

4 AAC 04.220(c) is amended to read:

(c) Except as provided in (d) of this section, and in addition to the requirements of (b) of this section, each district shall ensure that a paraprofessional has met at least one of the following requirements:

(1) completed at least two years, or 48 semester hours or equivalent, of study at a regionally **or nationally** accredited institution of higher education;

(2) obtained an associate's or higher degree at a regionally **or nationally** accredited institution of higher education; or

(3) achieved [EITHER]

(A) a score of at least 459 on the ParaPro Assessment, published by the Educational Testing Service; [OR]

(B) the following minimum scores on the Higher Education Learning Profile, published by Educational Resources Incorporated:

(i) essential math, 54 percent;

(ii) reading comprehension, 41 percent; and

(iii) written expression, 55 percent;

**(C) the following minimum scores on the Paraeducator Online**

**Training and Assessments by Master Teacher, Inc.:**

**(i) Assessment 1 Reading, Writing, and Math: Instructional Support, 65 percent; and**

**(ii) Assessment 2 Reading, Writing, and Math, 70 percent;**

**(D) the following minimum levels on the WorkKeys by ACT, Inc.:**

**(i) Workplace Documents, level 4;**

**(ii) Applied Math, level 4; and**

**(iii) Graphic Literacy, level 3; or**

**(E) qualifying competency examination scores under 4 AAC 12.310.**

(Eff. 6/10/2004, Register 170; am 5/18/2006, Register 178; am 2/28/2010, Register 193; am 10/20/2018, Register 228; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.50.080

**Editor's note:** [THE *ALASKA STATE PARAPROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS*, ADOPTED BY REFERENCE IN 4 AAC 04.220, AND] Information [INFORMATION] **about** [ON] the ParaPro Assessment, **published by Educational Testing Service**, may be obtained at **<https://www.ets.org/parapro>**; **about Paraeducator Online Training and Assessments by Master Teacher, Inc., at <https://www.masterteacher.com/paraeducator-online-training>**; **about WorkKeys by ACT, Inc., at <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/workkeys-for-job-seekers/assessments.html>** or by writing to the Department of Education and Early Development, 801 W. 10th Street, Suite 200, P.O. Box 110500, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500.

4 AAC 12.300(b) is amended to read:

(b) A teacher applying for a teacher certificate must submit

(1) a **complete** [COMPLETED] application[; THE APPLICATION MUST BE]signed **by the applicant** [AND NOTARIZED];

(2) official transcripts of all college work **necessary for the required degree or approved program**;

(3) the certificate fee;

(4) one completed fingerprint card, with fingerprinting performed by a law enforcement agency or a person who has been trained in recording fingerprints, for separate submittal to the Department of Public Safety and the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the department will accept a name-based criminal history background check on a person from the agency performing the background check if the requirements of AS 14.20.020(j) are met; and

(5) [THE OFFICIAL SCORES DEMONSTRATING THAT THE APPLICANT MEETS OR EXCEEDS THE QUALIFYING SCORES FOR THE STATE ON ONE OF THE COMPETENCY EXAMINATIONS DESIGNATED IN 4 AAC 12.310.] repealed \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_;

**(6) a copy of a valid picture identification issued by a state or federal agency.**

4 AAC 12.300(l) is amended to read:

(l) In place of the information required of an applicant by (b)(4) of this section, the department will accept the results of a successful criminal history background check of the applicant conducted under 4 AAC 30.020(b) if the applicant submits an application to the department under (b) of this section not later than

(1) **12 months** [60 DAYS] after the applicant's last day of student teaching; **or**

[AND]

(2) **24** [18] months after the date of the department's notification that the applicant passed the criminal history background check conducted under 4 AAC 30.020(b).

