

Date: January 17, 2013
To: District Administrators
From: Michael J. Thompson, PhD
Deputy State Superintendent
Subject: Testing requirements for out-of-state license applicants

As you may recall, in August 2010, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) sent you information on findings presented by the U.S. Department of Education regarding oversight and monitoring of Highly Qualified Teachers and Title II Part A funds in the state. As a result of the findings, the Teacher Education, Professional Development and Licensing Team (TEPDL) made an interim change to issue a one-year license and record these individuals as not highly qualified. To be in full compliance, we must now make our final transition step. We have revised our procedures for licensing candidates who complete their approved educator preparation programs in another state or country and want to share the following information with you, as you begin to make hiring decisions for the 2013-2014 school year.

Beginning with the July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2018 licensure cycle

DPI will only issue an Initial Educator License or Professional Educator License with an effective date of July 1, 2013, to applicants who, having completed their approved educator preparation program outside of Wisconsin, meet all Wisconsin's testing requirements. These testing requirements may include either the Praxis I basic skills tests, the Praxis II content test(s), the ACTFL world language tests, or any other Wisconsin testing requirement in place at the time of application. Please refer to the testing information located at: <http://tepdل.dpi.wi.gov/licensing/wisconsin-educator-testing-requirements>.

Applications, including complete background check information, received from these educators trained outside of Wisconsin, but without appropriate test scores, will be stasued 'pending.' Upon TEPDL's receipt of passing scores on any required test(s), an Initial Educator License or Professional Educator License (determined by program completion dates and experience) will be issued. These educators, upon request, will be eligible for a Wisconsin Substitute License while they are fulfilling Wisconsin's testing requirements.

We look forward to working with you in meeting the federal requirements for highly qualified teacher reporting. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the TEPDL team at 1-800-266-1027 or at licensing@dpi.wi.gov.

MJT/mew