

Item 8:**Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Adoption of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245, Certification of Educators from Other Countries****DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

SUMMARY: This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) an opportunity to adopt, subject to State Board of Education (SBOE) review, proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245, Certification of Educators from Other Countries. The proposed amendments would update the requirements for certification of educators from other countries following the four-year rule review required by Texas Government Code, §2001.039. No changes are recommended since published as proposed, but additional changes may be recommended at the time of the meeting based on public comment.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: The statutory authority for the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245 is the Texas Education Code (TEC), §§21.041(b)(1), (4), and (5); 21.048(a); 21.050; 21.052(a)-(e), as amended by Senate Bill (SB) 1839, 85th Texas Legislature, 2017; and 22.0831(f).

TEC, §21.041(b)(1), states the SBEC must propose rules that provide for the regulation of educators and the general administration of the TEC, Chapter 21, Subchapter B, in a manner consistent with the TEC, Chapter 21, Subchapter B.

TEC, §21.041(b)(4), states the SBEC must propose rules that specify the requirements for the issuance and renewal of an educator certificate.

TEC, §21.041(b)(5), states the SBEC must propose rules that provide for the issuance of an educator certificate to a person who holds a similar certificate issued by another state or foreign country, subject to the TEC, §21.052.

TEC, §21.048(a), states the SBEC must propose rules prescribing comprehensive examinations for each class of certificate issued by the SBEC.

TEC, §21.050, states that a person who applies for a teaching certificate for which SBEC rules require a bachelor's degree must possess a bachelor's degree received with an academic major or interdisciplinary academic major, including reading, other than education, that is related to the curriculum as prescribed under TEC, Chapter 28, Subchapter A.

TEC, §21.052(a), states that the SBEC may issue a certificate to an educator who submits an application for certification and holds a degree issued by an institution accredited by a regional accrediting agency or group that is recognized by a nationally recognized accreditation board, or a degree issued by an institution located in a foreign country, if the degree is equivalent to a bachelor's degree issued in the United States, or holds an appropriate certificate issued in another state and has met all certification requirements for issuance of the credential.

TEC, §21.052(b), states that for purposes of §21.052(a)(2), a person is considered to hold a certificate or other credential if the credential is not valid solely because it has expired.

TEC, §21.052(c), states that the SBEC may issue a temporary certificate under this section to an educator who holds a degree required by §21.052(a)(1) and a certificate or other credential required by §21.052(a)(2) but who has not satisfied the requirements prescribed by §21.052(a)(3).

TEC, §21.052(d), states that a temporary certificate issued under §21.052(c) to an educator employed by a school district that has constructed or expanded at least one instructional facility as a result of increased student enrollment due to actions taken under the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. Section 2687) may not expire before the first anniversary of the date on which the SBEC completes the review of the educator's credentials and informs the educator of the examination or examinations under the TEC, §21.048, on which the educator must perform successfully to receive a standard certificate.

TEC, §21.052(e), states that an educator who has submitted all documents required by the board for certification and who receives a certificate as provided by subsection (a) must perform satisfactorily on the examination prescribed under Section 21.048 not later than the first anniversary of the date the board completes the review of the educator's credentials and informs the educator of the examination or examinations under Section 21.048 on which the educator must perform successfully to receive a standard certificate.

TEC, §22.0831(f), states the SBEC is authorized to propose rules to implement the national criminal history record information review of certified educators.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The proposed effective date of the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245 would be March 8, 2018 (20 days after filing as adopted with the Texas Register). The proposed effective date is also based on the SBEC and SBOE meeting schedules.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION: At the October 6, 2017 SBEC meeting, the SBEC approved the amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245, Certification of Educators from Other Countries, for publication in the *Texas Register* as proposed rules.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION: The SBEC is statutorily authorized to regulate and oversee all aspects of certification of public school educators. The SBEC is also statutorily authorized to ensure that all candidates for certification or renewal of certification demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to improve the performance of the diverse population of this state.

At the March and June 2017 SBEC meetings, the Board and Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff discussed potential questions, issues, and concerns that surfaced prior to the proposal and adoption of the four-year rule review of 19 TAC Chapter 245. During the public comment period for the four-year rule review, TEA staff received numerous comments that focused on English language proficiency requirements and the certification process for the Visiting International Teacher (VIT) Certificate. TEA staff had opportunities to discuss both issues (English language proficiency and VIT) with the Board in more detail as separate agenda items at the June and August 2017 SBEC meetings.