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 9/30/2005, Register 175; am 12/20/2005, Register 176; am 9/20/2006, Register 179; am 6/7/2015, Register 214; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am 10/20/20018, Register 228; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020 AS 14.20.030  
AS 14.20.010

4 AAC 12.305(a) is amended to read:

(a) Except as provided in AS 14.20, the department will issue an initial teacher certificate[, VALID FOR UP TO THREE YEARS UNDER (D) OF THIS SECTION,] to an applicant who

(1) has satisfied a baccalaureate degree requirement under AS 14.20;  
(2) for purposes of competency examination requirements under AS 14.20.020 or 14.20.022, meets or exceeds the qualifying scores for this state on one of the competency examinations designated in 4 AAC 12.310;

(3) has met or will meet within two years the requirements of AS 14.20.020(h);  
(4) meets the certification requirements of AS 14.20.015, 14.20.017, 14.20.020, or 14.20.022;

(5) if the applicant seeks to qualify for certification under AS 14.20.020 or 14.20.022, provides

(A) a recommendation or proof of program enrollment from an approved preparation program accepted under 4 AAC 12.307(a); and

(B) for each endorsement area listed on the recommendation or proof of program enrollment provided under (A) of this paragraph, a score that meets or exceeds the required score on a content area examination for any endorsement area designated in 4 AAC 12.407 or each equivalent content area examination required by a certifying state agency for an endorsement on a comparable certificate held by the applicant;

(6) if the applicant has completed an approved program accepted under 4 AAC 12.307(a)(2), provides evidence of a comparable certificate issued by the certifying state agency with jurisdiction over the program or an assurance by the certifying state agency or preparing institution that all requirements, including testing required by the jurisdiction, have been satisfied by the applicant and that the applicant is eligible to gain the comparable certification in the state where the preparing institution is located; [AND]

(7) [IF THE APPLICANT SEEKS TO QUALIFY FOR CERTIFICATION UNDER AS 14.20.020,] has met the requirements of 4 AAC 12.397(a); **and**

**(8) if the applicant satisfies the requirements for an initial teacher certificate under AS 14.20.020, the initial teacher certificate may be valid for up to five years from the issue date.**

4 AAC 12.305(b) is amended to read:

(b) The department will issue a professional teacher certificate, valid for five years to an applicant who has

- (1) met the requirements of (a) of this section for an initial teacher certificate;
- (2) passed

(A) the competency examination by achieving qualifying scores as described in (a)(2) of this section, if under AS 14.20.015, 14.20.017, or 14.20.022 the applicant had not yet met competency examination requirements as of the date of the initial teacher certificate; and

(B) a content area examination for any requested endorsement area designated in 4 AAC 12.407 by meeting or exceeding the required score, or each

equivalent content area examination required by a certifying state agency for a comparable endorsement held by the applicant;

(3) completed three semester hours in Alaska studies and three semester hours in multicultural education or cross cultural communications;

(4) completed a teacher education program, or an alternate teacher preparation program accepted by the commissioner under 4 AAC 12.307 or (e) of this section, and from which the applicant has obtained a recommendation for certification;

(5) completed any academic or other training that the department designated, at the time of application, as necessary for professional development, based on student achievement data;

(6) **within the five years immediately preceding application,** earned at least

**(A) six semester hours of college credit;**

**(B) 90 hours of continuing education units; or**

**(C) equivalent microcredentials**

**(i) aligned with one of the statewide goals adopted by the board under AS 14.07.165;**

**(i) approved by the department; and**

**(ii) based on a completed application form submitted to the department by a district or an educational organization [WITHIN THE FIVE YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING APPLICATION];**

(7) had at least two years of employment as a teacher while holding a valid teacher certificate issued by a state **with an evaluation under the state's evaluation system**

**indicating the applicant's performance is proficient or exemplary on the state's standards for teachers;** and

(8) met the requirements of 4 AAC 12.397(a).

4 AAC 12.305(c) is amended to read:

(c) The department will issue a master teacher certificate, valid for **five** [10] years, to an applicant who has met

(1) the requirements of (a) and (b) of this section for a professional teacher certificate;

(2) one of the following requirements:

(A) national board certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards; **or**

(B) master certification from a recognized national certification program as approved by the department; and

(3) the requirements of 4 AAC 12.397(a).

