannot be issued in these areas. Currently held licenses are valid for employment.
- Praxis II is not required for the Birth through Kindergarten license.

NOTE: Praxis II test 022 will make existing B-K teachers HQ for kindergarten.

| Code | Description |
|-------|----------------------------|
| 00014 | Birth through Kindergarten |
| 00015 | Preschool Add-on |

Elementary Education (K-6)

Introduction The State Board of Education (SBE) authorized an elementary (K-6) license effective July 1, 1989. Elementary grades areas issued prior to that date were converted to the K-6 area. (See **SBE Policy QP-A-001, 1.20**)

Elementary license code The elementary license code is 00025 for the Elementary grades (K-6).

Elementary education test The SBE approved Praxis II tests beginning July 1, 1998. For test score requirements, see Chapter 5. (See **SBE Policy QP-A-003, 3.10**)

Middle Grades (6-9)

Introduction

Middle grades licenses are issued in subject concentrations and are valid for teaching in grades 6 through 9. Colleges and universities are authorized to offer middle grades programs in:

- Language arts
- Mathematics
- Science, and/or
- Social studies

(See SBE Policy QP-A-001, 1.20)

Licenses: Major academic areas

The table that follows lists the area codes and descriptions for middle grades licenses in major academic areas.

Note: Middle grades science and social studies are issued in the comprehensive areas (78300 and 78400) but not in specific subjects such as biology, chemistry, history or geography.

| Area Code | Description |
|-----------|----------------|
| 78180 | Language Arts |
| 78200 | Mathematics |
| 78300 | Science |
| 78400 | Social Studies |

Testing requirements

For test score requirements, see Chapter 5.

Middle Grades (6-9)

Middle-grades assignments

Assignments in the sixth grade can be filled by teachers who hold a license in elementary education (00025).

A teacher who holds a middle grades license in one of the core subject areas (Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies) can fill assignments in grades 6, 7, 8, and 9 in the subject area of the license.

Adding middle grades subject areas

A teacher who holds a secondary grade (9-12) license in one of the core subject areas (English, Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies) can be issued a middle grades license in the subject area at the request of the employing LEA if the individual is assigned to teach at the middle grades level.

NOTE: Individuals may not request the addition of a middle grades area based on a secondary.

Individual who do not hold a secondary grade (9-12) license in the subject area, or who have not been teaching out-of-field in a middle grades subject area, must meet the federal requirement to be highly qualified in the subject area by completing an approved teacher education program in the middle grades subject area or by passing the appropriate Praxis II test for the area to be added.

Exception: Birth-Kindergarten, since there is no content test for that area.

Secondary (9-12)

Introduction

The Licensure Section issues secondary licenses by subject area for teaching in grades 9-12. For test score requirements, see Chapter 5.

Secondary license areas

The following table lists the secondary license area codes and descriptions.

Notes:

- Areas marked with an asterisk (*) indicate that initial licenses cannot be issued in these areas. Currently held licenses are valid for employment.
- Areas marked with a double asterisk (**) can be added only if the individual is fully licensed in another area. Endorsements cannot be used for teaching core academic areas.

Endorsements

Endorsements can be converted to full licenses by

- completion of 6 additional semester hours (total of 24 semester hours) in the content subject area; OR
- satisfactory completion of the required Praxis II Specialty Area Exams; OR
- verification by the LEA and principal of three years of successful teaching in the subject area and the NC HOUSSE.

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------------|
| 100 | English |
| 200 | Mathematics |
| 300 | Science |
| 302 | Earth Science |
| 310 | Biology |
| 320 | Physics |
| 330 | Chemistry |
| 400 | Social Studies |
| 405 | Political Science |
| 410 | Geography |
| 420 | History |
| 431 | Economics |
| 432 | Sociology |
| 433 | Anthropology |
| 510 | French |
| 520 | Spanish |

| Code | Description |
|-------|---|
| 530 | German |
| 540 | Japanese |
| 550 | Chinese |
| 580 | Russian |
| 590 | Latin |
| 600 | Business Education* |
| 601 | Basic Business* |
| 905 | Bible |
| 18000 | Endorsement (last three digits indicate subject) |
| 18105 | Journalism endorsement (no full license issued in journalism)** |
| 18434 | Psychology endorsement (no full license issued in psychology)** |
| 18079 | Computer endorsement** |

Subject Area Endorsements

Individuals not limited to half-time teaching

Teachers with the following endorsements are not limited to half-time teaching and may teach full-time in the endorsement area:

- Journalism
- K-12 computer education
- Psychology

Special Subjects (K-12)

Background

Licensing in the special subject areas is valid for grades K-12 and encompasses

- academic subjects (for example, art and music)
- work assignments (for example, reading specialist), and
- special student populations (for example, exceptional children).

Qualifying for licensure in these areas normally requires completion of an approved education program.

Special subject license areas

The table on the following page lists the codes and descriptions for licensing in special subject areas.