At the August 2017 and October 2017 SBEC meetings, the Board and TEA staff discussed proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245 that would solidify the connection between VIT candidates transitioning to these rules to obtain Texas certification based on out-of-country credentials and initial applicants for Texas certification who are licensed to teach in other countries. TEA staff also highlighted the technical edits needed to correct administrative code references related to the process for issuance of Texas certification to educators from other countries.

During the 2015-2017 fiscal years, a total of 805 individuals submitted applications to TEA for a review of credentials based on already being licensed to teach in another country. The proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245 would provide clear information on the required documents every applicant must submit for an out-of-country credentials review; include a reference to the rule on English language proficiency requirements; and specify the location of the figure that identifies the required examinations for issuance of a Texas certificate.

Following is a description of the proposed amendments included in Attachment II that incorporates recent rule changes related to English language proficiency requirements, reflects SBEC direction for rulemaking, and provides updates to administrative code references.

§245.1. General Provisions

The proposed amendment to subsection (a) would delete the word "appropriate" and add the word "acceptable" to align with wording used to describe the type of certificate that should be submitted to TEA for review of credentials issued by the authorized licensing agency in another country. This proposed language matches language used in 19 TAC Chapter 230, Subchapter H, Texas Educator Certificates Based on Certification and College Credentials from Other States or Territories of the United States. Aligning the rule text provides further consistency to the credentials review process for Texas certification.

The proposed amendment to subsection (b) would strike the words "at a minimum" and "baccalaureate" and add the phrases "at least a bachelor's," "or higher," and "accredited" to align with wording used to describe degree requirements for individuals issued certification by the authorized licensing agency in another country. This proposed language would match language used in 19 TAC Chapter 230, Subchapter B, General Certification Requirements. Aligning the rule text provides further consistency to the credentials review process for Texas certification. Also in subsection (b), the phrase "or by the U.S. Department of Education" would be added to the end of the last sentence to broaden the scope of accrediting bodies utilized to verify degrees. This change would strengthen the rules by maintaining consistency in verifying accreditation of degrees from various countries.

The proposed amendment to subsection (e) would delete the phrases "and certification areas issued by" and "including all certification areas" and replace with language that aligns with 19 TAC Chapter 230, Subchapter H. Aligning the rule text provides further consistency to the credentials review process for Texas certification. This rule change would provide clarity for candidates using these rules to complete the Texas certification process by stating that the certificate area and grade level of licensure in the other country must be issued within the early childhood to Grade 12 level to align with the state certificate structure.

New proposed subsection (f) would add text identical to that referenced in 19 TAC Chapter 230, Subchapter H, §230.11(f), General Requirements, to align with the process in place and established deadlines for educators certified in other states that are working to meet certification requirements. This rule change would provide clarity for applicants using these rules to complete the Texas certification process by stating the deadline for receipt of certification applications and/or requests for exemptions from state testing requirements. Establishing deadlines in rule would provide clear and consistent notification to all applicants for certification through the provisions of Chapter 245.

§245.5. Requirements for Issuance of a Texas Certificate Based on Certification from Another Country

The proposed amendment to subsection (a) would replace the incorrect reference to Chapter 232, Subchapter A, with references to Chapter 230, Subchapter D, to accurately reflect the location of the rule text relevant to the types and classes of certificates issued. The proposed amendment would also add the phrase "an acceptable" to specify the type of certificate an applicant must hold to complete the out-of-country credentials review process and qualify for issuance of a Texas standard certificate. This rule change would provide clarity for applicants using these rules to complete the Texas certification process by stating that the certificate issued in another country must be the equivalent of a Texas standard certificate to successfully complete the credentials review process. Establishing this level of requirement in rule would provide clear and consistent notification to all applicants for certification through the provisions of this chapter and help limit the number of individuals who might attempt a credentials review process for which they are ineligible.

The proposed amendment to subsection (a)(1) would correct the outdated reference to §230.5 with the correct reference to §230.21 as it relates to required examinations for certification reflected in SBEC rule. The same amendment would be made to subsection (a)(2) to ensure that the citation is updated to point to the correct information in SBEC rule. These rule changes would provide clarity for applicants using these rules to complete the Texas certification process by stating the correct location of the figure that includes all Texas certificate areas and lists the examinations that must be successfully completed for issuance of licensure.

Proposed new subsection (c) would add language to confirm an individual is eligible to apply for issuance of the standard certificate upon completion of all certification requirements, including examinations. The additional language would help avoid a delay in issuance of certificates, as it would clarify candidates are eligible to submit the online application and payment for the standard certificate when all required examinations are passed. Applicants would know they do not have to wait for their one-year certificate to expire before submitting the application for issuance of the Texas standard certificate.

Former subsection (c) would be relettered to subsection (d), and the incorrect reference to §232.1 would be corrected to Chapter 230, Subchapter D. At the end of this subsection, the phrase "beyond the control of the educator" would be added to emphasize the types of extenuating circumstances to be considered, and the word "educator" would be changed to "district" to confirm that any requests to extend the one-year certificate must be initiated by the school district, not the individual. This rule change would provide clarity for applicants using these rules to complete the Texas certification process by stating that considerations to extend a one-year certificate need to be initiated by the employing district, that these requests should

not be taken lightly, and that TEA staff need evidence that the applicant is receiving support from the employing district and should be approved for an extension of certification to allow him or her to continue in the current assignment while completing requirements for issuance of the standard certificate.

New proposed subsection (e) would confirm an individual is only required to pass examinations for those certificate area(s) in which he or she wishes to be issued a standard certificate. The new subsection would also clarify that a supplemental certificate (e.g., bilingual, English as a Second Language, special education, gifted and talented, or visually impaired) cannot be issued as a standard certificate without first establishing a classroom teaching certificate in a content area. This rule change would provide clarity for applicants using these rules to obtain Texas certification by stating the correct order in which to complete requirements for issuance of a classroom certificate. This level of guidance in rule informs individuals about taking pedagogy and content examinations to establish eligibility for certificate issuance in a classroom teaching area, prior to passing examinations to add a supplemental certificate area to their record of certification.

Former subsection (d), relettered to subsection (f), would be amended to update a cross reference and correct a typographical error.

§245.10. Application Procedures

The proposed amendment to subsection (a)(4) would add the words "and/or degrees" to allow completion of degrees earned in the United States to also be submitted as acceptable documentation for the out-of-country credentials review process. This rule change would provide clarity for applicants using these rules to complete the Texas certification process by stating that an official transcript from a United States institution showing degree(s) conferred and date(s) is information that should be included with the required documentation submitted to TEA staff for a review of out-of-country credentials.

Proposed new subsection (a)(5) would add copies of any standard certificates issued by another state department of education to the list of items that should be submitted to TEA when applicable for a credentials review. This addition to the rules would ensure that individuals completing a credentials review process are reviewed for every eligible certificate area. In addition, adding the clarification to include copies of any standard certificates from other states would ensure the applicants get a complete review of credentials and a full accounting of all certificate areas that they are eligible to pursue in Texas. A standard certificate issued by another state department of education can also be used in lieu of the letter of professional standing referenced in subsection (a)(3). Adding this provision into rule would allow individuals from outside the U.S. to have an option to substitute a standard certificate issued by another state department of education in lieu of the professional standing letter, if either cost-prohibitive or in some cases dangerous to return to the original country of licensure to attempt to obtain a letter. This rule change would provide clarity for applicants using these rules to complete the Texas certification process by stating that a viable option exists to substitute a copy of a standard certificate issued by another state department of education for the required letter of professional standing. This flexibility would also allow TEA staff to complete credential reviews in a timely manner if application processing is not delayed by waiting on receipt of a letter being sent from another country.

The proposed amendment to newly renumbered subsection (a)(6) and subsections (b)(2) and (c)(2) would replace the incorrect references to Chapter 230, Subchapter N, with the correct references to Chapter 230, Subchapter G, as that is the location for all information related to fees for certification services.

No changes are recommended to the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245 as published.

FISCAL IMPACT: The TEA staff has determined that there is no additional fiscal impact on state and local governments and there are no additional costs to entities required to comply with the proposed amendments. In addition, there is no direct adverse economic impact for small businesses, microbusinesses, and rural communities; therefore, no regulatory flexibility analysis, specified in Texas Government Code, §2006.002, is required. There is no effect on local economy; therefore, no local employment impact statement is required under Texas Government Code, §2001.022. The proposed amendments do not impose a cost on regulated persons, another state agency, a special district, or a local government and, therefore, are not subject to Texas Government Code, §2001.0045.

GOVERNMENT GROWTH IMPACT: The TEA staff has determined that the proposed amendments do not have a government growth impact pursuant to Texas Government Code, §2001.0221.

PUBLIC AND STUDENT BENEFIT: The public and student benefit anticipated as a result of the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245 will result in clearly defined rules and requirements for individuals to obtain Texas certification based on already being licensed to teach in other countries. The proposed amendments do not impose a cost on persons required to comply with the rules.

PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS: The proposed amendments would have no additional procedural and reporting implications.

LOCALLY MAINTAINED PAPERWORK REQUIREMENTS: The proposed amendments would have no additional locally maintained paperwork requirements.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The public comment period on the proposal began November 3, 2017, and ended December 4, 2017. Any comments received will be provided to the SBEC under separate cover prior to the December 8, 2017 meeting. The SBEC will take registered oral and written comments on this item at the December 8, 2017 meeting in accordance with the SBEC board operating policies and procedures.

ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION: I recommend that the State Board for Educator Certification:

Approve for adoption, subject to State Board of Education review, the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245, Certification of Educators from Other Countries, with an effective date of 20 days after filing the adoption notice with the *Texas Register*.

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- Attachments:**
- I. Statutory Citations
 - II. Text of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245, Certification of Educators from Other Countries

ATTACHMENT I**Statutory Citations Relating to Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245,
Certification of Educators from Other Countries****Texas Education Code, §21.041, Rules; Fees (excerpts):**

- (b) The board shall propose rules that:
 - (1) provide for the regulation of educators and the general administration of this subchapter in a manner consistent with this subchapter;
 - (4) specify the requirements for the issuance and renewal of an educator certificate;
 - (5) provide for the issuance of an educator certificate to a person who holds a similar certificate issued by another state or foreign country, subject to Section 21.052;

Texas Education Code, §21.048, Certification Examinations (excerpt):

- (a) The board shall propose rules prescribing comprehensive examinations for each class of certificate issued by the board. The commissioner shall determine the satisfactory level of performance required for each certification examination. For the issuance of a generalist certificate, the commissioner shall require a satisfactory level of examination performance in each core subject covered by the examination.

**Texas Education Code, §21.050, Academic Degree Required for Teaching Certificate;
Internship:**

- (a) A person who applies for a teaching certificate for which board rules require a bachelor's degree must possess a bachelor's degree received with an academic major or interdisciplinary academic major, including reading, other than education, that is related to the curriculum as prescribed under Subchapter A, Chapter 28.
- (b) The board may not require more than 18 semester credit hours of education courses at the baccalaureate level for the granting of a teaching certificate. The board shall provide for a minimum number of semester credit hours of internship to be included in the hours needed for certification. The board may propose rules requiring additional credit hours for certification in bilingual education, English as a second language, early childhood education, or special education.
- (c) A person who receives a bachelor's degree required for a teaching certificate on the basis of higher education coursework completed while receiving an exemption from tuition and fees under Section 54.363 may not be required to participate in any field experience or internship consisting of student teaching to receive a teaching certificate.

Texas Education Code, §21.052, Certification of Educators From Outside the State, as amended by Senate Bill 1839, 85th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2017 (excerpts):

- (a) The board may issue a certificate to an educator who applies for a certificate and:
 - (1) holds:
 - (A) a degree issued by an institution accredited by a regional accrediting agency or group that is recognized by a nationally recognized accreditation board; or

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- (B) a degree issued by an institution located in a foreign country, if the degree is equivalent to a degree described by Paragraph (A);
 - (2) holds an appropriate certificate or other credential issued by another state or country; and
 - (3) performs satisfactorily on:
 - (A) the examination prescribed under Section 21.048; or
 - (B) if the educator holds a certificate or other credential issued by another state or country, an examination similar to and at least as rigorous as that described by Paragraph (A) administered to the educator under the authority of that state.
 - (b) For purposes of Subsection (a)(2), a person is considered to hold a certificate or other credential if the credential is not valid solely because it has expired.
 - (c) The board may issue a temporary certificate under this section to an educator who holds a degree required by Subsection (a)(1) and a certificate or other credential required by Subsection (a)(2) but who has not satisfied the requirements prescribed by Subsection (a)(3). Subject to Subsection (d), the board may specify the term of a temporary certificate issued under this subsection.
 - (d) A temporary certificate issued under Subsection (c) to an educator employed by a school district that has constructed or expanded at least one instructional facility as a result of increased student enrollment due to actions taken under the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. Section 2687) may not expire before the first anniversary of the date on which the board completes the review of the educator's credentials and informs the educator of the examination or examinations under Section 21.048 on which the educator must perform successfully to receive a standard certificate.
 - (e) An educator who has submitted all documents required by the board for certification and who receives a temporary certificate as provided by Subsection (c) must perform satisfactorily on the examination prescribed under Section 21.048 not later than the first anniversary of the date the board completes the review of the educator's credentials and informs the educator of the examination or examinations under Section 21.048 on which the educator must perform successfully to receive a standard certificate.

