

AN ACT relating to computer science programs in public schools.

***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

➔Section 1. KRS 156.095 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The Kentucky Department of Education shall establish, direct, and maintain a statewide program of professional development to improve instruction in the public schools.
- (2) Each local school district superintendent shall appoint a certified school employee to fulfill the role and responsibilities of a professional development coordinator who shall disseminate professional development information to schools and personnel. Upon request by a school council or any employees of the district, the coordinator shall provide technical assistance to the council or the personnel that may include assisting with needs assessments, analyzing school data, planning and evaluation assistance, organizing districtwide programs requested by school councils or groups of teachers, or other coordination activities.
  - (a) The manner of appointment, qualifications, and other duties of the professional development coordinator shall be established by Kentucky Board of Education through promulgation of administrative regulations.
  - (b) The local district professional development coordinator shall participate in the Kentucky Department of Education annual training program for local school district professional development coordinators. The training program may include, but not be limited to, the demonstration of various approaches to needs assessment and planning; strategies for implementing long-term, school-based professional development; strategies for strengthening teachers' roles in the planning, development, and evaluation of professional development; and demonstrations of model professional development programs. The training shall include information about teacher learning opportunities relating to the core content standards. The Kentucky Department

of Education shall regularly collect and distribute this information.

- (3) The Kentucky Department of Education shall provide or facilitate optional, professional development programs for certified personnel throughout the Commonwealth that are based on the statewide needs of teachers, administrators, and other education personnel. Programs may include classified staff and parents when appropriate. Programs offered or facilitated by the department shall be at locations and times convenient to local school personnel and shall be made accessible through the use of technology when appropriate. They shall include programs that: address the goals for Kentucky schools as stated in KRS 158.6451, including reducing the achievement gaps as determined by an equity analysis of the disaggregated student performance data from the state assessment program developed under KRS 158.6453; engage educators in effective learning processes and foster collegiality and collaboration; and provide support for staff to incorporate newly acquired skills into their work through practicing the skills, gathering information about the results, and reflecting on their efforts. Professional development programs shall be made available to teachers based on their needs which shall include but not be limited to the following areas:
- (a) Strategies to reduce the achievement gaps among various groups of students and to provide continuous progress;
  - (b) Curriculum content and methods of instruction for each content area, including differentiated instruction;
  - (c) School-based decision making;
  - (d) Assessment literacy;
  - (e) Integration of performance-based student assessment into daily classroom instruction;
  - (f) Nongraded primary programs;
  - (g) Research-based instructional practices;

- (h) Instructional uses of technology;
  - (i) Curriculum design to serve the needs of students with diverse learning styles and skills and of students of diverse cultures;
  - (j) Instruction in reading, including phonics, phonemic awareness, comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary;
  - (k) Educational leadership; and
  - (l) Strategies to incorporate character education throughout the curriculum.
- (4) The department shall assist school personnel in assessing the impact of professional development on their instructional practices and student learning.
- (5) The department shall assist districts and school councils with the development of long-term school and district improvement plans that include multiple strategies for professional development based on the assessment of needs at the school level.
- (a) Professional development strategies may include, but are not limited to, participation in subject matter academies, teacher networks, training institutes, workshops, seminars, and study groups; collegial planning; action research; mentoring programs; appropriate university courses; and other forms of professional development.
  - (b) In planning the use of the four (4) days for professional development under KRS 158.070, school councils and districts shall give priority to programs that increase teachers' understanding of curriculum content and methods of instruction appropriate for each content area based on individual school plans. The district may use up to one (1) day to provide district-wide training and training that is mandated by state or federal law. Only those employees identified in the mandate or affected by the mandate shall be required to attend the training.
  - (c) State funds allocated for professional development shall be used to support professional development initiatives that are consistent with local school

improvement and professional development plans and teachers' individual growth plans. The funds may be used throughout the year for all staff, including classified and certified staff and parents on school councils or committees. A portion of the funds allocated to each school council under KRS 160.345 may be used to prepare or enhance the teachers' knowledge and teaching practices related to the content and subject matter that are required for their specific classroom assignments.

