



**EP SB**

**Education Professional  
Standards Board**

## The Changing Face of Certification

*Outcomes of the Certification Task Force*

2009





# Background

## Beginnings of the Certification Task Force (CTF)

- During its June 2008 retreat, the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) discussed a number of current climatic conditions in the area of Kentucky teacher certification and its immediate and future workforce needs.
- Among these factors are: regional teacher shortages in some certification areas, legislative interest in broadening program offerings to develop teachers in mathematics and science, increasing teacher mobility into Kentucky, and current regulations which affect reciprocity in out-of-state certification cases.



# Background

## Reciprocity and NASDTEC Agreement

- 🍏 The EPSB will be re-signing the Interstate Agreement of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) in 2010.
- 🍏 This agreement, which Kentucky last signed in 2004 to accept teacher certification (under certain conditions) from 19 other states, is a key component in establishing the state's willingness to accept out-of-state teacher certificates via reciprocity.
- 🍏 True reciprocity, i.e., unconditional acceptance of a certification, currently exists in only two states.



# CTF Composition

**The group was comprised of district human resources professionals and university representatives, as well as having representation from the Kentucky Department of Education, along with other stakeholders with intimate knowledge and interest in conditions relative to teacher certification.**



# The CTF's Charge

*The Task Force was asked by the Board to bring forth recommendations in the following areas:*

- An examination of alternative certification programs within the state;
- Expanding the grade level permissions of middle school mathematics certificates to allow teaching of additional courses at the high school level;



# The CTF's Charge

*Task Force was asked by the Board to bring forth recommendations in the following areas:*

- Methods to allow current experienced Kentucky teachers to add additional certification areas without the completion of an additional teacher preparation program, including modifications to the TC-HQ certification process;
- Emerging areas in certification, particularly with occupation-based certificates;



# The CTF's Charge

*Task Force was asked by the Board to bring forth recommendations in the following areas:*

- Use of the proficiency evaluation by universities to aid teachers in adding additional certification areas;
- Critical attributes to consider when accepting or rejecting out-of-state certifications and endorsements.



# Input Groups

- KY Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
- KY Association of School Human Resource Managers
- Center for Middle School Academic Achievement
- Bluegrass Council of Teacher Educators (Fayette County Public Schools)
- Mathematics faculty members at Northern Kentucky University, Eastern Kentucky University, Western Kentucky University and Murray State University
- Mathematics program personnel with the KY Department of Education
- Electronic survey to superintendents, HR directors, principals, IHE deans/chairs and Teacher Education Committee members



# CTF Recommendations

## Recommendation I:

Work with the Kentucky Department of Education to ensure that providers of training for SBDM Councils receive a needed component regarding quality, qualifications of candidates as well as their eligibility for hire under KRS 160.345 (2) (h)



# CTF Recommendations

## Recommendation II:

- Recognize the critical need to provide more mentoring and coaching early in the first year of the Temporary Provisional certificate holder
- Solicit financial and in-kind help from the IHE's, and education co-ops in providing this, particularly for late hires.
- Require those institutions currently providing alternative certification programs to annually submit to EPSB their procedure for developing the mentoring plan



# CTF Recommendations

## Recommendation III:

Allow Mathematics 5-9 teachers to teach Algebra I at grades 10-11.



# CTF Recommendations

## Recommendation IV:

- Modify the current TC-HQ route for adding a new certification area to allow a 45-point component for passage of the required Praxis II assessment(s) within the current 90 point formula.
- This will not allow a teacher to cross pedagogies (e.g., elementary/ secondary, special/regular education)



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# TC-HQ and The Case of Jane Jones

## The Current TC-HQ Scenario

Jane Jones has a Biology 8-12 certificate. District needs her to teach a section of Earth Science at the high school.

Currently, she would need 90 points on the KY TC-HQ Index and THEN take & pass the Praxis for Earth Science.



## TC-HQ and Jane Jones

Jane believes she has 5 undergraduate classes (15 hours) in course work used in the Earth Science certification area. She completes the TC-HQ CA form and submits it to one of the approved universities. (This analysis costs \$96.) These 15 hours are validated for Earth Science.

