

Memorandum

Date: November 21, 2025
To: Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board
From: Debby Odell, Licensing and Operations Manager
RE: Board Resolution – CTE - ACTION

Background:

MN Rule 8710.0312 Subp. 2 A (3) states Career and Technical Education (CTE) applicants are able to obtain a tier two license using the bachelor's degree exemption if they verify they have:

- (a) five years of relevant work experience aligned to the assignment;
- (b) an associate's degree aligned to the assignment; or
- (c) a professional certification aligned to the assignment from an approved certifying organization.

Candidates interested in enrolling in MN approved CTE programs for licensure often hope to enroll in multiple CTE licensure fields. Prior to enrollment, the candidate just needs to verify they meet the BA exemption in one of the licensure areas or (aligned to the assignment). Upon completion of the licensure program, candidates will have the content expertise for all enrolled licensure areas completed.

For licensure purposes, PELSB needs to verify the applicant meets the BA exemption aligned to the assignment for each CTE field applied for. This makes sense for our Tier 1 applicants; however, it is preventing some of our Tier 2 applicants to obtain licensure based on their enrollment in a MN approved program as PELSB is unable to verify they meet the BA exemption in each of the licensure areas they are applying for.

Summary:

Candidates who enroll in a MN approved CTE licensure program for multiple CTE licensure fields and demonstrate they meet the bachelor's degree exemption in at least one of those fields, should be able to obtain a Tier 2 license in each of the fields enrolled if needed. The proposed Board resolution would waive the language "aligned to the assignment" from MN Rule 8710.0312 Subp. 2 A (3) for applicants applying for a Tier 2 license in a CTE field and verify they are enrolled in a MN approved CTE licensure program.

Additionally, Lakes Country Service Cooperative has asked the Board to waive the same language for Tier 3 as a technical correction. However, since candidates who complete a MN approved CTE program will have demonstrated content in each area they are being recommended for licensure, this waiver should not be necessary as it would fall under certification aligned to the assignment from an approved certifying organization.

Options:

The Board can vote to approve the resolution

The Board can vote to take no action

The Board can table this discussion for a future meeting