- (6) (a) By August 1, 2010, the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall post on its Web page suicide prevention awareness information, to include recognizing the warning signs of a suicide crisis. The Web page shall include information related to suicide prevention training opportunities offered by the cabinet or an agency recognized by the cabinet as a training provider.
- (b) By September 1, 2010, and September 1 of each year thereafter, every public middle and high school administrator shall disseminate suicide prevention awareness information to all middle and high school students. The information may be obtained from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services or from a commercially developed suicide prevention training program.
- (7) (a) The Kentucky Department of Education shall develop and maintain a list of approved comprehensive evidence-informed trainings on child abuse and neglect prevention, recognition, and reporting that encompass child physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect.
- (b) The trainings shall be Web-based or in-person and cover, at a minimum, the following topics:
1. Recognizing child physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect;
  2. Reporting suspected child abuse and neglect in Kentucky as required by KRS 620.030 and the appropriate documentation;

3. Responding to the child; and
  4. Understanding the response of child protective services.
- (c) The trainings shall include a questionnaire or other basic assessment tool upon completion to document basic knowledge of training components.
  - (d) Each local school board shall adopt one (1) or more trainings from the list approved by the Department of Education to be implemented by schools.
  - (e) All current school administrators, certified personnel, office staff, instructional assistants, and coaches and extracurricular sponsors who are employed by the school district shall complete the implemented training or trainings by January 31, 2017, and then every two (2) years after.
  - (f) All school administrators, certified personnel, office staff, instructional assistants, and coaches and extracurricular sponsors who are employed by the school district hired after January 31, 2017, shall complete the implemented training or trainings within ninety (90) days of being hired and then every two (2) years after.
- (8) The Department of Education shall establish an electronic consumer bulletin board that posts information regarding professional development providers and programs as a service to school district central office personnel, school councils, teachers, and administrators. Participation on the electronic consumer bulletin board shall be voluntary for professional development providers or vendors, but shall include all programs sponsored by the department. Participants shall provide the following information: program title; name of provider or vendor; qualifications of the presenters or instructors; objectives of the program; program length; services provided, including follow-up support; costs for participation and costs of materials; names of previous users of the program, addresses, and telephone numbers; and arrangements required. Posting information on the bulletin board by the department shall not be viewed as an endorsement of the quality of any specific provider or

program.

- (9) The Department of Education shall provide training to address the characteristics and instructional needs of students at risk of school failure and most likely to drop out of school. The training shall be developed to meet the specific needs of all certified and classified personnel depending on their relationship with these students. The training for instructional personnel shall be designed to provide and enhance skills of personnel to:
- (a) Identify at-risk students early in elementary schools as well as at-risk and potential dropouts in the middle and high schools;
  - (b) Plan specific instructional strategies to teach at-risk students;
  - (c) Improve the academic achievement of students at risk of school failure by providing individualized and extra instructional support to increase expectations for targeted students;
  - (d) Involve parents as partners in ways to help their children and to improve their children's academic progress; and
  - (e) Significantly reduce the dropout rate of all students.
- (10) The department shall establish teacher academies to the extent funding is available in cooperation with postsecondary education institutions for elementary, middle school, and high school faculty in core **and developing** disciplines, **including but not limited to English, science, mathematics, computer science, and world languages**, utilizing facilities and faculty from universities and colleges, local school districts, and other appropriate agencies throughout the state. Priority for participation shall be given to those teachers who are teaching core discipline courses for which they do not have a major or minor or the equivalent. Participation of teachers shall be voluntary.
- (11) The department shall annually provide to the oversight council established in KRS 15A.063, the information received from local schools pursuant to KRS 158.449.

→Section 2. KRS 156.553 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The teachers' professional growth fund is hereby created to provide teachers with high quality professional development in content knowledge in mathematics, reading, science, computer science, language arts, social studies, arts and humanities, practical living, vocational studies, and foreign languages; classroom-based screening, diagnostic, assessment, and intervention strategies; and teaching methodologies, including professional development that may lead to additional certification endorsements or renewal of certification. Based on available funds, student achievement data, and teacher data, the Kentucky Board of Education shall annually determine the priority for content emphasis based on the greatest needs.
- (2) (a) The fund may provide moneys to teachers for:
  1. Tuition reimbursement for successful completion of college or university level courses, including on-line courses and seminars, approved for this purpose by the Education Professional Standards Board;
  2. Stipends for participation in and successful completion of:
    - a. College or university courses, including on-line courses and seminars, approved for this purpose by the Education Professional Standards Board;
    - b. Teacher institutes developed~~[for core content instructors]~~ by the Department of Education in compliance with KRS 156.095; and
    - c. Other professional development programs approved by the Kentucky Department of Education, including professional development for teachers participating in grants awarded by the Middle School Mathematics and Science Scholars Program established under KRS 158.848;
  3. Reimbursement for the purchase of materials required for professional