***She now has 45 (15 X 3 pts. per hour points on the Index)***



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## TC-HQ and Jane Jones

She taught one year of Earth Science classes at the high school on an emergency certificate. This is validated.

***She now has three more points (1 X 3 pts. per year) for a total of 48 points on the Index.***



## TC-HQ and Jane Jones

She has completed 3 high-quality professional development workshops during the past 5 years related to Earth Science and this is documented at the district level.

***She now has 15 more points (5 pts. each X 3) for a total of 63 points on the Index.***



## TC-HQ and Jane Jones

She has no achievements or awards in the area of Earth Science.

***She has a total of 63 points on the Index.***

There is **no reason** for her to take the Praxis test for Earth Science as she cannot add Earth Science certification.



# TC-HQ and Jane Jones COMING SOON!

- Under the recommendation of the Certification Task Force, the successful passage of the appropriate Praxis content test(s) would count for **45 points within** the TC-HQ Index.
- Should Jane Jones pass this assessment, she would have a total of 108 points on the TC-HQ Index, and the new certification could be added.



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# TC-HQ and Jane Jones COMING SOON!

- Any experienced and professionally certified Kentucky teacher could be eligible to add the second core content area with 15 relevant credit hours and the passage of the appropriate test.
- This plan would also be helpful with out-of-state teachers who hold additional areas of certification gained in their state via testing only, yet they possess years of valid teaching experience in the additional area.



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# CTF Recommendations (Continued)

## Recommendation V:

Add new endorsement certificates for Elementary Mathematics Specialist, Literacy Specialist, K-12, and American Sign Language.



# CTF Recommendations

## Recommendation VI:

Add a probationary certificate program for English as a Second Language.



# CTF Recommendations

## Recommendation VII:

Convene a work group with the KY Department of Education and the Cabinet for Workforce Investment to discuss the unique needs of the occupation-based areas, including the need to address future certificate needs in the Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) areas.



# CTF Recommendations

## Recommendation VIII:

Update 16 KAR 5:030 regarding proficiency evaluations conducted by IHEs to clarify the EPSB's position regarding the parameters for this process in appropriate situations.



# CTF Recommendations

## Recommendation IX:

Restrict the issuance of emergency certificates to current year only, allowing only one re-issuance in cases where the emergency certificate was issued after February 15 or was used for less than 50% of the teacher's schedule during the first issuance.



## “On Hold”

Change to KRS 161.030 (c) which governs the temporary certificate for out-of-state applicants to: 1.) Extend the testing period to one year from six months, and; 2.) modify the wording to permit the use of this certificate if no *qualified* applicants are available (as opposed to the current wording of no *certified* applicant.)



## “On Hold”

Reduce the two-year teaching experience requirement for out-of-state teachers to one year in order to waive KTIP and Kentucky assessment requirements for those teachers who have prepared in Kentucky and passed Kentucky’s required assessments. *(Also in the “KTIP” statute)*



# The Next Steps

## Consultation with IHEs

- ESL teacher preparation faculty
- Literacy program teacher preparation faculty
- IHE elementary & math faculty



# The Next Steps

## Consultation with IHEs

- Deans and Chairs regarding Proficiency Evaluation guidelines
- Alt Cert IHE Coordinators for review process of the Temporary Provisional mentoring plans



# The Next Steps

## Consultation with KDE and Workforce

- Infusing information into SBDM Training regarding certificate types
- Formulation of work group to examine problems with occupation-based certificate areas and/or preparation programs



# The Next Steps

## Filing of New Regulations

- Will likely begin in Fall 2009 with two readings by EPSB
- Reviewed by LRC staff
- Heard by Legislative Review Committee
- Will be open for review throughout process
- Usually takes about 8-12 months, depending on comment



# Anticipated Timeline

## Fall 2009

- **SBDM training additions**
- **TP review process for IHEs**
- **Convene occupation-based work group**



# Anticipated Timeline

## Spring 2010

- Gain regulatory approval for new endorsements, grade level changes, and TC-HQ
- File regulation changes for occupation-based areas
- File regulation changes for emergency cert changes



# Anticipated Timeline

## July 2010

- **Gain regulatory approval for occupation-based and emergency cert changes**
- **All regulatory changes from CTF recommendations become final and effective for 2010-2011 school year**



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