4 AAC 12.305(d) is amended to read:

(d) An initial teacher certificate is valid for **five** [THREE] years, or for the period set in AS 14.20.015, 14.20.017, 14.20.020(h), or 14.20.022 if the initial teacher certificate is issued under one of those provisions. [HOWEVER, IF THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER RECEIVED INITIAL CERTIFICATION FOR LESS THAN THREE YEARS UNDER AS 14.20.015, 14.20.020(H), OR 14.20.022, COMPLIES WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF AS 14.20.015, 14.20.017, 14.20.020(H), OR 14.20.022, AND MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF (A) OF

THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONSIDER THE INITIAL TEACHER CERTIFICATE VALID FOR THREE YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THE CERTIFICATE.]

4 AAC 12.305(g) is amended to read:

(g) A teacher who has not met the qualifications for a professional teacher certificate under (b) of this section when the teacher's initial teacher certificate **issued under AS 14.20.020** expires under (d) of this section may **apply for renewal of the initial teacher certificate** [NO LONGER BE EMPLOYED AS A TEACHER, EXCEPT THAT A PERSON WHO HAS NOT MET THE EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT OF (B)(7) OF THIS SECTION MAY REAPPLY FOR AN INITIAL CERTIFICATE].

4 AAC 12.305 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(k) An applicant who applies for an initial certificate under AS 14.20.015 and is the spouse of an active member of the armed forces of the United States is eligible for a one-time exemption from the certification fee in 4 AAC 12.300(g)(1). The application must include evidence that the applicant is married to and living with a member of the armed forces of the United States who is on active duty and assigned to a duty station in this state under official active duty military orders. (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 9/30/2005, Register 175; am 8/15/2008, Register 187; am 10/31/2008, Register 188; am 9/17/2011, Register 199; am 9/7/2012, Register 203; am 6/7/2014, Register 210; am 6/24/2014, Register 210; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am 2/5/2017, Register 221; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, Register \_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020



4 AAC 12.308(a) is amended to read:

(a) A regionally accredited institution of higher education **or a nationally accredited institution of higher education if approved by the commissioner under AS 14.20.020(b)** in this state may apply to the board for approval of the following educator preparation programs:

- (1) a teacher preparation program;
- (2) a special education teacher preparation program;
- (3) an education administrator preparation program; the program may include a specialization for principal or superintendent;
- (4) a special education administrator preparation program;
- (5) a special services preparation program in school psychology, school counseling, school social work, or school library science.

(Eff. 9/7/2012, Register 203; am 12/27/2012, Register 204; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, Register \_\_)

<b>Authority:</b>	AS 14.07.060	AS 14.20.020	AS 14.20.620
	AS 14.20.010	AS 14.20.022	AS 14.20.630

4 AAC 12.330(a) is amended to read:

(a) A person employed by or on behalf of a school district to teach special education to a child with a disability must possess a teacher certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.305 **or a special education alternate program certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.340** and must obtain a special education endorsement under this section, based upon completion of a teacher training program in special education accepted by the commissioner under 4 AAC 12.307 or an alternate program

accepted by the commissioner under 4 AAC 12.307 or by meeting the requirements for a special education alternate program certificate under 4 AAC 12.340.

4 AAC 12.330(c) is amended to read:

(c) [A PERSON EMPLOYED BY OR ON BEHALF OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO TEACH SPECIAL EDUCATION TO A PRESCHOOL CHILD WITH A DISABILITY, WHO DOES NOT HOLD AN ENDORSEMENT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION, MUST HAVE COMPLETED SIX SEMESTER HOURS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS IN (A) OF THIS SECTION.] Repealed \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 9/7/2012, Register 201; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.017 AS 14.20.025  
AS 14.20.015 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.335 is repealed:

**4 AAC 12.335. Requirements for teachers of gifted children.** [A PERSON EMPLOYED AS A TEACHER OF GIFTED CHILDREN MUST POSSESS A TEACHER CERTIFICATE ISSUED UNDER 4 AAC 12.305 AND MUST HAVE COMPLETED SIX SEMESTER HOURS IN GIFTED EDUCATION.] Repealed. (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

