

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

SENATE BILL 345

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

INTRODUCED BY

Natalie Figueroa

AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL; ALLOWING THE USE OF A TEACHER PORTFOLIO FOR LEVEL ONE LICENSURE; ALLOWING RECIPROCITY FOR LEVELS TWO AND THREE NEW MEXICO LICENSURE FOR INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT PROVIDERS WHO ARE LICENSED IN OTHER STATES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 22-10A-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003, Chapter 153, Section 38, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-10A-7. LEVEL ONE LICENSURE.--

A. A level one license is a provisional five-year license for beginning teachers that requires as a condition of licensure that the licensee undergo a formal mentorship program for at least one full school year and an annual intensive performance evaluation by a school administrator for at least three full school years before applying for a level two

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 license.

2 B. Each school district, in accordance with
3 department rules, shall provide for the mentorship and
4 evaluation of level one teachers. At the end of each year and
5 at the end of the license period, the level one teacher shall
6 be evaluated for competency. If the teacher fails to
7 demonstrate satisfactory progress and competence annually, the
8 teacher may be terminated as provided in Section 22-10A-24 NMSA
9 1978. If the teacher has not demonstrated satisfactory
10 progress and competence by the end of the five-year period, the
11 teacher shall not be granted a level two license.

12 C. Except in exigent circumstances defined by
13 department rule, a level one license shall not be extended
14 beyond the initial period.

15 D. The department shall issue a standard level one
16 license to an applicant who is at least eighteen years of age
17 who:

18 (1) holds a baccalaureate degree from an
19 accredited educational institution;

20 (2) has successfully completed a department-
21 approved teacher preparation program from a nationally
22 accredited or state-approved educational institution;

23 (3) has passed the New Mexico teacher
24 assessments ~~[examination]~~ or the New Mexico teacher portfolio,
25 including for elementary licensure beginning January 1, 2013, a
.230530.1

1 rigorous assessment of the candidate's knowledge of the science
2 of teaching reading; and

3 (4) meets other qualifications for level one
4 licensure, including clearance of the required background
5 check.

6 E. The department shall issue a standard level one
7 vocational license to an applicant who meets the requirements
8 of Subsection D of this section or to an applicant who is at
9 least twenty-three years of age and who:

10 (1) has five or more years of professional
11 experience in the vocational field in which the applicant will
12 teach; and

13 (2) meets other qualifications for level one
14 licensure, including clearance of a background check pursuant
15 to Section 22-10A-5 NMSA 1978.

16 F. The department shall issue an alternative level
17 one license to an applicant who meets the requirements of
18 Section 22-10A-8 NMSA 1978.

19 G. The department shall establish competencies and
20 qualifications for specific grade levels, types and subject
21 areas of level one licensure, including early childhood,
22 elementary, middle school, secondary, special and vocational
23 education.

24 H. The minimum salary for a level one teacher,
25 except for a teacher licensed pursuant to Subsection E of this

.230530.1

1 section, is fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for a standard
2 nine and one-half month contract; provided that teachers in an
3 extended learning time program or K-5 plus program shall
4 receive additional salary at the same rate as their base salary
5 for that teaching time.

6 I. After the issuance of a license, a license
7 holder shall not be required to meet changed requirements to
8 maintain the license until such time as the license expires and
9 the license holder seeks renewal of the license."

10 SECTION 2. Section 22-10A-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003,
11 Chapter 153, Section 43, as amended) is amended to read:

12 "22-10A-12. LIMITED RECIPROCITY.--

13 A. A teacher or school principal licensed in
14 another state may be granted a level two or level three license
15 if the teacher or school principal has teaching experience,
16 demonstrates the required competencies and meets other
17 requirements and qualifications for the license for which the
18 teacher or school principal applies, including clearance of the
19 required background check. The local superintendent may
20 require a mentorship period for the licensee if the
21 superintendent deems it necessary. A teacher or school
22 principal who holds an out-of-state license may apply for a
23 lower level license if the teacher or school principal does not
24 meet the requirements for the higher level.

25 B. The department may grant a level three-B

.230530.1

1 license to a candidate who does not meet the other
2 requirements and qualifications of that license if the
3 candidate has a school administrator license issued in
4 another state and has worked as a school administrator in
5 good standing for at least six years.

6 C. An instructional support provider licensed in
7 another state may be granted a level two or level three
8 license if the instructional support provider has
9 professional experience, holds a professional license in
10 addition to a school license, if applicable, and demonstrates
11 the required competencies and meets other requirements and
12 qualifications for the license sought, including clearance of
13 the required background check. A local superintendent may
14 require a mentorship period for the licensee if the local
15 superintendent deems it necessary. An instructional support
16 provider who holds an out-of-state school license may apply
17 for a lower level license if the instructional support
18 provider does not meet the requirements and qualifications
19 for the higher level."