- development programs; and
4. Reimbursement for other approved professional development activities throughout the school year, including reimbursement for:
    - a. Travel to and from professional development workshops; and
    - b. Travel to and from other schools for the observation of, and consultation with, peer mentors; or
  - (b) The fund may be used to provide grants to local school districts to support staff participation in specific, statewide initiatives for the professional development of teachers and administrators in specific content areas as established by the Kentucky Department of Education and the Kentucky Board of Education under the provisions of subsections (4), (5), and (6) of this section and referenced in KRS 158.842.
  - (c) The fund may be used to provide grants to colleges and universities to plan and develop statewide professional development institutes and other professional development services.
  - (d) The fund may be used to provide grants to local school districts, to colleges and universities, or other entities to assist the Kentucky Department of Education in evaluating costs and the effectiveness of activities and initiatives established under this section.
- (3) The Education Professional Standards Board shall determine the college and university courses, including on-line courses and seminars, for which teachers may receive reimbursement from the fund.
- (4) The Department of Education shall:
- (a) Administer the fund. In order to process reimbursements to teachers promptly, the reimbursements shall not be subject to KRS 45A.690 to 45A.725;
  - (b) Determine the professional development programs for which teachers may receive reimbursement, or districts or colleges and universities may receive



- grants, from the fund;
- (c) Determine the level of stipend or reimbursement, subject to the availability of appropriated funds, for particular courses and programs, under subsection (2) of this section; and
  - (d) Provide an accounting of fund expenditures and results of the use of the funds for each biennium to the Interim Joint Committee on Education by November 1 of each odd-numbered year.
- (5) The professional development programs approved by the Department of Education for which teachers may receive support from the fund shall:
- (a) Focus on improving the content knowledge of teachers;
  - (b) Provide training in the use of research-based and developmentally appropriate classroom-based screening, diagnostic, assessment, and intervention strategies;
  - (c) Provide instruction on teaching methods to effectively impart content knowledge to all students;
  - (d) Include intensive training institutes and workshops during the summer;
  - (e) Provide programs for the ongoing support of teacher participants throughout the year, which may include:
    - 1. A peer coaching or mentoring, and assessment program; and
    - 2. Planned activities, including:
      - a. Follow-up workshops; and
      - b. Support networks of teachers of the core disciplines using technologies, including but not limited to telephone, video, and on-line computer networks;
  - (f) Provide teacher participants with professional development credit toward renewal of certification under the provisions of KRS 161.095, relating to continuing education for teachers; and

- (g) Provide teacher participants with the opportunity to obtain certificate endorsements or extensions in critical shortage areas, with priority given to mathematics and science through 2016, and in core content areas to their existing certifications through the TC-HQ process, established by the Education Professional Standards Board to meet the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. sec. 6301 et seq.
- (6) The Kentucky Board of Education shall specify through promulgation of administrative regulations:
  - (a) The application and approval process for receipt of funds;
  - (b) The requirements and process for the disbursement of funds; and
  - (c) The number of each kind of approved course for which applicants may receive funds.
- (7) Notwithstanding any other provisions to the contrary, a local school board may advance the funds necessary for its teachers to participate in a college course or professional development seminar or activity approved by the Kentucky Department of Education and the Education Professional Standards Board under provisions of this section and receive reimbursement from the department at the conclusion of the activity or course by the teacher. If funds are advanced for the benefit of a teacher under this subsection, but the teacher does not fulfill his or her obligation, the teacher shall reimburse the school district for the funds expended by the district on the teacher's behalf.
- (8) Notwithstanding the provisions of KRS 45.229, unexpended funds in the teachers' professional growth fund in the 2000-2001 fiscal year or in any subsequent fiscal year shall not lapse but shall carry forward to the next fiscal year and shall be used for the purposes established in subsections (1) and (2) of this section.
- (9) Notwithstanding any provisions of this section to the contrary, beginning June 1, 2006, through the 2009-2010 school year, priority for the use of funds from the

teachers' professional growth fund shall be used to train and support teams of teachers from all school levels to be trained as reading coaches and mentors or as mathematics coaches and mentors in statewide institutes referenced in KRS 158.840 and 158.842, and for selected teachers to be highly trained in providing diagnostic assessment and intervention services for students in the primary program struggling with mathematics.

