

March 11, 2014

( ) Action Requested  
( X ) Informational

PESB MEMORANDUM. 14-01  
CERTIFICATION RENEWAL REQUIREMENT CHANGES

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents  
School District Superintendents  
School Building Principals  
Assistant Superintendents for Business and/or Business Managers  
Assistant Superintendents for Teaching and Learning  
School District Personnel Directors  
Executive Director, Association of Washington School Principals  
Executive Director, Washington Association of School Administrators  
Executive Director, Washington Education Association

FROM: Jennifer Wallace, Executive Director, Professional Educator Standards Board

RE: Certification Renewal Requirement Changes

CONTACT: Brendan O'Connor, Professional Educator Standards Board, Program Specialist  
[brendan.oconnor@k12.wa.us](mailto:brendan.oconnor@k12.wa.us) (360) 725-6323

**Certification Renewal Requirement Changes**

[WAC 181-79A-251](#)

[WAC 181-85-075](#)

**Beginning September 1, 2014** changes to certification renewal requirements will affect many educators. Please encourage building principals to post notices of these changes, and alert faculty and staff of the changes included below.

Completion of four professional growth plans (PGPs) during the five-year validity of a certificate meets renewal requirements for Professional level and Continuing level certificates.

For **Professional level certificates issued prior to September 1, 2014** for Teachers, School Counselors and School Psychologists there are four options for renewing the certificate.

- Continue to use 150 clock hours or equivalent college credit for renewal.
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- Or, renew by completing four annual PGPs during the five-year validity date of the certificate
- Or, renew by combining completed annual PGPs with clock hours for a total of 150 hours. (e.g. 3 PGPs + 60 CH = 150 CH)
- Or, by possession of a valid certificate issued by National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, or the National Association of School Psychologists
- Administrators with a Professional level certificate are required to complete four professional growth plans (PGPs) during the five-year validity of their certificate as the **only option** for renewal.

For **Professional level certificates issued after September 1, 2014** for Teachers, Administrators, School Counselors and School Psychologists the **only option** for renewing the certificate is by completing four annual PGPs during the five-year validity dates of the certificate.

**Continuing level certificate** holders have four options for renewing the certificate.

- Continue to use 150 clock hours or equivalent college credit for renewal.
- Or, renew by completing four annual PGPs during the five-year validity date of the certificate
- Or, renew by combining completed annual PGPs with clock hours for a total of 150 hours. (e.g. 3 PGPs + 60 CH = 150 CH)
- Or, by possession of a valid certificate issued by National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, or the National Association of School Psychologists

**Residency level certificates** are renewed leading to the completion of a ProTeach or ProCert program.

**Initial level certificates** are renewed via continuing education credits through completion of 150 clock hours or equivalent college course credit, or by completing four annual PGPs.

Educators may apply their focused evaluation professional growth activities of the evaluation system toward the annual professional growth plan for certificate renewal.

In addition:

**STEM included in continuing ed or PGP for renewal**

Beginning September 1, 2014 continuing education or professional growth plans for teachers at the elementary and secondary levels in STEM-related subjects must include a specific focus on the integration of science, mathematics, technology, and engineering instruction as per [RCW 28A.410.2212](#).

Affects:

Teacher certificates with the following endorsements:

- Elementary Education (K-8)

- Elementary Math Specialist (K-8)
- ML Math (4-9)
- ML Science (4-9)
- Mathematics (5-12)
- All Sciences (5-12)
- Technology (5-12)

For questions concerning certification renewal requirements, please contact Brendan O'Connor at (360) 725-6323 or email [brendan.oconnor@k12.wa.us](mailto:brendan.oconnor@k12.wa.us). Additional information is found at the Professional Educator Standards Board website <http://program.pesb.wa.gov/professional-growth-plan-pgp-t>

#### PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR STANDARDS BOARD

Brendan O'Connor  
Program Specialist