Agenda Topic: Proposed Rules

Part 26 (Standards for Certification in Early Childhood Education and in Elementary Education)
Part 27 (Standards for Certification in Specific Teaching Fields)
Part 29 (Standards for Administrative Certification)

Materials: Recommended Rules – Tables of Contents Only

Staff Contact: Michael Long

Purpose of Agenda Item

To present the proposed rules for adoption.

Expected Outcome of Agenda Item

The Board’s adoption of these three new sets of rules.

Background Information

These three new Parts contain numerous sets of standards that the State Board has already reviewed and adopted in a different format. The present action will serve to place these standards into effect.

The introduction to each Part (“Purpose and Effective Dates”) explains that the standards will apply both to the approval of programs that prepare educators (beginning July 1, 2003) and to candidates for seeking certification in various fields (beginning July 1, 2004). The one-year difference in dates was established to give candidates adequate time to meet the relevant standards before becoming subject to certification testing based on those standards.

These new rules were presented for the Board’s initial review at the November 2001 meeting and subsequently published in the Illinois Register to elicit public comment. Seventeen letters of comment were submitted. Please see the Summary and Analysis of Public Comment for a discussion of the issues raised.
New Parts 26 and 29 are each approximately 50 pages in length. New Part 27 approaches 400 pages in length. In the interest of conservation, these standards are not being included in paper form with this Board packet. They have been transmitted in their entirety in electronic form instead and will be available in limited quantities at the Board meeting. The Board packet includes only the table of contents and the introductory material for each Part.

**Analysis and Implications for Policy, Budget, Legislative Action, and Communications**

*Policy Implications:* As was discussed at the November meeting, the State Board will want to identify a date for requiring the new standards-based certification tests that bears a reasonable relationship to programs' implementation of the standards and is thus fair to candidates for certification.

*Budget Implications:* This rulemaking has no budgetary implications for the agency.

*Legislative Action:* None needed.

*Communications:* Please see “Next Steps” below.

**Superintendent’s Recommendation**

Adopt the proposed new sets of rules, including the changes recommended in response to public comment.

**Next Steps**

Notice of the adopted rules will be submitted to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules to trigger JCAR’s review. When that process is complete, the adopted rules will be filed with the Secretary of State and disseminated as appropriate.
Summary and Analysis of Public Comment
23 Ill. Adm. Code 26, 27, and 29

Comment
Approximately half of the comments received addressed the proposed date as of which the tests required for certification would be based on the new standards. Nine respondents, all affiliated with the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign, stated that the testing date should be moved back from July 1, 2004, to July 1, 2005, so that candidates who have already begun their programs will not be placed at a disadvantage with regard to the tests they will be required to pass. One remaining commenter expressed agreement with an idea that she did not identify and went on to state that the testing date should be 2003.

Analysis
We believe that the sparsity of the public comment received on these standards is a good indication that the one-year delay in the testing requirement is reasonable as proposed and provides candidates with sufficient opportunity to meet the standards. To defer the changeover to the new tests until 2005 would be a disservice to the institutions that have embraced the standards and shown leadership in moving forward to redesign their preparation programs.

Recommendation
The date for implementation of the new tests should remain July 1, 2004, as proposed.

Comment
The other issue raised by multiple respondents had to do with the standards for reading teachers and reading specialists found in Part 27. It was pointed out that, in each case, classroom teaching experience is set forth as a requirement. The commenters stated that a requirement for experience is not a standard or is inconsistent with a standards-based approach. Further, they believed implementing this requirement would be counterproductive to efforts aimed at expanding the pool of reading teachers because it would limit the numbers of well-qualified new teachers who would or could pursue reading as a specialty. The quality of an individual’s knowledge base was stated to be just as important as experience, and the State Board was urged not to prohibit an individual who has a reading endorsement from using it until he or she accumulated several years of experience.

Analysis
These commenters are correct in noting that no other field’s standards include a requirement for experience, and we agree that such a requirement is not a standard per se. Further, it would be inappropriate to include such a requirement in a set of standards applicable to initial certification. Finally, in light of the agency’s emphasis on
reading as a state priority, we believe it would be counterproductive to institute a requirement for experience via these standards.

**Recommendation**
The performance indicator requiring two years’ teaching experience for reading teachers (expressed as Section 27.110(a)(2)(F)) should be deleted, as should the performance indicator requiring three years’ teaching experience for reading specialists (Section 27.120(a)(2)(F)).

