

STATE BOARD MEETING DATE August 26, 2013

SUBJECT: Presentation, discussion and consideration to close the rulemaking record and adopt proposed rule R7-2-610 regarding secondary teaching certification requirements for individuals with experience in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).

SUBMITTED BY: Christine M. Thompson, Deputy Director

MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW: August 7, 2013

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In 2012, modifications to ARS §15-203(A)(14) were enacted, requiring the Board to adopt rules to allow for a specialized teaching certificate to persons with expertise in STEM.

Specifically, the two newly enacted sections of statute call for rules to allow certification of individuals 1) who have specific STEM teaching experience at accredited postsecondary institutions, and 2) who have specific STEM work experience. The proposed addition of section D to R7-2-610 (Secondary Teaching Certificates) would effectuate these requirements.

At their meeting on June 4, 2013, the Certification Advisory Committee approved and recommended the Board open the rule making process for the proposed amendments to R7-2-610.

Pursuant to the Board's rulemaking procedures, a public hearing on this proposed rule change was held on August 7, 2013.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: INFORMATION ACTION/DESCRIBED
BELOW:

The Board close the rulemaking record and adopt proposed rule R7-2-610 regarding certification requirements for individuals with experience in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).

ATTACHMENTS: YES NO

R7-2-610. Secondary Teaching Certificates

- A. Except as noted, all certificates are subject to the general certification provisions in R7-2-607 and the renewal requirements in R7-2-619.
- B. Provisional Secondary Certificate - grades seven through 12
 - 1. The certificate is valid for three years and is not renewable but may be extended as set forth in R7-2-606(H) or (I).
 - 2. The requirements are:
 - a. A bachelor's degree,
 - b. One of the following:
 - i. Completion of a teacher preparation program in secondary education from an accredited institution or a Board-approved teacher preparation program, described in R7-2-604; or
 - ii. Thirty semester hours of education courses which teach the knowledge and skills described in R7-2-602, including at least eight semester hours of practicum in grades seven through 12. Two years of verified teaching experience in grades seven through postsecondary may substitute for the eight semester hours of practicum; or
 - iii. A valid secondary certificate from another state.
 - c. A passing score on one or more subject knowledge portions of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment;
 - d. A passing score on the professional knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment; and
 - e. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
- C. Standard Secondary Certificate - grades seven through 12
 - 1. The certificate is valid for six years.
 - 2. The requirements are:
 - a. A provisional secondary certificate;
 - b. A passing score on the performance portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment. If a performance portion of the Proficiency Assessment has not been adopted by the Board, two years of verified full-time teaching experience may be used to fulfill this requirement; and
 - c. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
- D. **Specialized Secondary Certificate – Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics – grades seven through 12**
 - 1. **The certificate is valid for six years.**
 - 2. **The requirements are:**
 - a. **A bachelor's degree;**
 - b. **Completion of training in structured English immersion as prescribed by the Arizona State Board of Education;**
 - c. **A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.**
 - d. **One of the following options:**
 - i. **Option A – postsecondary teaching experience – science, technology, engineering or mathematics**

- (1) Have taught science, technology, engineering or mathematics courses for the last two consecutive years, and for a total of at least three years, at one or more regionally or nationally accredited public or private postsecondary institutions, to be demonstrated by providing written proof of employment from each applicable qualifying postsecondary institution, including specific durations of employment and the nature of the teaching assignment; and
- (2) A baccalaureate degree, a master's degree or a doctoral degree in an academic subject that is specific to science, technology, engineering or mathematics or a passing score on one or more science, technology, engineering or mathematics subject knowledge portions of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment.

ii. Option B – work experience – science, technology, engineering or mathematics:

- (1) A passing score on the professional knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment;
- (2) Have ten or more years of work experience in science, technology, engineering or mathematics, to be demonstrated by providing written proof of employment from each applicable employer, including specific durations of employment and the nature of the assignment; and
- (3) Demonstrate adequate subject matter knowledge through either:
 - a) A baccalaureate degree, a master's degree or a doctoral degree in an academic subject that is specific to science, technology, engineering or mathematics;
 - b) Twenty-four hours of relevant coursework in an academic subject that is specific to science, technology, engineering or mathematics; or
 - c) A passing score on one or more science, technology, engineering or mathematics subject knowledge portions of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment.