

Educator Quality Team
February 14, 2018

From the Educator Quality Division Director, Debi Price

Renewal season update: 3,414 educator licenses will be expiring on June 30, 2018. Between January 3, 2018 when renewal applications opened and February 2, 2018 we have received 384 renewal applications = 11%. One hundred forty-one (141) licenses have been paid for and issued.

Weekly [tweets](#) have been scheduled to share licensing information. At least monthly, there will be an update on the number of submitted renewal applications and other information for all licensing types such as fingerprint supported criminal record checks. Find us on Twitter [@VTEducation](#).

Back by popular demand, the Licensing Team will be providing three (3) regional trainings for Superintendents and their designees with licensing responsibilities. Email invitations were sent February 5, 2018 to all Superintendents and identified designees.

Spring Training Dates:

- Northeast & Winooski Valley SU/SDs on March 16 at Lake Morey
- Champlain Valley SU/SDs on March 22 in Burlington
- Southeast & Southwest SU/SDs on April 6 in Rutland

From the In-service Team - Ron Ryan, Licensing Program Manager

We are currently tracking all incomplete applications submitted for each application type. This will take licensing specialists additional time during the current application process however, the data collected will assist the licensing team in minimizing incomplete applications in the future therefore saving educators/applicants costs associated with submitting a second application and providing greater efficiency in the application work queue.

Additionally, we are in the process of including a survey link for applicants to complete following the application process. The Survey Monkey link will be included in the system-generated email that notifies the applicant of receipt of their license payment. We are hopeful that applicants will complete the survey to assist us in our continuous improvement efforts.

In our continuing efforts to streamline application processes, we have made an internal process change to Child Abuse and Vulnerable Adult Registry checks. Both these checks, required by Vermont statute were previously the responsibility of one staff member. Each licensing specialist now processes that information to provide for a more efficient and timely check of the registry data and therefore a faster issuance of a license.

At this VSBPE meeting, board members will be considering a recommendation to change the Praxis II test for the Early Childhood Educator endorsement. In the spring of 2017, Ellen Baker, Licensing Coordinator from the University of Vermont asked the VSBPE to consider replacing the current Elementary Education Praxis test required for the Early Childhood endorsement with a new Praxis test specific to early childhood. The Agency organized a session facilitated by Malik McKinley from ETS on January 12, 2018. A panel of early childhood educators, educator preparation faculty, school administrators and Agency staff reviewed two Early Childhood Praxis II tests. The panel unanimously recommended the ETS Praxis Early Childhood Education Test (5025) with a cut score of 156. This recommendation will be presented to the Licensing Committee and then to the full Board at the February 14, 2018 for adoption.

Current work queue per application type as of 2/5/18

Application Type	Pending	*Under Review
Initial online	10	28
Reinstatement online	4	12
Renewal	29	143
Retired online	0	2
Temporary online	4	2
Transcript Review – Initial	1	8
Transcript Review – Add endorsement	0	70
Peer Review - Initial	15	38
Peer Review – Add endorsement	8	7
Temporary license extension requests	0	0

LOCAL & REGIONAL STANDARDS BOARDS

- 63 of 68 Grant Award Documents were submitted and approved by AOE finance. The Award Documents have been mailed to SU/SD offices for Superintendent signature.
- We continue to receive positive comments from Boards regarding the April 1st timeline for renewals.

From the Pre-service Educator Quality Team – Terry Reilly Program Coordinator

The Licensing Committee will be reviewing the revised Art endorsement and Music endorsement recommendations from the stakeholder groups that met in January. Prior to the

VSBPE meeting on February 14, stakeholder groups for the Business Education and Family and Consumer Sciences endorsements will be meeting to craft their recommendations for review. The final two endorsements on schedule for revision this cycle are Theater Arts and Social Studies. Both will be distributed to the Licensing Committee for review at the March 28, 2018 meeting. Per VSBPE, all endorsements will have the same formatting and wording to indicate Knowledge and Performance competencies in all endorsements.

PEER REVIEW

With the increase in participation in the Peer Review process, we have added a second session to our monthly Saturday clinics and currently offer an 11:30AM-1:30PM session and 2:00-4:00PM session. Saturday clinics will continue through May and then weeknights during the summer months as attendance during the warmer months on a Saturday is typically low.

Preliminary work for the fall 2018 ROPA visit continues. The PR Coordinator is identifying Panelists for the ROPA team to interview and has started building out the Institutional Portfolio.

RESULTS ORIENTED PROGRAM APPROVAL (ROPA)

Invoicing of Educator Preparation Programs for "Authority to Recommend" Vermont licensure have been sent. Ellen Cairns, ROPA Consultant, has cross-walked current VSBPE expectations for ROPA with current practice and has identified some inconsistencies that the Program Approval Committee (PAC) and ultimately the full board will review and make decision on. One such inconsistency is the VSBPE Rule 5211.2 "Approved educator preparation and alternate route to licensure programs shall ensure that all general licensure competencies (if appropriate), specific endorsement competencies and additional requirements, if any, and other licensure requirements in effect on the date of application for program approval are addressed for each candidate in the program." Additional requirements address testing expectations that are currently not implemented for the majority of EPPs.

ROPA Review Team training will be incorporating Proficiency-Based Learning (PBL). Team members will receive training on how to evaluate EPP's progress in the area of PBL with the support of Pat Fitzsimmons, Proficiency-Based Learning Team Leader.