

HB 5627 FAQs

1. I have a deficient PEL. How can I have it updated under the new requirements?

ISBE will exchange all issued provisional licenses (ELS-PEDU's) for professional educator licenses (PEL's) during the first two weeks of July 2018. We will also notify all educators who hold a deficient PEL about the new requirements for licensure. This notification will be sent to the email address on file in each educators' ELIS accounts. Educators should send copies of out-of-state licensure to licensure@isbe.net. Official transcripts should be mailed or emailed to your regional office of education or intermediate service center.

All evaluations will be updated when new documents are received; updates will be reviewed in the order they were received. Many educators will be taking advantage of the new law and we anticipate an influx of application updates. Please allow at least four weeks for your file to be updated.

2. I applied for a PEL before the new law was effective and it is "pending review." What should I do?

You do not need to take any action. All "pending review" applications will be evaluated under the new requirements.

3. Will all existing approvals (excluding the short term emergency and short term approvals) be converted to an educator license with stipulations?

No. Any existing approvals will remain "approvals" and will still be valid for employment through their expiration date. The agency will continue to issue approvals until the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS) has been configured for the new license types. The field will be notified when ELIS is ready to accept new licensure applications.

4. What should a school district do if it needs a substitute teacher to serve more than five consecutive days for the same teacher?

A short-term substitute teacher cannot be utilized for more than five consecutive days for a given teacher under contract. If a sub for one teacher is needed for longer than five days, the substitute teacher must hold a substitute teaching license or another educator license plus a bachelors degree.

5. How can I qualify for a provisional license?

Provisional licenses (ELS-PEDU's) will no longer be issued beginning July 1, 2018. All individuals who would have previously qualified for an ELS-PEDU will now qualify for a PEL. There is no provisional licensure available to individuals who do not meet the requirements for a PEL.