- (a) The design of the statewide mathematics institutes to train mathematics coaches and mentors shall be developed by the Committee for Mathematics Achievement established in KRS 158.842. The committee shall provide recommendations to the Kentucky Department of Education and the Kentucky Board of Education in the preparation of administrative regulations that may be promulgated by the board to implement the provisions of this subsection relating to mathematics.
- (b) The design of the professional development program to provide highly trained mathematics intervention teachers in the primary program shall be developed by the Center for Mathematics in collaboration with public and private institutions of postsecondary education.
- (c) The development of the statewide program to train reading coaches and mentors shall be coordinated by the Kentucky Department of Education with recommendations from the Collaborative Center for Literacy Development, established in KRS 164.0207, and the reading steering committee established in KRS 158.794. The design of the program shall reflect a consensus of the agencies involved in the development of the program. The training program for reading coaches and mentors shall complement other statewide reading initiatives, funded with state and federal funds, and shall give priority to teachers in grades four (4) through twelve (12). The program shall be implemented no later than June 1, 2006. The board shall promulgate

administrative regulations required to implement the provisions of this subsection relating to reading.

- (10) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, beginning June 1, 2010, through the 2015-2016 school year, priority for the use of funds from the teachers' professional growth fund shall be for the purpose of increasing the number of certified teachers with extensions or endorsements in mathematics and science as described in subsection (5)(g) of this section.

➔Section 3. KRS 156.670 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The Council for Education Technology shall develop the master plan for education technology and submit the plan to the Kentucky Board of Education and the Legislative Research Commission for approval. Implementation of each stage of the master plan shall begin immediately upon approval of the board and the Legislative Research Commission. The plan shall outline the Commonwealth's five (5) year activities related to purchasing, developing, and using technology to:
- (a) Improve learning and teaching and the ability to meet individual students' needs to increase student achievement;
  - (b) Improve curriculum delivery to help meet the needs for educational equity across the state;
  - (c) Improve delivery of professional development;
  - (d) Improve the efficiency and productivity of administrators; and
  - (e) Encourage development by the private sector and acquisition by districts of technologies and applications appropriate for education.
- (2) The five (5) year plan shall cover all aspects of education technology, including but not limited to, its use and network capacity in educational instruction and administration, video and computer systems, software and hardware, multiple delivery systems for satellite, microwave, cable, instructional television fixed service, fiber optic, and computer connections products, the preparation of school

buildings and laboratories for technological and computer science education readiness, and the development of staff necessary to implement the plan.

- (3) The five (5) year plan shall include specific recommendations to the Kentucky Board of Education for the adoption of administrative regulations to establish and implement a uniform and integrated system of standards and guidelines for financial accounting and reporting which shall be used by all school districts.
- (4) The integrated technology-based communications system shall provide comprehensive, current, accurate, and accessible information relating to management, finance, operations, instruction, and pupil programs which are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education.
- (5) To facilitate communication among teachers, parents, students, and prospective employers of students, and to provide access to many vital technological services, the five (5) year plan shall include the installation of a telephone in each classroom.
- (6) In designing and implementing the five (5) year plan, the council shall consider seeking the active participation of private organizations whose knowledge and assistance will be useful.
- (7) The council shall update as necessary the plan developed under subsection (2) of this section and report to the Legislative Research Commission at the completion of each implementation phase of the master plan.
- (8) The council shall submit its recommendations to the Kentucky Board of Education, which shall accept the recommendations, or return them to the council along with suggestions for changes to make the recommendations consistent with the policies of the Kentucky Board of Education.