4 AAC 12.340 is amended to read:

**4 AAC 12.340. Special education or special services alternate program certificate.**

(a) If a school district superintendent is unable to recruit and hire a [NEW-TO-THE-DISTRICT] teacher who holds a valid teacher certificate under 4 AAC 12.305 with a special education endorsement[,], or [A RELATED SERVICES SPECIALIST WHO HOLDS] a special services certificate (Type C) **under 4 AAC 12.355** [WITH AN ENDORSEMENT IN SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY], the superintendent may request **that** the commissioner **issue** [TO GRANT] a special education **or special services** alternate program certificate for the hiring of a person who does not have the **required** endorsement **or certificate**.

(b) The commissioner may grant **an** [A SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate under this section only if the chief school administrator of the district requests it through formal action of the school board.

(c) An application for **an** [A SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate under this section must be submitted on a form provided by the department and include

(1) proof that the person for whom the [SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate is requested holds **at least a bachelor's degree;**

[(A) A TEACHER CERTIFICATE UNDER 4 AAC 12.305, IF THE POSITION WILL BE TEACHING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES; OR

(B) A TEACHER CERTIFICATE UNDER 4 AAC 12.305 OR A SPECIAL SERVICES CERTIFICATE (TYPE C), IF THE POSITION WILL BE PERFORMING THE DUTIES OF A SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST;]

(2) a letter from the school district superintendent that details the actions taken by the district to recruit a person who holds a teacher certificate under 4 AAC 12.305 with a special

education endorsement **or a special services certificate under 4 AAC 12.355**, including, at a minimum, either

(A) recruiting through the University of Alaska Fairbanks Alaska Teacher Placement program; or

(B) advertising in one or more newspapers of general circulation; and

(3) official transcripts [AND A LETTER FROM A TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM APPROVED UNDER 4 AAC 12.330(A),] evidencing that the person for whom the [SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate is requested

[(A)] has completed a minimum of nine semester or 12 quarter hours of [SPECIAL EDUCATION] coursework **required to complete the approved program under 4 AAC 12.307**; [AND]

**(4) a letter from a program approved under 4 AAC 12.307 evidencing that the person for whom the alternative program certificate is requested**

[(B)] is enrolled in an [INDIVIDUALIZED SPECIAL EDUCATION TRAINING] **educational** program that will qualify the person to receive a **teaching certificate under 4 AAC 12.305 with a** special education endorsement **or a special services certificate under 4 AAC 12.355** [4 AAC 12.330] within three years after the date of the application;

**(5) for an applicant applying for an alternate program certificate with a special education endorsement, qualifying scores [FOR THIS STATE] on one of the competency examinations designated in 4 AAC 12.310; and**

**(6) has met the requirements of 4 AAC 12.397(a).**

(d) **An** [A SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate under this section is valid for up to three school years, contingent on the annual submission by the district of evidence

from the [TEACHER TRAINING] **educational** program that the teacher **or special services provider** for whom the [SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate was granted continues to be enrolled in and is making satisfactory yearly progress on the individualized [SPECIAL EDUCATION] **educational** program set out in the application[,] and can complete the program within three years after the date of the application for **an** [A SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate under this section.

(e) **An** [A SPECIAL EDUCATION] alternate program certificate issued under this section is valid only in the district to which it is granted. **The duration of an alternate program certificate may not be extended beyond three school years.** [NO EXTENSION OF TIME ON THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ALTERNATE PROGRAM CERTIFICATE WILL BE GRANTED.] (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 3/24/2007, Register 181; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020 AS 14.30.250

4 AAC 12.345(b) is repealed:

(b) [Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the applicant must have earned at least six semester hours of credit within the five years immediately preceding application.] Repealed \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_.

4 AAC 12.345(d) is amended to read:

(d) The commissioner may issue a nonrenewable provisional certificate (provisional Type B), valid for no longer than two years, to an applicant who has completed the requirements of this section, except for the requirements in [(B) OR] (c) of this section.

