Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board

Adopted Exempt Permanent Rules Relating to Tiered Licensure and Licensure Exams

8705.1010 UNIT STANDARDS.

Subpart 1. **Standards for program design and improvement.**

[For text of item A, see Minnesota Rules]

B. Standard 2. The unit must ensure each program provides effective instruction on:

[For text of subitems (1) to (5), see Minnesota Rules]

(6) ~~research-based~~ evidence-based best practices in reading ~~that~~, including instruction on phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, and reading comprehension. Instruction on reading must enable the candidate to teach reading in the candidate's licensure field;

[For text of subitems (7) and (8), see Minnesota Rules]

C. Standard 3. The unit must implement an assessment system with a process for annually collecting and reviewing data from:

[For text of subitems (1) to (3), see Minnesota Rules]

(4) candidate scores on ~~state-required examinations and~~ board-adopted performance assessments.

[For text of items D and E, see Minnesota Rules]

[For text of subparts 2 to 7, see Minnesota Rules]

8705.2100 REQUEST FOR INITIAL PROGRAM APPROVAL (RIPA).

[For text of subpart 1, see Minnesota Rules]

Subp. 2. **Request for initial program approval (RIPA).** The request for initial program approval (RIPA) must be submitted according to the procedures in this subpart.

[For text of items A to C, see Minnesota Rules]

D. Program applications must include all requirements in subitems (1) to (6).

[For text of subitems (1) to (5), see Minnesota Rules]

(6) The application must identify a process for continuous improvement that includes:

[For text of unit (a), see Minnesota Rules]

~~(b) attestation that all candidates must attempt board-approved content and pedagogy exams prior to recommendation, and such data will be remitted to the board to demonstrate program efficacy;~~

~~(c)~~ (b) attestation that all candidates must submit a complete board-adopted performance assessment prior to recommendation, and such data will be remitted to the board to demonstrate program efficacy; and

~~(d)~~ (c) attestation that the implementation of the battery of board-adopted surveys must be provided for candidates, program completers at completion and one year after completion, and the program completers' current supervisors one year after completion.

[For text of subpart 3, see Minnesota Rules]

Subp. 4. **Board determinations.** The board must take one of the following actions based upon the PRP's recommendation.

A. The board may grant initial approval for up to three years to launch the program and to begin to collect candidate and program efficacy data needed for continuing approval. A program with initial approval must seek continuing approval by submitting a program

effectiveness report for continuing approval (PERCA) on the same reporting cycle as the unit.

(1) Continuing approval is granted when:

(a) data from a minimum of ten program completers shows that candidates meet board-adopted thresholds on ~~state-required examinations and~~ performance assessments; and

[For text of unit (b), see Minnesota Rules]

[For text of subitem (2), see Minnesota Rules]

(3) If data from at least ten program completers shows that candidates do not meet board-adopted thresholds on ~~state-required examinations and~~ performance assessments, the program must be forwarded to the PRP.

[For text of item B, see Minnesota Rules]

8705.2200 PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS REPORT FOR CONTINUING APPROVAL (PERCA).

[For text of subpart 1, see Minnesota Rules]

Subp. 2. **Program effectiveness report for continuing approval (PERCA).**

A. A unit must seek continuing approval of a program every three years by submitting a program effectiveness report for continuing approval (PERCA) that includes the following:

(1) the number of candidates enrolled and the number of program completers in each of the last three years; and

~~(2) aggregate candidate scores and pass rates in state-required examinations in the last three years; and~~

~~(3)~~ (2) aggregate candidate scores and pass rates in board-adopted performance assessments in the last three years.

[For text of items B and C, see Minnesota Rules]

[For text of subparts 3 to 4, see Minnesota Rules]

8710.0311 TIER 1 LICENSE.

Subpart 1. **Purpose.** If a district is unable to fill an open position with a teacher holding a Tier 2, 3, or 4 license, a Tier 1 license must be issued, consistent with this part, to an applicant who does not hold a Tier 2, 3, or 4 license ~~on behalf of a district request except as provided in part 8710.0310, subpart 4~~. A Tier 1 license authorizes the license holder to teach within the requesting district and the specific licensure field in the application.