Notes:

- Areas marked with an asterisk (*) indicate that initial licenses cannot be issued in these areas. Currently held licenses are valid for employment.
 - Areas marked with a double asterisk (**) can be added only if the individual is fully licensed in another area.
-

Special Subjects (K-12)

| Code | Description | Code | Description |
|-------|---|-------|---|
| 090 | Physical Education | 88001 | Cross Categorical (Mildly-Moderately Disabled) (CC) |
| 094 | Health and Physical Education | 88002 | Severely/Profoundly Mentally Disabled (SPMD) |
| 096 | Safety and Driver Education* | 88004 | Preschool Handicapped* |
| 097 | Health Education* | 88081 | Mentally Disabled (MD) |
| 098 | Health Specialist | 88083 | Visually Impaired (VI) |
| 108 | Theater Arts | 88084 | Physically/Orthopedically Disabled* |
| 109 | Speech Communication | 88085 | Behaviorally/Emotionally Disabled (BED) |
| 110 | English as a Second Language | 88086 | Learning Disabled (LD) |
| 190 | Reading | 88087 | Academically Gifted (AG)** |
| 511 | French | 88088 | Hearing Impaired (HI) |
| 521 | Spanish | 88089 | Hospitalized Homebound* |
| 531 | German | 88091 | Special Education: General Curriculum |
| 541 | Japanese | 88092 | Special Education: Adapted Curriculum |
| 551 | Chinese | 88100 | EC English |
| 561 | Italian | 88200 | EC Mathematics |
| 581 | Russian | 88300 | EC Science |
| 585 | Other Second Language (ASL) | 88400 | EC Social Studies |
| 800 | Music | | |
| 805 | Dance | | |
| 805 | Dance | | |
| 810 | Art | | |
| 999 | Junior ROTC | | |
| 18079 | Computer Education (endorsement; no full licensing issued in this area)** | | |

Special Subjects (K-12)

Testing requirements

For test score requirements, see Chapter 5.

Endorsement in computer education

Endorsements are based on 18 semester hours of appropriate credit in computer education (no full licensing is issued in computer education). This license is limited to teaching assignments and can be added only to existing full areas.

Unlike most other endorsements, the computer endorsement is not limited to less than half-time. It can be issued at the M level if the license holder has earned the instructional technology specialist – computers area (077).

Policy: exceptional children

In-field/out-of-field policy requires the appropriate license for each area of exceptionality to which the teacher is assigned. The policy specifies that if 50% or more of a class qualifies as an exceptional area, the teacher must be licensed in that area.

Example: A teacher licensed in learning disabled must also be licensed in behavior/emotionally disabled, if 50% or more of the students in his or her class are identified as behavior/emotionally disabled (BED).

Teachers with heterogeneous classes that include one or more children with special needs are not required to hold a license in exceptional children. (See **SBE Policy QP-A-001, 1.50**)

Notes:

- **The appropriate NTE/Praxis specialty area test is required to add an exceptional children area to an existing license.**
-

Safety and driver education requirements

This license requires the completion of an approved program.

Effective with the 1991-92 school year, Driver Education teachers are required to hold either the Driver Education license issued by the Licensure Section or an authorization by the Department of Motor Vehicles. With the exception of East Carolina University, North Carolina colleges have dropped their Driver Education programs. Therefore, non-licensed driver education instructors may complete a “licensed instructor course” approved by the Department of Motor Vehicles. The community college system usually offers these courses. * (See **SBE Policy QP-A-002, 2.00**)

***Although both of these instructor course routes allow an individual to teach driver’s education, they do not lead to teacher licensure.**

Special Subject Area - JROTC

Introduction

Policies issued by the SBE regarding the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) program are unique to that area. The evaluation made by the Licensure Section for JROTC instructors can be determined with or without a university degree. **JROTC licenses are issued only at the V level. (See SBE Policy 6.30)**

Policy: JROTC instructors

All JROTC personnel, regardless of whether their former military rank was commissioned or non-commissioned, must be licensed to serve as a JROTC instructor.

JROTC personnel are subject to all policies applicable to other professionals, such as the Initial Licensure Program, renewal and tenure.

Requirements

To meet the requirements for JROTC, applicants must complete 6 semester hours or the equivalent in professional training appropriate to teaching in the following:

- Educational psychology or Adolescent psychology (3 semester hours)
 - Teaching methods and materials (3 semester hours)
-

Teaching experience credit

Military experience is awarded up to a maximum of 10 years (based on a experience minimum of 20 years of retirement from the military service).

Application materials required

The applicant for a JROTC license must file the following with the Licensure Section:

| Item | Description |
|-----------------|---|
| Forms | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Form A (Application for a North Carolina License)• Form N (Verification of Employment in a North Carolina School)• Form E (Verification of Experience) if the applicant has classroom teaching experience, other than while in the military |
| Military papers | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A letter of military approval to serve as a JROTC instructor• A copy of the military separation papers (DD-214). |
| Transcripts | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transcripts of credits or degree and/or documentation of special preparation to teach JROTC if applicant has both or either. |
| Fee | \$85 |