4 AAC 12.345(f) is amended to read:

(f) The commissioner may convert a provisional certificate (provisional Type B) to an administrative certificate (Type B) upon satisfactory completion of the courses required under [(B) AND] (c) of this section and payment of the fee for an administrative certificate.

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 8/31/2008, Register 187; am 9/17/2011, Register 199; am 9/7/2012, Register 203; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, Register \_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020 AS 14.30.255

4 AAC 12.347(b) is repealed:

(b) [Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the applicant must have earned at least six semester hours of credit within the five years immediately preceding application.] Repealed \_\_/\_\_/\_\_.

(Eff. 8/31/2008, Register 187; am 9/17/2011, Register 199; am 9/7/2012, Register 203; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, Register \_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020 AS 14.30.255

4 AAC 12.355(b) is amended to read:

(b) [Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the applicant must have earned at least six semester hours of credit within the five years immediately preceding application.] Repealed \_\_/\_\_/\_\_.

4 AAC 12.355(f) is amended to read:

(f) The commissioner may issue a nonrenewable provisional certificate (provisional Type C), valid for no longer than two years, to an applicant who has completed the requirements of this section, except for the requirements in [(B) OR] (e) of this section.

4 AAC 12.355(h) is amended to read:

(h) The commissioner may convert a provisional certificate (provisional Type C) to a special services certificate (Type C) upon satisfactory completion of the courses required under [(B) AND] (e) of this section and payment of the fee for a special services certificate.

4 AAC 12.355(k) is amended to read:

(k) For the "school psychology" endorsement, the applicant must

(1) hold a master's or higher degree in school psychology and

(A) be recommended for endorsement by an institution whose psychology program has been approved by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification, the National Association of School Psychologists, or the American Psychological Association; **or** [AND]

(B) have completed a 1,200-hour internship in school psychology, 600 hours of which must be completed on site in preschool or kindergarten - grade 12 programs; or

(2) hold a master's or higher degree in a related field and be a nationally certified school psychologist under the National School Psychologist Certification System established by the National Association of School Psychologists.

4 AAC 12.355 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(m) An applicant for a special services certificate under this section who holds a professional license issued by the Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, is exempt from the certification fee in 4 AAC 12.300(g). The applicant must provide evidence of the valid Alaska professional license with the application. (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 9/17/2011, Register 199; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.375 is amended to read:

**4 AAC 12.375. Limited certificate for instructional assistant [AIDE] continuing teacher education program (Type I).** (a) The department will issue **an instructional assistant** [A] limited certificate (Type I) [IN THE SPECIALTY AREA OF ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE] to an applicant who

(1) is nominated by a school district, through a formal action of the local school board;

(2) provides documentation of at least **two** [THREE] years of successful employment as **a paraprofessional** [AN INSTRUCTIONAL AIDE] in the nominating school district;

(3) is currently employed by the nominating school district;

(4) demonstrates **basic competency by satisfying the requirements of 4 AAC 04.220(b)(1) and (2) and at least one of the requirements of 4 AAC 04.220(c)(1), (2), or (3)** [EXPERTISE IN THE LOCAL ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE BY SUBMITTING



(A) A RESUME DEMONSTRATING AT LEAST FOUR YEARS **OF** EXPERIENCE INVOLVING AN ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE AND VERIFIED BY THE NOMINATING DISTRICT; AND

(B) TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FROM MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL NATIVE COMMUNITY ATTESTING TO CULTURAL EXPERTISE];

(5) is currently enrolled in an approved baccalaureate degree teacher education program **at an institution of higher education accredited**

**(A) by a recognized regional accrediting association; or**

**(B) accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting association if**

**approved by the commissioner** [AT A REGIONALLY ACCREDITED

INSTITUTION] **under** [AS DESCRIBED IN] AS 14.20.020**(b)** and 4 AAC

12.305(b)(4);

(6) submits to the department a plan that has been agreed to by the chief school administrator of the nominating district, **the approved baccalaureate degree teacher education program, the certificated teacher mentor, the cooperating teacher,** and the applicant[, ] and that meets the terms and conditions set out in (b) of this section; and

(7) has met the requirements of 4 AAC 12.397(a).

