

MEMORANDUM

To: Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board

From: Lucy Payne, Board Chair

Date: January 23, 2026

Subject: Student Teaching & Online Learning – ACTION

Background

With the increased Federal presence in Minnesota, several school districts in Minnesota declared an emergency and have provided hybrid learning options for students for the foreseeable future.

Minnesota Rule 8705.1010 subpart 3 C & D requires student teachers to complete clinical experiences to finish their teacher training program. Proposed rule R-4863 introduces an emergency option for student teachers:

- If completing face-to-face student teaching as required in Minnesota Rule 8705.1010 Standards 11 & 12 is not feasible due to an emergency declaration by the state, an authorized strike, or other unforeseen circumstances as determined by the unit, the unit may allow a candidate to complete up to two weeks of student teaching in a virtual setting. The unit must document the emergency circumstances with the candidate's file.
- If completing the required number of weeks of student teaching as required in Standards 11 & 12 is not feasible due to an emergency declaration by the state, an authorized strike, or other unforeseen circumstances as determined by the unit, the unit may allow the candidate to complete replacement activities or waive up to two weeks. The unit must document the emergency circumstances with the candidate's file.

R-4863 is a proposed rule and is not yet in effect.

Request

Given the actions by the Minnesota school districts, PELSB should adopt the proposed rulemaking language as a resolution. The resolution would help student teachers meet their requirements during the current emergency.

Options

- Move to adopt the resolution.
- Table for further discussion.