**Comment**
One group of college faculty expressed concern that the broad new certification designations will significantly weaken content knowledge of teacher candidates and the “traditional liberal arts major”. These individuals feared that preparation of teachers on this basis will yield “jacks of all trades and masters of none.”

**Analysis**
We believe that these commenters may not have realized that the areas of certification involving broad designations such as science or social science also require preparation in at least one specific content area in addition to meeting the standards for the designation as a whole. We do not know how they could otherwise have concluded that the structure of the standards expresses a diminished emphasis on content knowledge.

The model expressed in these rules was proposed and supported by district superintendents to facilitate the hiring of appropriately qualified personnel, particularly in science. This was motivated in part by the number of science teachers teaching in science fields for which they did not hold an endorsement. This endorsement structure will achieve that goal and ensure that teachers have deep preparation in the fields they teach.

**Recommendation**
No change is needed in response to this comment.

**Comment**
One respondent wrote to express concern with the relative lack of weight given to oceanography in the standards for earth and space science (Section 27.170). This individual contrasted the two indicators dealing with oceanography with the amount of material on this subject in commonly used high school textbooks. In a similar vein, he stated that the number of geology-related indicators is out of proportion to the prevalence of that material in textbooks. By contrast, he noted the large number of indicators devoted to astronomy. He urged the agency to include more indicators related to oceanography and geology in future versions of the standards and gave some relevant examples.
Analysis
The points raised by this commenter do deserve serious consideration when the science standards are next reviewed. This review will be conducted on a staggered five-year timetable.

Recommendation
No change in the standards is needed at this time.
TITLE 23:  EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
   SUBTITLE A:  EDUCATION
   CHAPTER I:  STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
   SUBCHAPTER b:  PERSONNEL

PART 26
STANDARDS FOR CERTIFICATION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND IN
   ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

SUBPART A:  STANDARDS FOR CERTIFICATION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD
            EDUCATION

Section
26.100  Purpose and Effective Dates of Standards in Subpart A
26.110  Curriculum:  General
26.120  Curriculum:  English Language Arts
26.130  Curriculum:  Mathematics
26.140  Curriculum:  Science
26.150  Curriculum:  Social Science
26.160  Curriculum:  Physical Development and Health
26.170  Curriculum:  Fine Arts
26.180  Human Development and Learning
26.190  Diversity
26.200  Planning for Instruction
26.210  Learning Environment
26.220  Instructional Delivery
26.230  Communication
26.240  Assessment
26.250  Collaborative Relationships
26.260  Reflection and Professional Growth
26.270  Professional Conduct and Leadership

SUBPART B:  STANDARDS FOR CERTIFICATION IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Section
26.300  Purpose and Effective Dates of Standards in Subpart B
26.310  Curriculum
26.320  Curriculum:  English Language Arts
26.330  Curriculum:  Mathematics
26.340  Curriculum:  Science
26.350  Curriculum:  Social Science
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
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26.360 Curriculum: Physical Development and Health
26.370 Curriculum: Fine Arts
26.380 Human Development and Learning
26.390 Diversity
26.400 Planning for Instruction
26.410 Learning Environment
26.420 Instructional Delivery
26.430 Communication
26.440 Assessment
26.450 Collaborative Relationships
26.460 Reflection and Professional Growth
26.470 Professional Conduct and Leadership

AUTHORITY: Implementing Article 21 and authorized by Section 2-3.6 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/Art. 21 and 2-3.6].

SOURCE: Adopted at 26 Ill. Reg. _____, effective ______________.

SUBPART A: STANDARDS FOR CERTIFICATION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Section 26.100 Purpose and Effective Dates of Standards in Subpart A

This Subpart A establishes the standards that, together with the standards set forth in Standards for All Illinois Teachers (see 23 Ill. Adm. Code 24), shall apply to the issuance of teaching certificates in early childhood education pursuant to Article 21 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/Art. 21]. The standards set forth in this Subpart A shall apply both to candidates for certification in early childhood education and to the programs that prepare them. That is:

a) beginning July 1, 2003, approval of any teacher preparation program or course of study in early childhood education pursuant to the State Board’s rules for Certification (23 Ill. Adm. Code 25, Subpart C) shall be based on the congruence of that program’s or course’s content with the standards identified in this Subpart A; and
b) beginning July 1, 2004, the examination(s) required for issuance of a certificate in early childhood education shall be based on the standards identified in this Subpart A.

