

Notice of Decision

In accordance with the provisions of Section 4-168(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board (CEPCB) hereby gives notice it has decided to move forward with a proposed regulation concerning the Code of Professional Responsibility for Educators, Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Sec. 10-145d-400a. Notice of Intent to adopt said regulation was posted to the eRegulations System website on August 4, 2026. The eRegulations System tracking number assigned to the proposed regulation is PR 2026-009.

One comment on the proposed regulation was received in writing, dated August 25, 2026.

The public comment period closed on September 4, 2026.

Summary of Comment

The commenter opposed the replacement of "teacher" with "educator" and other proposed revisions to the code. The commenter asked that the proposal be withdrawn or, in the alternative, that the language requiring teachers to "encourage diversity and equity" be struck.

Response of the CEPCB

The proposed language was reviewed by the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards, the State Board of Education's Legislative and Policy Development Committee, the Connecticut State Board of Education, and legal counsel. The CEPCB's responses follow.

1. "Educator" in Place of "Teacher"

Connecticut's certification statutes use the term "educator." Under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-145(a), no "teacher, supervisor, administrator, special service staff member or school superintendent" may be employed in a public school without "an appropriate state certificate." Section 10-145b(a) provides for the issuance of an "initial educator certificate," and section 10-145b(c)(1) lists certification endorsement areas that include special education, early childhood education, and administration and supervision.

The statutes also use "educator" in the following:

- The Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board (§ 10-150b)
- The charter school educator permit (§ 10-145q)

- The distinguished educator designation (§ 10-145s)
- The educator apprenticeship initiative (§ 10-146j)
- The Increasing Educator Diversity Policy Oversight Council (§ 10-156bb)

The State Department of Education's endorsement codes include school counselor (068), school psychologist (070), school social worker (071), school nurse-teacher (072), school library media specialist (062), and school business administrator (085), in addition to classroom teaching endorsements and administrative and supervisory endorsements. Holders of these endorsements are certified by the State Board of Education under the same statutory certification system as classroom teachers.

2. Other Proposed Revisions

The CEPCB has also considered the comments on the other proposed revisions. Those revisions were reviewed through the process described above.

3. Request to Withdraw or Revise

The CEPCB is not withdrawing the proposal and is not making the requested changes. Thank you for taking the time to participate.