Subp. 2. **Requirements.** The board must issue a Tier 1 license to an applicant upon request by the designated administrator of the hiring district and the applicant. The applicant must initiate the application process and meet the requirements of this subpart.

[For text of items A to C, see Minnesota Rules]

[For text of subparts 3 to 7, see Minnesota Rules]

8710.0312 TIER 2 LICENSE.

Subpart 1. **Purpose.** ~~A Tier 2 license must be issued, consistent with this part, to an applicant on behalf of a district request.~~ A Tier 2 license authorizes the license holder to teach within the requesting district and the specific licensure field in the application.

Subp. 2. **Requirements.** The board must issue a Tier 2 license to an applicant upon request by the designated administrator of the hiring district and the applicant. The applicant must initiate the application process and must meet the requirements of this subpart.

[For text of item A, see Minnesota Rules]

B. The applicant must:

[For text of subitem (1), see Minnesota Rules]

(2) have completed a state-approved teacher preparation program aligned to the licensure field; or

~~(2)~~ (3) hold a master's degree, or equivalent, aligned to the assignment from a college or university located in the United States that is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission or by the regional association for accreditation of colleges and secondary schools, as verified by a college transcript~~; or~~.

~~(3) show completion of two of the following:~~

~~(a) at least eight upper division or graduate-level credits aligned to the assignment;~~

~~(b) field-specific methods in a state-approved teacher preparation program aligned to the assignment;~~

~~(c) at least two years of experience teaching as the teacher of record aligned to the assignment;~~

~~(d) board-adopted pedagogy and content examinations with passing scores aligned to the licensure area. Any licensure area that does not have a board-approved content examination is exempt from the content examination requirement; or~~

~~(e) a state-approved teacher preparation program aligned to the licensure area.~~

[For text of item C, see Minnesota Rules]

[For text of subparts 3 to 7, see Minnesota Rules]

8710.0314 TIER 4 LICENSE.

[For text of subpart 1, see Minnesota Rules]

Subp. 2. **Requirements.** The board must issue a Tier 4 license if the applicant meets all of the requirements of this subpart.

[For text of items A and B, see Minnesota Rules]

C. The applicant must obtain passing scores on the board-approved ~~skills,~~ pedagogy~~,~~ and content examinations aligned to the licensure area sought. Any licensure area that does not have a board-approved content examination is exempt from the content examination requirement.

D. The applicant must have at least three years of field-specific experience teaching ~~in Minnesota~~ as the teacher of record.

~~E. The applicant's most recent summative evaluation must not have resulted in placing or otherwise keeping the teacher in an improvement process aligned to the district's teacher development and evaluation plan.~~

~~F.~~ E. The applicant must have participated in mentorship and evaluation aligned to the district's teacher development and evaluation model under Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.40, subdivision 8, or 122A.41, subdivision 5, or if the statutory models are not practicable, to another identified district-aligned evaluation.

[For text of subparts 3 to 6, see Minnesota Rules]

Subp. 7. **Moving from Tier 3 to Tier 4 license.** An applicant who holds a Tier 3 license and is seeking a Tier 4 license after three years of teaching experience ~~in Minnesota, and who has passed the board-approved skills exam,~~ must meet the renewal clock hour requirements in part 8710.7200, subpart 2, and the professional development requirements in part 8710.7200, subpart 2a.

8710.0500 EXAMINATIONS FOR TEACHER LICENSES.

[For text of subparts 1 to 12, see Minnesota Rules]

Subp. 13. **Exemptions.** The following applicants for a Tier 3 or Tier 4 license are exempt from the requirement to pass content and pedagogy exams:

A. an applicant who completed a board-approved teacher preparation program aligned to the license sought;

B. an applicant who completed a state-approved teacher preparation program in another state, aligned to the license sought, and passed licensure exams in that state. If no licensure exams existed in the other state, the applicant is exempt from the applicable board-approved examinations; and

C. an applicant who was recommended for a Tier 3 license through the licensure via portfolio process aligned to the license sought.

EFFECTIVE DATE. The amendments to part 8710.0312, subpart 2, are effective July 1, 2024.