TEC, §22.0831, National Criminal History Record Information Review of Certified Educators (excerpt):

- (f) The board may propose rules to implement this section, including rules establishing:
 - (1) deadlines for a person to submit fingerprints and photographs in compliance with this section; and
 - (2) sanctions for a person's failure to comply with the requirements of this section, including suspension or revocation of a certificate or refusal to issue a certificate.

ATTACHMENT II
Text of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC

Chapter 245. Certification of Educators from Other Countries

§245.1. General Provisions.

- (a) A Texas educator certificate may be issued to an individual who holds a college degree and an acceptable ~~[appropriate]~~ certificate or other credential issued by the authorized licensing agency in another country and who meets appropriate requirements specified in §230.11 ~~[§230.413]~~ of this title (relating to General Requirements) and in this chapter.
- (b) The degree held by an applicant from another country must be ~~[at a minimum,]~~ equivalent to at least a bachelor's ~~[a baccalaureate]~~ degree or higher issued by an accredited institution of higher education in the United States accredited or otherwise approved by an accrediting organization recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board or by the U.S. Department of Education .
- (c) The certificate(s) or other credential(s) issued by the authorized licensing agency in another country may not be a temporary permit, a credential issued by a city or school district, or a certificate for which academic or other program deficiencies are indicated. Specific examination or renewal requirements shall not be considered academic or program deficiencies.
- (d) A statement, approval letter, or certification entitlement card issued by the authorized licensing agency in another country specifying eligibility for full certification upon employment or completion of specified examination requirements shall have the same standing as a certificate.
- (e) The certificate(s) or other credential(s) and areas of certification issued by the authorized licensing agency in another country must be equivalent to a certificate or grade level that is within the early childhood-Grade 12 level and approved by ~~[and certification areas issued by]~~ the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC). Based on the certificate(s) submitted with the application for review of credentials, the ~~[The]~~ Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff shall identify the certification areas for which the applicant qualifies in Texas. The certificate(s) ~~[certificate, including all certification areas]~~ for which the applicant qualifies ~~[2]~~ may be issued by the TEA staff under the authority of the SBEC.
- ~~(f) If a Texas examination or certification is scheduled to be eliminated, an individual requesting certification and examination comparability must ensure that the application and all review documentation, including examination scores, are received by TEA staff 60 calendar days before the application submission deadline for the examination and/or certification sought.~~

§245.5. Requirements for Issuance of a Texas Certificate Based on Certification from Another Country.

- (a) The appropriate standard certificate issued under Chapter 230 ~~[232]~~ , Subchapter D ~~[A]~~ , of this title (relating to Types and Classes of Certificates Issued), may be issued to an applicant holding an acceptable ~~[a]~~ certificate or other credential and college degree as specified in §245.1 of this title (relating to General Provisions). The applicant must:
 - (1) pass the appropriate examination(s) prescribed in the Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.048(a), and §230.21 ~~[§230.5]~~ of this title (relating to Educator Assessment); or
 - (2) achieve an acceptable score on an examination(s) similar to and at least as rigorous as the requirements prescribed in the TEC, §21.048(a), and §230.21 ~~[§230.5]~~ of this title that was administered under the authority of another country. The applicant shall verify in a manner determined by the Texas Education Agency staff the level of performance on acceptable examinations administered under the authority of another country.
- (b) If all certification requirements are met, except successful completion of the appropriate certification examination(s), the applicant may request issuance of a one-year certificate in one or more of the certification areas authorized by the certificate(s) or other credential(s) from another country. An applicant who holds only a credential that is equivalent to a student services, principal, or superintendent certificate issued in accordance with Chapter 239 of this title (relating to Student Services Certificates), with the

exception of Subchapter E (relating to Master Teacher Certificate); Chapter 241 of this title (relating to Principal Certificate); or Chapter 242 of this title (relating to Superintendent Certificate) may be issued the equivalent Texas certificate. The applicant must verify two creditable years of public or private school experience, as defined in Chapter 153, Subchapter CC, of this title (relating to Commissioner's Rules on Creditable Years of Service) and the TEC, §5.001(2), in the specific student services or administrative area sought.

