

TO: Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators

SUBMITTED BY: Deb Giles, Vermont DOE L/RSB Consultant

ITEM FOR ACTION: Adopt Revisions for Policy H2 - Policy on Activities that Qualify for Professional Development Credit

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators vote to adopt the revised Policy H2 - Policy on Activities that Qualify for Professional Development Credit.

MOTION:

I, _____, move that the VSBPE adopt the revised Policy H2 - Policy on Activities that Qualify for Professional Development Credit.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Policy H2 lists the types of activities that are allowed to qualify for professional development credit/hours along with the documentation required and limitations on the categories. Revisions to this policy were discussed at the March, April, and May meetings of the VSBPE by the T/AR Committee.

Major Revisions:

- Addition of the word reinstatement along with relicensure
- Addition of the word hours along with credits
- Change from content and knowledge standards to knowledge and performance standards
- Under Limitations heading the words *for Level II* were eliminated
- Under Limitations percentage of credits was changed to the number of hours per endorsement
- Category number 6 now includes the word National to read State/National Education Activities
- Category number 11 now includes AmeriCorps to read Peace Corps/AmeriCorps Experience

This policy was last revised in April 2007.

STAFF AVAILABLE: Deb Giles, Vermont DOE L/RSB Consultant.

**VERMONT
STANDARDS BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS**

**POLICY ON ACTIVITIES THAT QUALIFY FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
CREDIT**

The following activities meet state professional development requirements for relicensure or reinstatement of a lapsed license and shall be approved by L/RSBs and the Licensing Office when the activities meet the requirements below and when all required documentation has been submitted. In some cases, there are restrictions on the total number of required credits/hours that may be earned through particular categories of activities. (Other activities may be acceptable upon consultation with the L/RSB and the Licensing Office.)

- 1) In order to be approved, professional development activities submitted for license/endorsement renewal/reinstatement shall:
 - relate directly to the knowledge and performance standards of the endorsement(s) being renewed/reinstated and/or to the *5 Standards for Vermont Educators* and 16 educator principles incorporated within the 5 standards, and
 - relate directly to the goals outlined in the educator's approved Individual Professional Development Plan (IPDP).
- 2) Relicensure credit/hours may be awarded for activities that are paid or unpaid and required by the school/district or self-selected.
- 3) Relicensure credit is a unit of measure assigned by a local or regional standards board, or the Licensing Office, to professional development activities other than academic credit bearing courses that meet standards for relicensure/reinstatement. Fifteen (15) clock hours of professional development is equivalent to one (1) relicensure credit. Relicensure credits and academic credits apply equally toward relicensure/reinstatement requirements.
- 4) The minimum contact time required for relicensure credit to be accrued is one-half (½) hour.
- 5) Preapproval of professional development activities is suggested but not required.
- 6) Level I renewals require three credits (45 hours) of professional development in the endorsement area. One of the three credits (15 hours) must align with the knowledge and performance standards of the endorsement.

Level II renewals require nine credits (135 hours) of professional development in the endorsement area. Three of the nine credits (45 hours) must align with the knowledge and performance standards of the endorsement.

- 7) Credits earned by an educator during a licensure cycle may be used if applicable to address professional development requirements to renew multiple endorsements and also both Level I and Level II licenses.

DATE ADOPTED: 6/3/99

DATE REVISED: 11/16/00, 3/15/05, 4/11/07

LEGAL REF: Lic. Regs: 5421, 5431, 5432, 5435

CROSS REF:

ANNOTATIONS/BRIEF HISTORY:

1. Academic Courses (graduate, undergraduate)

Documentation shall include:

- Official transcript or grade report

Limitations:

- Relicensure credits granted will equal the academic credits indicated on the transcript or grade report
- No limit on number of required credits that may be earned in this manner

2. Workshops/Seminars/Professional Conferences Sponsored by Credible and Recognizable Organizations (e.g., Vermont-NEA, ASCD, school districts, VASS, NSTA, DOE etc.)

Documentation shall include:

- Verification of participation, program content, and contact hours

Limitations:

- No limit on number of required hours that may be earned in this manner

3. Designing, Developing and Teaching Courses or Workshops

Documentation shall include:

- Course or workshop syllabus
- Verification by institution or organization that course/workshop was held

Limitations:

- Limited to initial offering or complete redesign of course/workshop
- Limited to 45 hours per endorsement

4. Applied Experience in Content Area of Endorsement Through Employment in a Related Non-Educational Setting or Internship, or Through Related Educational Travel or Volunteer Service

Documentation shall include:

- Description of job/position, educational travel, or volunteer service
- Employer or sponsor verification of experience or service, including number of hours or weeks of participation
- Documentation of the travel (may include journal, tickets, museum stubs, itinerary, etc.)

Limitations:

- Limited to 45 hours per endorsement

5. Local School/District Activities or Action Research/Reform Projects

Documentation shall include:

- Brief description of goals and outcome of activity/project
- Verification by project/activity convener of: participant's role and number of contact hours

Limitations:

- Limited to 45 hours per endorsement

6. State/National Education Activities or Reform Projects/Committees

Documentation shall include:

- Brief description of goals and outcome of activity/project
- Verification by project/activity convener of: participant's role and number of contact hours

Limitations:

- Limited to 45 hours per endorsement

7. Institution of Higher Education Reform Activities – Partnerships with K-12 Schools

Documentation shall include:

- Brief description of goals and outcome of activity/project
- Verification by project/activity convener of: participant's role and number of contact hours

Limitations:

- Limited to 45 hours per endorsement

8. Educational Research and Publication

Documentation shall include:

- Verification of research and publication by recognizable and credible organization, or verification of acceptance of the thesis by an academic advisor in the case of degree-related research

Limitations:

- Limited to 45 hours per endorsement

9. National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Certification

Documentation shall include:

- Letter from the Vermont National Board Certification Coordinator verifying submission of the portfolio, or a copy of the National Board Certificate earned

Limitations:

- A NBPTS portfolio may be submitted in lieu of a relicensure portfolio only once for each comparable endorsement unless the educator also completes the certificate renewal process. (Please contact the Department of Education or L/RSB for an updated list of the comparable endorsements.)

10. Industry credentials (e.g., Emergency Medical Technician) or Commercial Driver's License (CDL) add-ons

Documentation shall include:

- Official documentation of passage of the examination or receipt of the first CDL

Limitations:

- Limited to 45 hours per endorsement
- Limited to first issuance of credential or CDL

11. Peace Corps/AmeriCorps Experience

Documentation shall include:

- Verification by the organization director (or equivalent) of participant's role and number of months of participation

Limitations:

- Limited to 90 hours per endorsement

12. Clinical Continuing Education Required for Other Required Professional Licensure (applies to School Nurses and Associate School Nurses, School Social Workers, and School Psychologists only)

Documentation shall include:

- Official transcript or grade report if an academic course
- Verification of participation, program content, and contact hours if workshop/seminar/professional conference

Limitations:

- Limited to 68 hours per endorsement

13. School-Business/Industry or School-Community Partnership Initiatives

Documentation shall include:

- Brief description of goals and outcome of activity/project
- Verification by project organizer of: participant's role and number of contact hours

Limitation:

- Limited to 45 hours per endorsement

14. Participation in a Mentoring Program as a Mentor or Mentee

Documentation shall include:

- Brief description of outcomes from mentoring program
- Verification by mentor of participant's role accompanied by number of hours
- Verification by the school principal of assignment to this role of mentor, number of mentees mentored, and total number of mentor training and contact hours involved

Limitation:

- Maximum of 45 hours may be awarded for participation in a Mentoring Program as a Mentor or Mentee.