



# Education Professional Standards Board

May/June 2017  
Update Memo

## **EPSB Mission**

*The Education Professional Standards Board, in full collaboration and cooperation with its education partners, promotes high levels of student achievement by establishing and enforcing rigorous professional standards for preparation, certification, and responsible and ethical behavior of all professional educators in Kentucky.*

The EPSB Goals, Strategies, Policies, Procedures, Strategic Plan and Annual Report may be found at <http://www.epsb.ky.gov/boardinfo/mission.asp>.

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## **NASDTEC Clearinghouse Now Available to School Districts**

Since 1928 the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) has been a national leader in matters related to the preparation and licensure of professional school personnel. NASDTEC represents professional standards boards and commissions as well as state departments of education in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Education Activity, most of the U.S. Territories, and the province of Ontario that are responsible for the preparation, licensure, and discipline of professional educators.

### ***The NASDTEC Educator Identification Clearinghouse (Clearinghouse)***

The Clearinghouse is a searchable database that since 1989 provides official government licensing agencies information regarding individuals whose professional educator certificates/licenses have been annulled, denied, suspended, revoked, or otherwise invalidated. Once a final judgment is made in a misconduct case and the results released to the public, the licensing agency enters the information into the Clearinghouse database.

***Now the Clearinghouse is available to local school districts.***



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Prior to August 1, 2016, this valuable resource was only available to official government licensing agencies. NASDTEC is now accepting applications from local school districts (public and private) for access to the Local Education Agency (LEA) Clearinghouse.

***Including the LEA Clearinghouse in screening of applicants is good policy and practice.***

The rationale for providing local school districts (public and private) access to the Clearinghouse is rooted in two realities:

1. Most administrative actions taken in response to educator misconduct do not result in an arrest; therefore, a typical background check may not reveal important adverse actions taken against an educator's certificate.
2. It is not uncommon for an educator who has had adverse action taken against a license to apply for an uncertified position; without the review by a state licensing agency, the district would be unaware of past misconduct.

Bottom line, it is good policy and practice to include the NASDTEC Clearinghouse in the screening of all applicants.

If you have any questions, please email [support@nasdtec.org](mailto:support@nasdtec.org).

[Click here to learn how your school district can have access to this valuable resource.](#)

## **OCTE Regulation Changes**

At its April 10, 2017, meeting, the Board approved changes to *16 KAR 2:020 Occupation-Based Career and Technical Education*. This regulation identifies the process by which the EPSB issues certificates to applicants seeking occupation-based teacher certification. The proposed amendment seeks to accomplish the following objectives:

1. Ensure that all applicants complete an approved program of preparation that prepares the applicants to be successful teachers for any information technology, industrial education, public service, health science, or human services occupation area that may be offered under *704 KAR 3:303*.
2. Ensure that all certified occupation-based career and technical education teachers have the credentials necessary for their students to receive both high school credit and college credit for the classes taught by these occupation-based teachers.

The amendment creates a new route for OCTE certification, based on the completion of a content-specific associate's degree and completion of the New Teacher Institute (NTI) sponsored by KDE, and allows currently approved programs until July 1, 2018, to adjust their programs to the new regulation. As in the current regulation, all candidates seeking an OCTE certification must complete NTI to receive a professional certificate.



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The regulation was filed with the Legislative Research Commission (LRC). A public comment time is available starting May 1, 2017, and ending on May 31, 2017, with a public hearing scheduled for May 22, 2017, at 9:00 AM at the EPSB offices (100 Airport Road, 3rd Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601). Concerns should be submitted in writing to Lisa Lang either by mail to the address in the previous sentence or email at [lisak.lang@ky.gov](mailto:lisak.lang@ky.gov) between the above dates. If comments are received through either writing or the public hearing, then staff will share these comments with the Board for consideration.