(b) The plan described in (a)(6) of this section must, at a minimum, provide

(1) a program for support of the applicant by the **teacher education program** [EDUCATIONAL UNIT] of the institution described in (a)(5) of this section during the term of the plan, including

(A) a schedule of courses to be made available by **the** [THAT] institution that will allow the applicant to complete the approved baccalaureate degree teacher

education program and prepare the applicant to pass the **examinations**

[EXAMINATION] required under 4 AAC 12.300(b)(5) **and 4 AAC 12.395(a)(2)**;

(B) annual milestones that the applicant must meet to establish satisfactory progress under the plan; and

(C) **the** [THAT] **nominating district's support and** institution's [PROGRAM] plan for oversight of the applicant's classroom teaching [AT THE NOMINATING DISTRICT];

(2) a program for

(A) the nominating district's support of the applicant's baccalaureate studies;

(B) supervision of all of the applicant's field experience, including student teaching, [IN CURRICULA THAT ARE OUTSIDE OF THE ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE CERTIFICATION] during the term of the **plan** [CONTRACT]; and

(C) the provision of a certificated teacher mentor to supervise and assist the applicant with the professional application of teaching theory and methodology in the classroom; and

(3) the applicant's commitment to meet the annual milestones of the plan and to complete the baccalaureate degree program within the time specified in the plan.

(c) A Type I limited certificate is valid for one school year and may be renewed each year **for four additional years if** [THE DURATION OF] the plan **is** executed in conformance with (a) and (b) of this section. The department will base its renewal determination on the department's review of documentation establishing conformance with the plan, including accomplishment of all annual milestones by the applicant.

**(d) Possession of an instructional assistant limited certificate (Type I) qualifies the holder to instruct or teach students if authorized by the preparing institution, the certificated teacher mentor, and the cooperating teacher. Instruction and teaching must be supervised by the cooperating teacher. The cooperating teacher shall**

**(1) hold a valid teaching certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.305;**

**(2) have at least one year of teaching experience in the nominating school district;**

**(3) have at least three years of total teaching experience; and**

**(4) meet or exceed the teacher performance standards of 4 AAC 04.200(b) as verified by the nominating district's evaluation system.** (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am

10/31/2008, Register 188; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.020 AS 14.07.060 [AS 14.20.025]

4 AAC 12.388(b) is amended to read:

(b) To demonstrate the competency required under (a) of this section for a one-year initial certificate, the applicant must

(1) hold at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education accredited by

(A) a recognized regional accrediting association; **or**

**(B) a national accrediting association if approved by the commissioner under AS 14.20.020(b);**

(2) have met or exceeded the required scores on the associated world language content examination as described in 4 AAC 12.407 [AND MET OR EXCEEDED THE

REQUIRED SCORES ON THE MATHEMATICS SUBTEST OF ONE OF THE COMPETENCY EXAMINATIONS REQUIRED UNDER 4 AAC 12.310]; and

(3) currently be enrolled in an approved post-baccalaureate teacher education program at a regionally accredited institution meeting the requirements of AS 14.20.020(b) that provides for completion of the regular teacher certificate education requirements within two years after receipt of a world language expert limited initial teacher certificate under this section; or have completed an approved teacher education program at a regionally accredited institution.

4 AAC 12.388(e) is amended to read:

(e) To demonstrate the competency required under (a) of this section for a five-year renewable certificate, the applicant must

(1) hold at least a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education accredited

**(A)** by a recognized regional accrediting association; **or**

**(B) a national accrediting association if approved by the commissioner under AS 14.20.020(b);**

(2) have met or exceeded the required scores on the associated world language content examination as described in 4 AAC 12.407 [AND MET OR EXCEEDED THE REQUIRED SCORES ON THE MATHEMATICS SUBTEST OF ONE OF THE COMPETENCY EXAMINATIONS REQUIRED UNDER 4 AAC 12.310]; and

(3) have completed an approved teacher education program at a regionally accredited institution;

(4) have completed three semester hours of Alaska studies and three semester hours in multicultural education or cross-cultural communications as described in 14.20.020(h);

(5) have two years of employment as a teacher while holding a valid teaching certificate issued by a state[; AND

(6) HAVE EARNED AT LEAST SIX SEMESTER HOURS OF COLLEGE CREDIT WITHIN THE FIVE YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING APPLICATION].