➔Section 4. KRS 158.846 is amended to read as follows:

The General Assembly hereby finds that:

- (1) The future of Kentucky depends upon the ability to develop intellectual capital that can drive the research and development activities that will allow the

- Commonwealth to successfully compete in the global knowledge-based economy;
- (2) Kentucky's natural resources, the nation's need for energy independence, and the worldwide movement toward the creation of cleaner and more sustainable energy technologies afford Kentucky the opportunity to become an international leader in energy diversification;
  - (3) Strengthening Kentucky's position in key areas of the knowledge-based economy, including energy and environmental technology, biosciences, computer sciences, materials science, advanced manufacturing, information technology, human health and development, and other fields, requires a strong and steady stream of researchers, workers, policymakers, and entrepreneurs trained in the STEM disciplines;
  - (4) The number of Kentucky's elementary and secondary students interested in pursuing, and adequately prepared for success in, the STEM disciplines in college and the workforce is insufficient to meet the challenges and opportunities with which Kentucky is confronted;
  - (5) The number of Kentucky's elementary, middle, and secondary school teachers who are highly qualified to provide instruction in the STEM disciplines is insufficient to adequately prepare students for careers in the knowledge-based economy; and
  - (6) Bold, collaborative, and strategic action is needed by all stakeholders in Kentucky's P-20 education system, business sector, and government to improve Kentucky's position for success in the knowledge-based economy by expanding and strengthening STEM educational opportunities from prekindergarten through the doctoral degree level, inspiring more Kentuckians to pursue those opportunities, and linking those opportunities with a coherent set of statewide economic and workforce development strategies.

➔Section 5. KRS 158.847 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) (a) The science and mathematics advancement fund is hereby created to provide

incentives for public schools to provide or expand student access to rigorous science and mathematics curricula, to make available advanced science and mathematics courses and college credit in these disciplines for high school students, and to increase the quantity and quality of science and mathematics teachers in Kentucky.

- (b) Funds may be used in support of public schools to provide:
1. Payment of student fees for AP and IB examinations;
  2. Scholarships for high school students to take advanced science and mathematics courses through the Kentucky Virtual High School when those courses are not offered at the school in which they are enrolled;
  3. Two (2) year grants to high schools to support the start-up of advanced science and mathematics courses;
  4. Two (2) year renewable grants to middle schools to support accelerated student learning in science and mathematics;
  5. *Grants to school districts to develop and implement computer programming languages and applications programs;*
  6. Grants to school districts for programs to develop and implement an energy technology engineering career track; and
  - 7~~6~~. Professional development opportunities, and payment of expenses and stipends for participation, for elementary school teachers to deepen their content knowledge and improve instructional practice in science and mathematics.
- (c) The fund may receive state appropriations, grants, gifts, federal funds, or any other funds, public or private.
- (d) Funds from the science and mathematics advancement fund shall be distributed after all other funds available for these purposes have been obligated, including state funds, federal funds, or any funds available through

a scholarship program administered by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority.

- (2) The Kentucky Board of Education shall promulgate administrative regulations for the administration of the science and mathematics advancement fund. The Kentucky Department of Education shall administer the fund, approve grant recipients, and distribute the funds to local school districts and other appropriate educational agencies.

➔Section 6. KRS 161.048 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The General Assembly hereby finds that:

- (a)
1. There are persons who have distinguished themselves through a variety of work and educational experiences that could enrich teaching in Kentucky schools;
  2. There are distinguished scholars who wish to become teachers in Kentucky's public schools, but who did not pursue a teacher preparation program;
  3. There are persons who should be recruited to teach in Kentucky's public schools as they have academic majors, strong verbal skills as shown by a verbal ability test, and deep knowledge of content, characteristics that empirical research identifies as important attributes of quality teachers;
  4. There are persons who need to be recruited to teach in Kentucky schools to meet the diverse cultural and educational needs of students; and
  5. There should be alternative procedures to the traditional teacher preparation programs that qualify persons as teachers.
- (b) There are hereby established alternative certification program options as described in subsections (2) to (9) of this section.
- (c) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Educational Professional Standards Board inform scholars, persons with exceptional work experience,



and persons with diverse backgrounds who have potential as teachers of these options and assist local boards of education in implementing these options and recruitment of individuals who can enhance the education system in Kentucky.

