

SENATE BILL No. 407

By Committee on Education

1-29

1 AN ACT concerning education; relating to the state board of education;
2 authorizing teaching licenses for individuals who complete an
3 alternative teacher certification program.

4
5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. (a) The state board of education shall authorize any
7 individual who has completed an alternative teacher certification program
8 to apply for and obtain an initial teaching license. ~~Such applicant shall not~~
9 ~~be required to comply with either of the following requirements as a~~
10 ~~prerequisite to obtaining a teaching license pursuant to this section:~~

11 ~~(1) Complete a professional education pedagogy coursework at an~~
12 ~~accredited college or university engaged in teacher preparation; or~~

13 ~~(2) hold a valid teaching license in another state that was earned~~
14 ~~through completion of an alternative teacher certification program.~~

15 (b) An applicant who applies for an initial teaching license pursuant
16 to this section shall:

17 (1) Submit an official transcript confirming the granting of a
18 bachelor's degree or higher *from a college or university that has an*
19 *accreditation recognized by the state board of education;*

20 (2) submit proof of completion of the alternative teacher certification
21 program;

22 (3) submit an application for an initial license with the required
23 licensure fee; and

24 (4) complete all background check requirements.

25 (c) An applicant who obtains an initial teaching license pursuant to
26 this section shall be authorized to teach the subject area and educational
27 level that correspond to the certification received through the applicant's
28 successful completion of the alternative teacher certification program,
29 including:

30 (1) Elementary education;

31 (2) elementary education ~~with a reading endorsement~~ *unified;*

32 (3) English language arts;

33 (4) ~~United States and world~~ history, *government and social studies;*

34 (5) mathematics;

35 (6) general science;

36 (7) biology;

1 (8) chemistry;
2 (9) physics; ~~and~~

3 (10) *secondary education unified; and*

4 (11) *high-incidence and low-incidence* special education.

5 (d) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the state board shall treat
6 an individual who successfully obtains an initial teaching license pursuant
7 to this section in the same manner as an individual who completes a
8 traditional teacher preparation program and receives an initial teaching
9 license, including during the process of converting such initial teaching
10 license to another license type.

11 (2) ~~The state board may require~~ An individual who obtains an initial
12 teaching license pursuant to this section ~~to~~ *shall* participate in a school
13 district-based teacher mentorship program during the first ~~year~~ *two years*
14 such ~~person~~ *individual* is employed by a school district in this state.

15 (e) The state board of education shall adopt rules and regulations
16 necessary to carry out this section.

17 (f) As used in this section, "alternative teacher certification program"
18 means a teacher preparation program that:

19 (1) Operates in at least five states;

20 (2) has been in operation for at least 10 years;

21 (3) includes subject-area content training and pedagogical training
22 that covers effective instructional delivery, classroom management and
23 organization, assessment, instructional design and professional learning
24 and leadership; and

25 (4) requires applicants to pass a subject area examination and a
26 pedagogy examination to successfully complete the program.

27 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
28 publication in the Kansas register.