(Eff. 6/29/2018, Register 226; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, Register \_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020 AS 14.20.022

4 AAC 12.395 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(c) The endorsements on a professional or master teacher certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.305(b) or (c) shall include the endorsements awarded under AS 14.20.015(c). (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 6/27/2014, Register 210; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, Register \_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.396(a) is amended to read:

(a) A current certificate holder or an applicant eligible for certification as described in 4 AAC 12.305 may add an additional endorsement appropriate to the holder's or applicant's certificate by demonstrating

(1) completion of an endorsement program accepted under 4 AAC 12.307(a) and a passing score on an endorsement-related content examination designated in 4 AAC 12.407 or

each equivalent content area examination required by a certifying [STATE] agency **of another jurisdiction** for a comparable endorsement currently or previously held by the applicant;

(2) two years of teaching in the content area and a passing score on the endorsement-related content area examination designated for the middle school, high school, or world language in 4 AAC 12.407(b) - (f), or each equivalent content area examination required by a certifying [STATE] agency **of another jurisdiction** for a comparable endorsement currently or previously held by the applicant;

(3) two years of teaching in a career and technical education (CTE) area, six semester hours of coursework focused on classroom management, student assessment, and teaching strategies specific to career and technical education, and successful completion of an industrial competency examination that is specific to career-and technical-education content, as approved by the department; or

(4) completion of at least one of the following [DEGREES] in the content or specialty area for which the endorsement is sought:

(A) a doctorate degree;

(B) a master's degree;

(C) a baccalaureate degree, with a major or posted minor of at least 18 semester hours in an approved program in the content or specialty area for which an endorsement is sought; **or**

**(D) a microcredential as approved by the department, based on a completed application form submitted to the department by a district or an educational organization; or**

**(5) three years of teaching in an elementary classroom and passing scores on**

**(A) the Praxis II content area examinations in elementary education required under 4 AAC 12.407(a)(2) and examinations 5203 or 5204 in teaching reading under 4 AAC 12.407(a)(1); or**

**(B) equivalent content area examinations required by a certifying agency of another jurisdiction for a comparable endorsement currently or previously held by the applicant.**

(Eff. 4/24/2016, Register 218; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.401(e)(1) is amended to read:

(e) The commissioner may not issue a temporary emergency certificate under (b) of this section to a person who has

(1) not received at least an associate degree from an institution of higher education accredited by a recognized regional **or national** accrediting association or approved by the commissioner;

(Eff. 12/25/2020, Register 236; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.010 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.405(a) is amended to read:

(a) A certificate issued under **AS 14.20.020** [4 AAC 12.345, 4 AAC 12.355, OR 4 AAC 12.360] may be renewed any number of times by completing **six** [THREE] semester hours of credit [IN ONE OR MORE SUBJECTS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER 4 AAC 12.305(B)(5), AND THREE SEMESTER HOURS OF UPPER DIVISION OR

GRADUATE CREDIT,] or the equivalent of semester hours in trimester or quarter hours or other equivalent, **including microcredentials approved** [AS DETERMINED] by the department, **and** earned during the life of the certificate. The six credits required for renewal under this subsection **may not include the coursework required under AS 14.20.020(h) and** must be

(1) related to the certificated person's employment at the time of renewal, if that employment requires a certificate;

(2) related to the certificated person's endorsement area under **4 AAC 12** [4 AAC 12.395]; or

(3) a required element of a program that will lead to an endorsement under **4 AAC 12** [4 AAC 12.395] that the certificated person seeks to acquire.