- (c) After satisfying all certification requirements, including all appropriate examination requirements, the applicant is eligible to apply for issuance of the standard certificate issued under Chapter 230, Subchapter D, of this title (relating to Types and Classes of Certificates Issued).
- (d) ~~(c)~~ An applicant issued a one-year certificate under Chapter 230, Subchapter D, [§232.1] of this title ~~(relating to Types of Certificates)~~ and this chapter who does not satisfy the appropriate examination requirements to establish eligibility for a standard certificate during the validity of the one-year certificate is not eligible for any type of certificate or permit authorizing employment for the same certification level or area until he or she has satisfied the examination requirements. If, due to extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the educator, examination requirements are not met during the validity period of the one-year certificate, the district [educator] may request an extension of the one-year certificate, not to exceed one calendar year in length.
- (e) An applicant shall not be required to complete the content specialization portion of the certification examination in a certification area for which he or she does not seek standard certification unless the examination is required to establish a base classroom teaching certificate. A supplemental certificate, as described in Chapter 233 of this title (relating to Categories of Classroom Teaching Certificates), may not be issued as a standard certificate unless the educator has established a classroom teaching certificate.
- (f) ~~(d)~~ An applicant issued a one-year certificate under subsection (d) ~~(c)~~ of this section who, during or subsequent to the validity of the one-year certificate, satisfies the appropriate examination requirements and establishes eligibility for a standard certificate may apply for:
- (1) a new one-year certificate in another certification area based on a certificate or other credential issued by [a] another country; or
 - (2) a second one-year certificate in an area previously authorized on a one-year certificate, provided the applicant was not assigned to the area and has not attempted the appropriate examination requirements for that area.

§245.10. Application Procedures.

- (a) An individual who has been issued an appropriate certificate or other credential by the authorized licensing agency in another country as specified in §245.1 of this title (relating to General Provisions) may apply for a review of credentials by submitting the following items to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff:
- (1) a completed application;
 - (2) the original detailed report or course-by-course evaluation for professional licensing of all college-level credits prepared by a foreign credential evaluation service recognized by the TEA staff. The evaluation must verify that the individual:
 - (A) holds, at a minimum, the equivalent of a baccalaureate degree issued by an accredited institution of higher education in the United States as specified in §245.1(b) of this title, including the date that the degree was conferred; and
 - (B) has completed an educator preparation program, including a teaching practicum;
 - (3) an original written statement, provided by the authorized licensing agency in the issuing country, that the educator certificate(s) or other credential(s) specified in §245.1 of this title is currently in good standing and has not been revoked, suspended, or sanctioned for misconduct and is not pending disciplinary or adverse action. The statement must be written in the English language or must be accompanied by a translation in the English language from a foreign credential evaluation service recognized by the TEA staff or an accredited translation service;

- (4) official transcripts of any additional college credits and/or degrees earned in the United States;
~~[and]~~
 - (5) copies of any standard certificates issued by another state department of education; and
 - (6) ~~(5)~~ a nonrefundable review fee as specified in Chapter 230, Subchapter G ~~[N]~~, of this title (relating to Certificate Issuance Procedures).
- (b) Pursuant to §245.5(b) of this title (relating to Requirements for Issuance of a Texas Certificate Based on Certification from Another Country) an applicant may apply for a one-year certificate by submitting the following items to the TEA staff:
- (1) a completed application; and
 - (2) the appropriate fee as specified in Chapter 230, Subchapter G ~~[N]~~, of this title.
- (c) Pursuant to §245.5(a) of this ~~the~~ title, an applicant may apply for a standard certificate by submitting the following items to the TEA staff:
- (1) a completed application; and
 - (2) the appropriate fee as specified in Chapter 230, Subchapter G ~~[N]~~, of this title.