

**Mississippi Department of Education  
Division of Research and Development  
Office of Accreditation**

**Mississippi Association of  
School Administrators  
April 3, 2017**



## **Vision**

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To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens

## **Mission**

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To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community

# State Board of Education Goals 5-Year Strategic Plan for 2016-2020

- ✓ All Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas
- ✓ Every Student Graduates High School and is Ready for College and Career
- ✓ Every Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program
- ✓ Every School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders
- ✓ Every Community Effectively Using a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes
- ✓ Every School and District is Rated “C” or Higher

## What we will cover...

- Major Functions
- Routes to Professional Educator Licensure
- Educator Licensure Management System (ELMS)
- Audits of Online Renewals
- Standard Educator License Validity and Renewal
- Renewal Requirements for Teachers and Instructional Support Personnel
- Renewal Requirements for Educational Leaders
- Foreign Applicant
- Expert Citizen
- Special, Non-renewable License...

# Major Functions

- The major functions of the Educator Licensing Division consists of but, are not limited to the following:
  - Develop/implement/review/revise licensure guidelines recommended by the Licensure Commission and approved by the State Board of Education (SBE).
  - Develop/implement/review/revise guidelines that govern Mississippi educator preparation program providers.
  - Assists all prospective and practicing administrators, educators, and instructional support personnel with obtaining and maintaining standard professional licensure.
  - Provides resources to assist school districts in maintaining compliance with state law. [Miss. Code Ann. §37-3-2 and *Licensure Guidelines K-12*].

# Routes to Professional Educator Licensure

- Traditional educator and administrator preparation
  - Teacher
  - Administrator
  - Instructional Support Personnel (Counselor's, School Psychologist, etc.)
- Alternative educator and administrator preparation
  - Mississippi Alternate Path to Quality Teachers (MAPQT)
  - Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)
  - Teach Mississippi Institute (TMI)
  - American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE)
  - Teach For America (TFA)
- Reciprocity
  - Two-Year Reciprocity
  - Five-Year Reciprocity

# Educator Licensure Management System (ELMS)

The Educator Licensure Management System (ELMS) is a web-based licensing system that allows an electronic means for prospective and practicing educators and all other educational stakeholders, as appropriate, to:

- View/Print Educator License
- Create a Secure Personal Account to apply for and maintain license
- Update personal information
- Renew Standard Licenses via ELMS Online (Process Completed by LEA)

To access ELMS, please visit:

<https://sso.mde.k12.ms.us/Login/Login.aspx>

# Audits of Online Renewals

- Audits are conducted by the MDE Office of Educator Licensure Personnel annually.
- District personnel will be requested to submit documentation to the Office of Educator Licensure for a representative sample of educator(s) renewed by the District.
- MDE will review the documentation (Continuing Education Unit certificates and/or transcript(s)) received and compare that to the information the educator entered into ELMS.



# Standard Educator License Validity and Renewal

- A standard renewable Mississippi Educator License is valid for five (5) years. The license must be renewed every five (5) years with Continuing Education Units (CEUs) or college coursework or by completion of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards process earned during the validity period of the license.
- Any license issued for less than five (5) years is a provisional license and is non-renewable.

# Renewal Requirements for Teachers and Instructional Support Personnel

## **Class A**

Ten (10) continuing education units (CEUs) in content or job/skill related area

**OR**

Three (3) semester hours in content or job/skill related area AND  
Five (5) continuing education units (CEUs) in content or job/skill related area

**OR**

Six (6) semester hours in content or job/skill related area

**OR**

Completion of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards process

## **Class AA, AAA, or AAAA**

Three (3) semester hours in content or job/skill related area

***OR***

Five (5) continuing education units (CEUs) in content or job/skill related area

***OR***

Completion of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards process

# Renewal Requirements for Educational Leaders

## **Standard Career Administrator**

Seventy (70) School Executive Management Institute (SEMI) credits

**OR**

Six (6) hours of coursework

**OR**

Thirty-five (35) SEMI credits and three (3) semester hours of coursework

**OR**

Completion of a specialist or doctoral degree in educational administration/leadership

# Foreign Applicants

Miss. Code Ann. §37-3-2 authorizes the MDE to grant licenses by reciprocity for individuals from other states; however, the law does not currently authorize the MDE to grant licenses by way of reciprocity for individuals from other countries.

## Expert Citizen License

*Special License -- Expert Citizen.* [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2(6)(c)]

- In order to allow a school district to offer specialized or technical courses, the State Department of Education, in accordance with rules and regulations established by the State Board of Education, may grant a one-year expert citizen-teacher license to local business or other professional personnel to teach in a public school or nonpublic school accredited or approved by the state.
- A Special License -- Expert Citizen can only be requested by the school district and may be renewed in accordance with the established rules and regulations of the State Department of Education.

## Special, Non-renewable License

- The Special, Non-renewable License is a one-year license requested by an employing local school district or an eligible nonpublic school in the state of Mississippi that provides local school officials with the ability to employ candidates who possess the potential to earn full educator certification while temporarily addressing the ongoing teacher shortage.
- Approved by State Board of Education effective school year 2016-2017.

## Special, Non-renewable License, continued

- The license is not transferable between Districts or eligible nonpublic schools.
  - For example, if a candidate is employed one (1) year and wishes to transfer to another school district, the license is not valid, unless a new Local District Request Application is received by the Office of Educator Licensure from the local district to which the candidate is transferring. If the educator is not renewed by the local district after the first year, the educator will not be issued a license for another district for the remaining two (2) years.
- The license can only be requested in one area.
- Additional endorsements will not be added.



# Special, Non-renewable License

## What's New for SY 2017-2018?

- On March 3, 2017 the Licensure Commission approved the proposed revisions to the policy outlining the criteria for the Special, Non-renewable license.
- Proposed revisions will be presented to the SBE for approval at its April 2017 meeting.
- Bachelor's degree in any area from an institution of higher learning that was regionally/nationally accredited at the time the degree was conferred and twenty-one (21) hours of undergraduate and/or graduate level coursework with a grade of "C" or higher in the content area in which the license is requested.
- All admission requirements to alternate route program must be met; provisional enrollment is prohibited.

## Special, Non-renewable License Evidence of Progress

The special, non-renewable license holder must show sufficient evidence of an attempt to complete requirements for obtaining full state certification by way of one of the SBE approved nontraditional educator preparation program routes. Sufficient evidence may include, but is not limited to one or more of the following:

- Official test score results from attempt(s) to meet all testing requirements during the time the year one special, non-renewable license was valid.
- Official letter of unconditional acceptance into a SBE approved nontraditional educator preparation program from the appropriate State Board approved program provider. The Mississippi educator preparation program provider must ensure that candidate has met all minimum admission requirements prior to enrolling the candidate in the non-traditional educator preparation program.

## Special, Non-renewable License Evidence of Progress, Continued

- If unconditionally enrolled in a SBE approved nontraditional educator preparation program route, an official sealed transcript must be submitted showing required course(s) status as “in progress” and/or “completed” with an earned grade of “C” or higher. Evidence of program progress and/or completion should reflect acceptable forms of documentation based on the specific non-traditional educator preparation program being completed.
- If applicable, a candidate who has completed all requirements of a SBE approved traditional teacher education preparation program except achieving a passing score on all Mississippi required licensure tests on or after January 1, 2014, must submit official documentation of progress towards meeting all testing requirements.

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