

OFFICE OF QUALITY PROFESSIONALS AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
August 16-17, 2007

EDUCATOR LICENSURE

20. Approval to revise the Licensure Guidelines for the American Board Certification for Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure Development. (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with no public comment).

Specifications:

On May 4, 2007, the Certification Commission voted to amend the ABCTE alternate route certification policy to delete any reference to a specified fee. This will allow for any changes made by ABCTE to their fee structure not to affect licensure guidelines.

Program Background:

The original ABCTE program was established with an entrance fee of \$500.00 which included a background check and fees of \$650.00 for the initial assessment exam and a \$350.00 fee for a mentor. Since that time, this program has reportedly changed their fees by offering discounts to applicants when they applied at different times and locations.

At the present time, ABCTE has dropped the fee for the mentoring segment of their program. The original \$650.00 fee for the assessment has been lowered to \$500.00.

The history of the all the Mississippi alternate route programs has included many changes in protocol such as fees and contact people. The Mississippi's Master of Arts program, the Teach Mississippi Institute Program, and the Mississippi Alternate Path to Quality Educators were established Mississippi alternate routes before ABCTE was approved and added to this list of Mississippi's alternate routes. Their fees are not listed on the MDE web site but are listed on their individual web sites. This has assisted in keeping out discrepancies within the licensure guidelines while continuing to provide informational services for the public.

Backup Material: Attached

Recommendation: Approval

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Alternate Route License	AMERICAN BOARD CERTIFICATION FOR TEACHER EXCELLENCE PASSPORT TO TEACHING
Subject Areas of Licensure	<i>Biology, Chemistry, English, Math, Physics (7-12)</i>
Program Entrance Requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bachelor's degree from a regionally/nationally accredited institution of higher learning 2. \$500 Fee paid (<i>includes background check</i>) 3. Assessment in subject area 4. Assignment of advisor and prescribed individual study profile
Requirements for Initial One-Year Alternate Route License	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Passing score on ABCTE subject area exam 2. Letter from school district stating commitment to employ
Location and Contact Information	<p>American Board Certification for Teacher Excellence 1225 19th St. NW, Suite 400 Washington, D.C. 20036 Email: www.abcte.org</p>
Requirements for Five Year Alternate Route License	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One-year teaching internship with mentoring (<i>mentoring must be by National Board Certified teacher or MDE trained mentor certified in same subject area</i>) 2. Must complete training in one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAPQT 3-week summer training • MDE 8-week online training • MAT 6 hours of initial graduate university courses (<i>can be applied to masters degree</i>)
Fees	<p>\$500 Fee to ABCTE for initial assessment and exam \$350 Fee for mentor Fee for training varies per selection</p>