

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT EDUCATOR PREPARATION AND CERTIFICATION BOARD

TO: Education Committee

FROM: Jennifer Rodriguez, Chair, Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board

DATE: April 3, 2025

SUBJECT: CT Educator Preparation and Certification Board Proposed Legislative Language

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.), §10-150c, enclosed is the proposed legislative language, approved by the State Board of Education on April 2, 2025.

Please note that by copy of this letter, copies of this report have been distributed in accordance with C.G.S. Section 11-4a. If you have any questions, please contact sde.certificationboard@ct.gov.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT EDUCATOR PREPARATION AND CERTIFICATION BOARD

Sec. 1. Subsection (b) of section 10-145f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(b)(1) Not later than July 1, 2025, the Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board shall approve and disseminate guidelines outlining multiple pathways as to how candidates for certification may demonstrate minimum content knowledge within their endorsement areas. The methods approved by the Certification Board shall (i) include, but must not be limited to, achieving a satisfactory evaluation on

the appropriate State Board of Education approved subject area assessment; (ii) be evidence-based, rigorous, and feasible; and (iii) be considered valid and reliable by professional bodies responsible for accrediting teacher preparation programs. At least biannually, the Certification Board shall review and update its guidelines. Such updates shall be based on emerging research on alternative approaches to assessing educator minimum content knowledge and an evaluation of data demonstrating the impact of its approved methods on the quality, quantity, and diversity of teaching candidates entering the profession. The State Board of Education, upon receipt of a proper application, shall issue the appropriate educator certificate to any person who meets the criteria for demonstrating minimum content knowledge established by the Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board and who otherwise satisfies all applicable requirements for such a certificate.

~~[(1)]~~ (2) Any person who does not hold a valid certificate pursuant to section 10-145b shall ~~achieve a satisfactory evaluation on the appropriate State Board of Education approved subject area assessment~~ satisfy the requirements for demonstrating minimum content knowledge as established by the Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board in order to be eligible for a certificate pursuant to said section ~~unless such assessment has not been approved by the State Board of Education at the time of application, in which case the applicant shall not be denied a certificate solely because of the lack of an evaluation on such assessment.~~

~~[(2)]~~ (3) Any person applying for an additional certification endorsement shall ~~achieve a satisfactory evaluation on the appropriate State Board of Education approved subject area assessment~~ satisfy the requirements for demonstrating minimum content knowledge as established by the Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board in order to be eligible for such additional endorsement, ~~unless such assessment has not been approved by the State Board of Education at the time of application, in which case the applicant shall not be denied the additional endorsement solely because of the lack of an evaluation on such assessment.~~

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT EDUCATOR PREPARATION AND CERTIFICATION BOARD

[(3)] (4) On and after July 1, 1992, any teacher who held a valid teaching certificate but whose certificate lapsed and who had completed all requirements for the issuance of a new certificate pursuant to section 10-145b, except for filing an application for such certificate, prior to the date on which the lapse occurred, may file, within one year of the date on which the lapse occurred, an application with the Commissioner of Education for the issuance of such certificate. Upon the filing of such an application, the commissioner may grant such certificate and such certificate shall be retroactive to the date on which the lapse occurred, provided the commissioner finds that the lapse of the certificate occurred as a result of a hardship or extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the applicant. If such teacher has attained tenure and is reemployed by the same board of education in any equivalent unfilled position for which the person is qualified as a result of the issuance of a certificate pursuant to this subdivision, the lapse period shall not constitute a break in employment for such person reemployed and shall be used for the purpose of calculating continuous employment pursuant to section 10-151. If such teacher has not attained tenure, the time unemployed due to the lapse of a certificate shall not be counted toward tenure, except that if such teacher is reemployed by the same board of education as a result of the issuance of a certificate pursuant to this subdivision, such teacher may count the previous continuous employment immediately prior to the lapse towards tenure. Using information provided by the Teachers' Retirement Board, the Department of

Education shall annually notify each local or regional board of education of the name of each teacher employed by such board of education whose provisional certificate will expire during the period of twelve months following such notice. Upon receipt of such notice the superintendent of each local and regional board of education shall notify each such teacher in writing, at such teacher's last-known address, that the teacher's provisional certificate will expire.