## **Senate Bill 117 and Rank II Options Committee**

In summary, Senate Bill 117 (SB117) clarifies language and makes requirements consistent for the eight (8) alternative routes to certification. It includes definitions for “provisional certificates,” “professional certificates,” “continuing education,” and “college or university work of graduate grade.” It amends KRS 161.048 to allow a veteran with a bachelor’s or master’s degree in any area to be issued a Statement of Eligibility (SOE) for a Provisional Certificate in the area of certification related to the degree, or allows a veteran who can successfully pass the appropriate content exam to be issued an SOE for a Provisional Certificate in that content area as long as other requirements are met. SB117 also amends KRS 161.095 to delete language that restricted continuing education related to maintaining a certificate.

At its December 12, 2016, meeting, the Board commissioned a committee to look at alternative routes to obtain a Rank II. Currently, there are two routes by which an educator can obtain a Rank II: 1) a planned fifth-year program; or 2) the Continuing Education Option (CEO). Please see [16 KAR Chapter 8](#) for details. The amendments made in SB117 allow for more options to obtain a Rank II to be considered. The committee has reviewed the amendments in SB117, and is finalizing its recommendations. The committee is scheduled to present their recommendations at the June 19, 2017, meeting of the Board.

## **Educator Ethics**

The revisions to 16 KAR 1:030 became effective March 3, 2017. At the April 10, 2017 meeting, the Board approved revisions to the Procedures Relating to Board Action on an Educator’s Certificate. A copy of the Procedures can be found at [http://epsb.ky.gov/documents/Legal/Final\\_Procedures.pdf](http://epsb.ky.gov/documents/Legal/Final_Procedures.pdf).

In accordance with 16 KAR 1:030 and the Procedures, periods of suspension will no longer be noted on an educator’s certificate. Additionally, suspensions will only be noted on the Board’s website during the period of suspension. Though the periods of suspension are removed from the certificate, this does not erase the suspension. The suspension is still deemed to have occurred, and record of the suspension is contained in the educator’s EPSB file. This information is subject to Open Records and can be requested through [EPSBOpenRecordsReq@ky.gov](mailto:EPSBOpenRecordsReq@ky.gov).

Revocations will continue to be noted on the website and will be noted on any future certificates issued to the educator.



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## **Ethics Seminars**

The Division of Educator Ethics provides ethics training and seminars to schools, districts, educator preparation programs, and school associations free of charge. Staff can modify the presentation for the particular needs of the audience. For more information or to schedule an event, please contact Elise Borne at [elise.borne@ky.gov](mailto:elise.borne@ky.gov).

## **Certification Fee Increase Scheduled to Start July 1, 2017**

The increases in the certification fees that were first announced in the September 2016 EPSB Update Memo are scheduled to go into effect on July 1, 2017. Certification fees were first established by the Board in January 1997 and have not changed since that time. Following are the changes to 16 KAR 4:040:

- Increase the "Issuance, reissuance, or renewal of a regular certificate" from fifty (50) dollars to eighty-five (85) dollars;
- Increase the "Reissuance of limited four (4) year certification" from thirty-five (35) dollars to fifty (50) dollars; and
- Add a synchronization option for aligning multiple certifications which would include an eighty-five (85) dollars renewal fee + fifteen (15) dollars synchronization fee for a total of one hundred (100) dollars.
- Require that certification fees be paid through an electronic payment rather than certified check or money order.

The EPSB has received questions concerning when an individual who has certificates set to expire on June 30, 2017, should renew. The EPSB allows a grace period for expired certificates until September 1\* of the year of expiration. This is primarily due to the necessity of some to complete required course work during the summer months.

If an individual currently has all certificates already synchronized to the same renewal year, then it is most cost effective for the individual to renew and submit payment prior to June 30, 2017. Those educators with multiple certifications with differing renewal years will find it more cost effective to renew after June 30, 2017 (but prior to September 1, 2017\*).