4 AAC 12.405(c) is amended to read:

(c) A professional teacher certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.305(b) may be renewed by compliance with (a) and (b) of this section. [; AND] **The six credits required for renewal under (a) of this section must comply with** [COMPLIANCE WITH ANY ACADEMIC OR OTHER TRAINING DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER] **4 AAC 12.305(b)(6)** [4 AAC 12.305(B)(5)].

4 AAC 12.405(d) is amended to read:

(d) A master teacher certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.305(c) may be renewed by compliance with (A), (B), and (C) of this section, and by maintenance of certification **requirements** under **4 AAC 12.305(c)** [4 AAC 12.305(C)(2)(A) OR (B)].



4 AAC 12.405(f) is amended to read:

(f) An initial teacher certificate **issued** under **AS 14.20.020** [4 AAC 12.305(A)] may [NOT] be renewed. Repealed \_\_/\_\_/\_\_.

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 9/2/2011, Register 199; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, Register \_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.410(e) is amended to read:

(e) Semester credits required for renewal of a certificate under 4 AAC 12.385 and 4 AAC 12.405 must be earned from **a regionally or nationally accredited** [AN] institution of higher education [ACCREDITED BY THE NORTHWEST COMMISSION ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OR ITS COUNTERPART IN OTHER REGIONS].

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 10/21/2007, Register 184; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, Register \_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.010 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.410 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(g) Certificates issued under 4 AAC 12.346, 4 AAC 12.370, 4 AAC 12.372, 4 AAC 12.375, and 4 AAC 12.388 may be transferred from the sponsoring district to another district at the request of the certificate holder and the receiving district board through the chief school administrator. The receiving district must agree to the responsibilities and the limitations of the certificate. (Eff. 12/25/2020, Register 236; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, Register \_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.010 AS 14.20.020

**Editor's note:** The subject matter of 4 AAC 12.410 was formerly located at 4 AAC 12.080. The history note for 4 AAC 12.410 does not reflect the history of the earlier section.

[INFORMATION ON INSTITUTIONS ACCREDITED BY THE NORTHWEST COMMISSION ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE NORTHWEST COMMISSION ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, 8060 165TH AVE. NE., SUITE 100, REDMOND, WA 98052. THE COMMISSION'S TELEPHONE NUMBER IS (425) 558-4224, AND INTERNET ADDRESS IS WWW.NWCCU.ORG.]

4 AAC 12.415 is amended to read:

**4 AAC 12.415. Current address.** The holder of a certificate issued under this chapter shall maintain a current, valid mailing address **and email address** on file with the department at all times. The latest mailing address on file for the holder of a current, lapsed, suspended, or revoked certificate is the address for official communications, notifications, or service of legal process. (Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, Register \_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.900(a)(5) is amended to read:

(5) “credit” means credit granted by **a regionally or nationally accredited** [AN] institution of higher education [ACCREDITED BY THE NORTHWEST COMMISSION ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OR ITS COUNTERPARTS IN OTHER REGIONS];

4 AAC 12.900(a) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

(15) “early career teacher” means an educator in the first or second year of employment as a teacher;

(16) “microcredential” means a competency-based recognition issued by a school district or an educational organization that

(A) is aligned with a statewide priority area adopted under AS 14.07.165;

(B) allows an educator to demonstrate mastery in a skill or set of skills;

and

(C) is approved by the department based on a completed application form submitted to the department by a district or an educational organization;

(17) “statewide priority area” means a goal of the board adopted under AS 14.07.165.

(Eff. 5/30/71, Register 38; am 10/4/73, Register 47; am 8/12/82, Register 83; am 6/9/85, Register 94; am 4/9/87, Register 102; am 7/1/90, Register 114; am 8/8/91, Register 119; am 7/2/93, Register 126; am 6/9/95, Register 134; am 4/4/96, Register 138; am 6/28/98, Register 146; am 3/31/2002, Register 161; am 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 10/21/2007, Register 184; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, Register \_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.010 AS 14.20.020