SUBPART B: STANDARDS FOR CERTIFICATION IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Section 26.300 Purpose and Effective Dates of Standards in Subpart B

This Subpart B establishes the standards that, together with the standards set forth in Standards for All Illinois Teachers (see 23 Ill. Adm. Code 24), shall apply to the issuance of teaching certificates in elementary education pursuant to Article 21 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/Art. 21]. The standards set forth in this Subpart B shall apply both to candidates for certification in elementary education and to the programs that prepare them. That is:

a) beginning July 1, 2003, approval of any teacher preparation program or course of study in elementary education pursuant to the State Board’s rules for Certification (23 Ill. Adm. Code 25, Subpart C) shall be based on the congruence of that program’s or course’s content with the standards identified in this Subpart B; and

b) beginning July 1, 2004, the examination(s) required for issuance of an elementary certificate shall be based on the standards identified in this Subpart B.
TITLE 23: EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES  
SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION  
CHAPTER I: STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SUBCHAPTER b: PERSONNEL  

PART 27  
STANDARDS FOR CERTIFICATION IN SPECIFIC TEACHING FIELDS  

SUBPART A: GENERAL  

Section 27.10 Purpose and Effective Dates  

SUBPART B: FUNDAMENTAL LEARNING AREAS  

27.100 English Language Arts  
27.110 Reading  
27.120 Reading Specialist  
27.130 Mathematics  
27.140 Science - A Common Core of Standards  
27.150 Biology  
27.160 Chemistry  
27.170 Earth and Space Science  
27.180 Environmental Science  
27.190 Physics  
27.200 Social Science - A Common Core of Standards  
27.210 Economics  
27.220 Geography  
27.230 History  
27.240 Political Science  
27.250 Psychology  
27.260 Sociology and Anthropology  
27.270 Physical Education  
27.280 Health Education  
27.300 Dance  
27.310 Drama/Theatre Arts  
27.320 Music  
27.330 Visual Arts  
27.340 Foreign Language  

SUBPART C: ADDITIONAL TEACHING FIELDS
Section 27.400 Agricultural Education
27.410 Business, Marketing, and Computer Education
27.420 English as a New Language (ENL)
27.430 Family and Consumer Sciences
27.440 Health Careers
27.450 Library Information Specialist
27.460 Technology Education
27.470 Technology Specialist
27.480 Work-Based Learning Teacher/Coordinator

AUTHORITY: Implementing Article 21 and authorized by Section 2-3.6 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/Art. 21 and 2-3.6].

SOURCE: Adopted at 26 Ill. Reg. _____, effective ______________.

SUBPART A: GENERAL

Section 27.10 Purpose and Effective Dates

This Part establishes the standards that, together with the standards set forth in Standards for All Illinois Teachers (see 23 Ill. Adm. Code 24), shall apply to the issuance of endorsements in specific teaching fields pursuant to Article 21 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/Art. 21]. The standards set forth in this Part shall apply both to candidates for the respective endorsements and to the programs that prepare them. That is:

a) beginning July 1, 2003, approval of any teacher preparation program or course of study in any field covered by this Part pursuant to the State Board’s rules for Certification (23 Ill. Adm. Code 25, Subpart C) shall be based on the congruence of that program’s or course’s content with the standards identified in this Part; and

b) beginning on July 1, 2004, the examination(s) required for issuance of a certificate endorsed in any field covered by this Part shall be based on the relevant standards set forth in this Part.
Section 29.10 Purpose and Effective Dates

This Part establishes the standards that shall apply to the issuance of administrative certificates and the endorsements available on those certificates. The standards set forth in this Part shall apply both to candidates for the respective endorsements and to the programs that prepare them. That is:

a) beginning July 1, 2003, approval of any preparation program or course of study in any field covered by this Part pursuant to the State Board’s rules for Certification (23 Ill. Adm. Code 25, Subpart C) shall be based on the congruence of that program’s or course’s content with the relevant standards identified in this Part; and

b) beginning on July 1, 2004, the examination(s) required for issuance of a certificate endorsed in any field covered by this Part shall be based on the relevant standards set forth herein.