*\*The EPSB April 2017 Update Memo incorrectly stated the date as September 15.*

## **Nominations for Content Reviewers of Programs Being Sought**

The EPSB Program Review Process continues to need content reviewers. We welcome nominations from all EPPs and P-12 district partners. These reviewers provide feedback on the adequacy of the preparation programs and alignment of programs to the Specialized Professional Associations (SPA) standards, the Kentucky Academic Standards, Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium



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(InTASC) standards, and the Kentucky Teacher Standards. The review is conducted electronically so there are no meetings to attend. The content reviewers submit written comments to EPSB staff and the Reading Committee for use in the program approval process. These reviewers do not make any determination or decision regarding the approval or denial of a program. Content reviewers are needed in all certification program areas, but particularly in art, biology, chemistry, English, world languages, physics, math, agriculture, business and marketing, dance, engineering and technology education, family and consumer science, health, and physical education. Please send your content reviewer nomination to Eve Proffitt at [eve.proffitt@ky.gov](mailto:eve.proffitt@ky.gov).

## **Cooperating Teacher Stipends**

The EPSB provides a stipend to cooperating teachers who guide student teachers in their classrooms. Funds will be sent to districts in June, and cooperating teachers may expect payment on a summer paycheck. Although these stipends are modest, cooperating teachers perform an important and valued function in the preparation of Kentucky's teachers. We want to thank our teachers for their expertise and valuable time to support our aspiring teachers.

## **KTIP Resource Teacher Payments and Final Reports**

KTIP resource teachers should be submitting spring or full-year time sheets through the Intern Management System (IMS) once all cycle committee meetings have been completed. EPSB staff members have already begun submitting payments to those teachers who have submitted accurate documentation. The resource teacher time sheets require separate signatures from the Record of Teacher Internship Year (RTIY). If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Salsman at [Sharon.Salsman@ky.gov](mailto:Sharon.Salsman@ky.gov) or Sherri Henley at [Sherri.Henley@ky.gov](mailto:Sherri.Henley@ky.gov).

## **University Preparation Program Initiative (UPPI) Update**

EPSB continues its work with Western Kentucky University and the Green River Regional Education Cooperative (GRREC) on the Wallace Foundation UPPI grant. The grant looks at principal preparation and the review of appropriate skills, dispositions and competencies necessary to be an effective principal, especially of schools with large numbers of disadvantaged students. EPSB is consulting with a stakeholder group with representatives from the Kentucky Department of Education, the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, the Council on Postsecondary Education, the Association of Institutions Kentucky Colleges and Universities (AIKCU), the Kentucky Association of School Administrators, the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents, the Kentucky Association of Secondary School Principals, the Kentucky Association of Elementary School Principals, the Pritchard Committee, the Kentucky LEAD and p3 Projects, the ten education cooperatives, and the National Institute for School Leaders (NISL) as well as representatives from the 18 Kentucky colleges and universities with principal preparation programs.



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With these stakeholders, EPSB is facilitating discussions regarding a review of the current principal regulation, the standards for guiding the development and review of principal preparation programs, as well as discussion of feedback and data system connecting the universities with their school district partners. The initial grant started July 2016 and runs through December 2017, with a renewal grant for 2018-19. We anticipate the stakeholders will provide recommendations on professional standards for principal programs, clinical experiences, as well as information on internships and professional development.

## **Meetings Across the State**

5/1/2017	KDE	Commissioner's Town Hall Meeting Henderson County
5/3/2017	GRREC	Board Meeting
5/10/2017	NKCES	Board Meeting
5/11/2017	SESC	Board Meeting
5/17/2017	CKEC	Board Meeting
5/24/2017	WKEC	Board Meeting
5/24/2017	KVEC	Board Meeting
5/31/2017	OVEC	Board Meeting
6/7/2017	GRREC	Board Meeting
6/11-13/2017	NASDTEC	Annual Conference
6/14/2017	NKCES	Board Meeting
6/15/2017	KASA/CEL	New Superintendent Continuum of Planning and Preparation
6/19/2017	EPSB	Board Meeting
6/21/2017	CKEC	Board Meeting
6/26-27/2017	KACTE	Summer Meeting
6/27-29/2017	CEEDAR	Cross-State Convening

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EPSB is Monday, June 19, 2017, at 10:00 AM (Eastern Time) in Conference Room A, 100 Airport Road, 3rd Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky.

EPSB meeting agendas may be found one week prior to the meeting at <http://www.epsb.ky.gov/boardinfo/meetingagendas.asp>.