- (d) The Education Professional Standards Board shall promulgate administrative regulations establishing standards and procedures for the alternative certification options described in this section.
- (2) Option 1: Certification of a person with exceptional work experience. An individual who has exceptional work experience and has been offered employment in a local school district shall receive a one (1) year provisional teaching certificate with approval by the Education Professional Standards Board of a joint application by the individual and the employing school district under the following conditions:
- (a) The application contains documentation of all education and work experience;
  - (b) The candidate has documented ten (10) years of exceptional work experience in the area in which certification is being sought;
  - (c) The candidate possesses:
    - 1. a. A minimum of a bachelor's degree, with a cumulative grade point average of two and five-tenths (2.5) on a four (4) point scale or a grade point average of three (3.0) on a four (4) point scale on the last sixty (60) hours of credit completed, including undergraduate and graduate coursework from a nationally or regionally accredited postsecondary institution; or
    - b. A graduate degree with a cumulative grade point average of two and five-tenths (2.5) on a four (4) point scale or a grade point average of three (3.0) on a four (4) point scale on the last sixty (60) hours of credit completed, including undergraduate and graduate coursework from a nationally or regionally accredited

postsecondary institution; and

2. An academic major or a passing score on the academic content assessment designated by the Education Professional Standards Board; and
  - (d) The candidate shall participate in the teacher internship program under subsections (5), (6), (7), and (8) of KRS 161.030. After successful completion of the internship, the candidate shall receive a regular professional certificate and shall be subject to certificate renewal requirements the same as any other teacher with a regular professional certificate.
- (3) Option 2: Certification through a local district training program. A local district or group of districts may seek approval for a training program. The state-approved local district training program is an alternative to the college teacher preparation program as a means of acquiring teacher certification for a teacher at any grade level. The training program may be offered for all teaching certificates approved by Education Professional Standards Board, including interdisciplinary early childhood education, except for specific certificates for teachers of exceptional children. To participate in a state-approved local district alternative training program, the candidate shall:
- (a) Possess a bachelor's degree with a grade point average of two and five tenths (2.5) on a four (4) point scale or, upon approval by the Education Professional Standards Board, at least a grade point average of two (2) on a four (4) point scale if the candidate has exceptional life experience related to teaching and has completed the bachelor's degree at least five (5) years prior to submitting an application to the program.
  - (b) Pass written tests designated by the Education Professional Standards Board for content knowledge in the specific teaching field of the applicant with minimum scores in each test as set by the Education Professional Standards

- Board. To be eligible to take a subject field test, the applicant shall have completed a thirty (30) hour major in the academic content area or five (5) years of experience in the academic content area as approved by the Education Professional Standards Board.
- (c) Have been offered employment in a school district which has a training program approved by the Education Professional Standards Board.
  - (d) Upon meeting the participation requirements as established in this subsection, the candidate shall be issued a one (1) year provisional certificate by the Education Professional Standards Board. The regular provisional certificate shall be issued upon satisfactory completion of the program and the teacher testing internship program pursuant to KRS 161.030.
  - (e) The Education Professional Standards Board may reject the application of any candidate who is judged as not meeting academic requirements comparable to those for students enrolled in Kentucky teacher preparation programs.
- (4) Option 3: Certification of a professional from a postsecondary institution: A candidate who possesses the following qualifications may receive alternative certification for teaching at any level:
- (a) A master's degree or doctoral degree in the academic content area for which certification is sought;
  - (b) A minimum of five (5) years of full-time teaching experience, or its equivalent, in the academic content area for which certification is sought in a regionally or nationally accredited institution of higher education; and
  - (c) Successful completion of the teacher internship requirement imposed under KRS 161.030.
- (5) Option 4: Certification of an adjunct instructor. A person who has expertise in areas such as art, music, foreign language, drama, science, computer science, and other specialty areas may be employed as an adjunct instructor in a part-time position by a

local board of education under KRS 161.046. An individual certified as an adjunct instructor shall not be deemed "highly qualified" under the provisions of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. secs. 6301 et seq.

