



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



TO: Deans, Directors and Certification Officers of Educator Preparation Programs
FROM: Dr. Miguel A. Cardona, Commissioner of Education *MAC*
DATE: April 15, 2020
SUBJECT: Temporary Expansion of Three-Year Nonrenewable Interim Certificate Eligibility

In accordance with Governor Ned Lamont's Executive Order 7X, I am writing to provide guidance, and my implementing order. This guidance expands eligibility for Connecticut's Three-Year Nonrenewable Interim Certificate authorized by Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-145f (c) to candidates enrolled in Connecticut Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) programs, whose ability to successfully meet certification and licensure assessment requirements have been impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic. This modification is required to address circumstances where the impact of the social distancing recommendations for protection of public health has made access to assessments impossible because testing centers are closed.

Effective immediately, the Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification **will temporarily extend eligibility for a Three-Year Nonrenewable Interim Certificate to educators enrolled in Connecticut educator preparation programs** who have completed all components of an in-state teacher preparation program except for licensure assessments. This applies both to state-approved programs at Connecticut colleges and universities, and to alternate routes to certification approved by the State Board of Education.

This temporary expansion of eligibility will immediately assist Connecticut education candidates who are currently unable to complete required licensure testing due to widespread closure of testing centers. Candidates will have three years to complete all licensure assessments required for their Initial Educator Certificate, as allowed to out-of-state candidates under C.G.S. 10-145f (c) (Public Act 18-51), but are encouraged to register for tests as soon as Pearson and ETS re-open their testing centers or begin to provide on-line testing solutions. The educator preparation programs should track testing status of each applicant recommended for certification with a testing deferral. The Bureau will establish a sunset date for this policy once testing centers have re-opened and licensure assessment schedules have fully resumed.

Please contact Dr. Katie Moirs, at Katie.Moirs@ct.gov or 860-713-6733, with any questions.

MAC:cmt

cc: Ms. Charlene Russell-Tucker, Deputy Commissioner of Education
Dr. Shuana K. Tucker, Chief Talent Officer
Mr. Christopher Todd, Bureau Chief, Talent Office
Ms. Julianne Frost, Education Consultant, Bureau of Educator Standards & Certification
Dr. Katie Moirs, Education Consultant, Bureau of Educator Standards & Certification