

OFFICE OF QUALITY PROFESSIONALS AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
November 18-19, 2010

EDUCATOR LICENSURE

24. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act Process:
To Amend the Licensure Guideline for Guidance & Counseling K-12 as
Recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education,
Certification and Licensure

Specifications:

On September 17, 2010, the Certification Commission approved an amendment to the licensure guideline for K-12 Guidance & Counseling. For many years, this guideline required a master's degree in Guidance & Counseling, or applicants had the option of holding a master's degree in another area and completing an approved program in Guidance & Counseling. The recommendation from the Commission is to remove this second option from the guideline. If approved, the guideline will not allow for less than a master's in guidance.

Background Information:

The Commission approved the proposal to remove the option in guidelines that allowed for less than a master's degree in Guidance to bring the guideline in compliance with statute. The Commission reviewed Section 37-9-79 of the Mississippi Code, which states as follows:

§ 37-9-79. School guidance counselors; qualifications; define comprehensive counseling services; code of ethics.

- (1) Beginning with the 2002-2003 school year, the assignment of K-12 school guidance counselors to the particular schools within the district shall be at the discretion of the local school board with the following restrictions:
- (a). **No individual shall be employed as a school guidance counselor without a minimum of a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling, or in an emergency situation, an appropriate certification as determined by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure Development.**

Backup material attached

Recommendation: Approval

FIVE YEAR EDUCATOR LICENSE - GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING (436)

| License | Requirements | Validity | Renewal# |
|------------|--|----------|---|
| Class AA | <p>EITHER</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold a five year educator license 2. Complete a master's degree program in guidance and counseling 3. Praxis II (Test for Guidance Counselor) <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete an approved master's degree program for guidance and counseling which includes a full year internship 2. Praxis I (Pre-Professional Skills Test-PPST) 3. Praxis II (Test for Guidance Counselor) <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold National Certified School Counselor (NCSC) credential issued by National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) | 5 years | <p>Three (3) semester hours in content or job/skill related area</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Five (5) continuing education units (CEUs) in content or job/skill related area</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Completion of the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) process for National Certified School Counselor (NCSC)</p> |
| Class AAA | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meet the requirements for a Class AA License 2. Hold a specialist degree in guidance and counseling | 5 years | <p>Three (3) semester hours in content or job/skill related area</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Five (5) continuing education units (CEUs) in content or job/skill related area</p> |
| Class AAAA | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meet the requirements for a Class AA License 2. Doctoral degree in guidance and counseling | 5 years | |

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|------------|---|----------|---|
| Class AA | <p>EITHER</p> <p>1. Hold a five year educator license</p> <p>2. Complete a master's degree program in guidance and counseling _____OR Hold a master's degree in another area and complete an approved program for guidance and counseling</p> <p>3. Praxis II (Test for Guidance Counselor)</p> <p align="center">OR</p> <p>1. Complete an approved master's degree program for guidance and counseling which includes a full year internship _____OR Hold a master's degree in another area and complete an approved program for guidance and counseling which includes a full year internship</p> <p>2. Praxis I (Pre-Professional Skills Test-PPST)</p> <p>1. Praxis II (Test for Guidance Counselor)</p> <p align="center">OR</p> <p>1. Hold National Certified School Counselor (NCSC) credential issued by National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC)</p> | 5 years | <p>Three (3) semester hours in content or job/skill related area</p> <p align="center">OR</p> <p>Five (5) continuing education units (CEUs) in content or job/skill related area</p> <p align="center">OR</p> <p>Completion of the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) process for National Certified School Counselor (NCSC)</p> |
| Class AAA | <p>1. Meet the requirements for a Class AA License</p> <p>2. Hold a specialist degree in guidance and counseling</p> | 5 years | <p>Three (3) semester hours in content or job/skill related area</p> <p align="center">OR</p> <p>Five (5) continuing education units (CEUs) in content or job/skill related area</p> |
| Class AAAA | <p>1. Meet the requirements for a Class AA License</p> <p>2. Doctoral degree in guidance and counseling</p> | 5 years | |