[(4)] (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection to the contrary, to be eligible for a certificate to teach subjects for which a bachelor's degree is not required, any applicant who is otherwise eligible for certification in such endorsement areas shall be entitled to a certificate without having met the requirements of the competency examination and subject area assessment pursuant to this subsection for a period not to exceed two years, except that for a certificate to teach skilled trades or trade-related or occupational subjects, the commissioner may waive the requirement that the applicant take the competency examination. The commissioner may, upon the showing of good cause, extend the certificate.

[(5)] (6) On and after July 1, 2011, any person applying for a certification in the endorsement area of elementary education shall ~~achieve a satisfactory evaluation on the appropriate State Board of Education approved mathematics assessment~~ satisfy the requirements for demonstrating

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT EDUCATOR PREPARATION AND CERTIFICATION BOARD

minimum content knowledge as established by the Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board in order to be eligible for such elementary education endorsement.

[(6)] (7) On and after July 1, 2018, any person who holds an initial, ~~provisional~~ or professional educator certificate and ~~achieves a satisfactory evaluation on the appropriate State Board of Education approved subject area assessment~~ satisfies the requirements for demonstrating minimum content knowledge as established by the Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board shall be issued a cross endorsement in the relevant certification endorsement area corresponding to a teacher shortage area, as determined by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 10-8b.

[(7)] (8) On and after July 1, 2024, any person who holds an initial educator certificate, ~~a provisional educator certificate~~ or a professional educator certificate and ~~achieves a satisfactory evaluation on the appropriate State Board of Education approved subject area assessment~~ satisfies the requirements for demonstrating minimum content knowledge as established by the Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board shall be issued a cross endorsement in the relevant certification endorsement area. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to the endorsement areas of special education, teaching English to speakers of other languages, bilingual, remedial reading and remedial language arts or school library media specialist.

Sec. 2. Section 10-145l of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) On and after July 1, 2019, the State Board of Education shall allow an applicant for certification to teach in a subject shortage area pursuant to section 10-8b or a certified employee seeking to teach in such a subject shortage area to substitute satisfaction of the minimum content knowledge standards established

by the Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board ~~achievement of a satisfactory score, as determined by the State Board of Education, on any appropriate State Board of Education approved subject area assessment~~ for the subject area requirements for certification pursuant to section 10-145f.

(b) On and after July 1, 2020, the State Board of Education shall allow an applicant for certification to teach computer science, or a certified employee seeking to teach computer science, to substitute satisfaction of the minimum content knowledge standards established by the Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board ~~achievement of a satisfactory score, as determined by the State Board of Education, on the appropriate State Board of~~

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT EDUCATOR PREPARATION AND CERTIFICATION BOARD

~~Education approved subject area assessment~~ for the subject area requirements for certification pursuant to section 10-145f.

Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of Section 10-155~~l~~ of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(c) Not later than October 1, 2007, the Regional Educational Service Center Minority Recruiting Alliance, in consultation with the Department of Education, the Board of Regents for Higher Education, the constituent units of the state system of higher education and the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges, shall propose guidelines to the Commissioner of Education and the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities for pilot programs to recruit and retain minority teachers and may consider, but such consideration need not be limited to, the establishment and operation of the following pilot programs:

(1) A fellows program leading to the eligibility for an educator certificate for minority individuals who have (A) completed an intensive summer session focusing on classroom management and methodology, (B) received a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited, (C) satisfies the minimum content knowledge standards established by the Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board ~~achieved a satisfactory score on the examination required~~ pursuant to section 10-145f or have had such requirement waived pursuant to said section, and (D) have such other qualifications for the issuance of an educator certificate as are required for individuals participating in the alternate route to certification program under section 10-155d;

(2) A competitive grant program to assist local and regional boards of education to form and operate future teachers' clubs as part of the extracurricular activities at middle and high schools under their jurisdiction; and

(3) A program to allow minority college seniors who are majoring in subject shortage areas pursuant to section 10-8b but who are not enrolled in a teacher preparation program to receive up to three credits for working as cadet teachers in a public school and, upon graduation and recommendation by school officials, to allow such cadet teachers to enter a fellows program pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection if such a program is in operation.