



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD • MarylandPublicSchools.org

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Nancy S. Grasmick *Nancy*

DATE: May 25-26, 2010

SUBJECT: COMAR 13A.12.01.11A(3), Failure to Meet Requirements (**AMEND**)
COMAR 13A.12.01.04E, Approved Professional Experience (**AMEND**)

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this item is to present proposed publication of changes to COMAR 13A.12.01.11A(3), Failure to Meet Requirements, and COMAR 13A.12.01.04E, Approved Professional Experience, and to provide the option to convene a Joint Conference Committee should you so desire.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In June 2009, the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) initiated a comprehensive review of those chapters pertaining to certification, specifically, COMAR 13A.12.01 through COMAR 13A.12.05. The PSTEB directed staff to engage in a critical review of the chapters for consistency of regulatory language, alignment of regulations with existing practices, and potential changes. Staff compiled a preliminary list which categorized the changes into three areas: editorial changes, substantive changes which aligned with current practice requiring minimal discussion, and substantive changes which required considerable discussion among affected constituencies.

Staff convened work groups to study the potential changes. Based on the findings of the Work Groups, it was recommended that the existing regulations, namely, COMAR 13A.12.01.11A(3), Failure to Meet Requirements, and COMAR 13A.12.01.04E, Approved Professional Experience did not merit substantive changes but rather changes in language for the purposes of clarification and alignment with current practice.

Maryland Public Schools: #1 in the Nation AGAIN in 2010
www.MarylandPublicSchools.org

Members of the State Board of Education
May 25-26, 2010
Page Two

Deletion of specified language in COMAR 13A.12.01.11A(3) eliminates the apparent contradiction in the individual's ability to hold more than two Conditional Certificates under certain conditions. Addition of new language and deletion of existing language in COMAR 13A.12.01.04E clarifies that both the out-of-state certificate and the experience must be in the certification area being sought in Maryland.

These proposed changes were presented to the Directors of Human Resources at their January 21, 2010 meeting for discussion; they were in agreement with the proposed changes.

SUMMARY:

In June 2009, the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board initiated a comprehensive review of regulations pertaining to certification. The PSTEB is examining each chapter pertaining to certification for consistency of regulatory language, alignment of regulations with existing practices, and potential changes. The proposed changes to COMAR 13A.12.01.11A(3), Failure to Meet Requirements, eliminate contradiction in the existing regulation; proposed changes to COMAR 13A.12.01.04E, Approved Professional Experience, clarify existing regulatory language.

ACTION:

This item is presented for information and to provide the opportunity to convene a Joint Conference Committee prior to the publication should you so desire.

NSG: jhe

Attachments

ATTACHMENT 1

.11 Renewal of Certificates.

A. General.

(1) An applicant who receives a certificate is responsible for initiating the renewal of the certificate.

(2) Renewal requirements shall be received at the Department within 90 days of the expiration date listed under "Period of Validity" on the certification in order for the certificate to be considered continuous.

(3) Failure to Meet Requirements. Failure to meet the requirements of this section results in loss of the professional certificate. **[Subject to the limits set forth in §C of this regulation,] [t] The** local school system may request a conditional certificate pursuant to Regulation .08 of this chapter for an employee who fails to meet the renewal requirements of the professional certificate.

(4)–(7) (text unchanged)

B.– D. (text unchanged)

.04 Options for Obtaining Initial Maryland Certification.

A.–D. (text unchanged).

E. Approved Professional Experience.

(1) The applicant shall:

(a) Present a valid professional state certificate and verification of at least 27 months of satisfactory school-related experience [on the basis of which application is being made for a like or comparable Maryland certificate] during the past 7 years **IN THE CERTIFICATION AREA SOUGHT**; and

(b) If applicable to the certification being sought, meet the degree requirement under COMAR 13A.12.03 or 13A.12.04; or

(2) The applicant shall:

(a) Present valid professional certification from a country other than the United States and verification of 27 months of satisfactory school-related experience [on the basis of which application is being made for a like or comparable Maryland] teaching certificate during the past 7 years **IN THE CERTIFICATION AREA SOUGHT**;

(b) – (c) (text unchanged)

F.–H. (text unchanged)