- (6) Option 5: Certification of a veteran of the Armed Forces. The Education Professional Standards Board shall issue a statement of eligibility, valid for five (5) years, to a veteran for teaching at the elementary, secondary, and secondary vocational education levels with the following qualifications:
- (a) 1. Discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions after six (6) or more years of continuous active duty immediately before the discharge or release; or
  - 2. Completed a total of at least ten (10) years of active duty service, ten (10) years of service officially credited toward armed services retirement, or ten (10) years' combination of such service;
  - (b) At least a bachelor's degree in the content area or closely related area for which certification is sought, issued by a regionally or nationally accredited institution of higher education;
  - (c) A grade point average of two and five-tenths (2.5) on a four (4) point scale for a bachelor's degree or an advanced degree; and
  - (d) A passing score on the written exit assessment examination designated by the Education Professional Standards Board for content knowledge.

Upon an offer of employment by a school district, the eligible veteran shall receive a one (1) year provisional teaching certificate with approval by the Education Professional Standards Board of a joint application by the veteran and the employing school district. During this year, the veteran shall participate in the teacher internship program under subsections (5), (6), (7), and (8) of KRS 161.030. Upon successful completion of the internship program, the veteran shall receive a regular professional certificate.

- (7) Option 6: University alternative program. With approval of the Education Professional Standards Board, a university may provide an alternative program that enrolls students in a postbaccalaureate teacher preparation program concurrently with employment as a teacher in a local school district. A student in the alternative program shall be granted a temporary provisional certificate and shall be a candidate in the Kentucky teacher internship program, notwithstanding provisions of KRS 161.030. A student may not participate in the internship program until the student has successfully completed the assessments required by the board. The temporary provisional certificate shall be valid for a maximum of one (1) year, and may be renewed two (2) additional years, and shall be contingent upon the candidate's continued enrollment in the preparation program and compliance with all requirements established by the board. A professional certificate shall be issued upon the teacher candidate's successful completion of the program, the internship requirements, and all assessments required by the board.
- (8) Option 7: Certification of a person in a field other than education to teach in elementary, middle, or secondary programs. This option shall not be limited to teaching in shortage areas.
- (a) An individual certified under provisions of this subsection shall be issued a one (1) year temporary provisional teaching certificate, renewable for a maximum of two (2) additional years with approval of the Education Professional Standards Board provided that the candidate:
1. Possesses a bachelor's degree with a declared academic major in the area in which certification is sought and a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, or a professional or graduate degree in a field related to the area in which certification is sought;
  2. Has a minimum score of five hundred (500) on the verbal section and a minimum score of four (4) on the analytical writing section of the

Graduate Record Examination (GRE). In addition, teachers of mathematics and physical and biological sciences shall have a minimum score of four hundred fifty (450) on the quantitative section of the GRE. A candidate who has a professional degree shall be exempt from the requirements of this subparagraph; and

3. Passes written tests designated by the Education Professional Standards Board for content knowledge in the specific teaching field of the applicant with minimum scores in each test as set by the board.
- (b) Prior to receiving the temporary provisional certificate or during the first year of the certificate, the teacher shall complete the following:
1. For elementary teaching, the individual shall successfully complete the equivalent of a two hundred forty (240) hour institute, based on six (6) hour days for eight (8) weeks. The providers and the content of the institute shall be approved by the Education Professional Standards Board. The content shall include research-based teaching strategies in reading and math, research on child and adolescent growth, knowledge of individual differences, including teaching exceptional children, and methods of classroom management.
  2. For middle and secondary teaching, the individual shall successfully complete the equivalent of a one hundred eighty (180) hour institute, based on six (6) hour days for six (6) weeks. The providers and the content of the institute shall be approved by the Education Professional Standards Board and shall include research-based teaching strategies, research on child and adolescent growth, knowledge of individual differences, including teaching exceptional children, and methods of classroom management.
- (c) The candidate shall participate in the teacher internship program under

subsections (5), (6), (7), and (8) of KRS 161.030. After successful completion of the internship program, the candidate shall receive a regular professional certificate.

- (9) Option 8: Certification of a Teach for America participant to teach in elementary, middle, or high schools. Nothing in this subsection shall conflict with the participation criteria of the Teach for America program.
- (a) An individual certified under this subsection shall be issued a one (1) year temporary provisional teaching certificate if the candidate:
1. Has an offer of employment from a local school district;
  2. Possesses a bachelor's degree;
  3. Successfully completes the summer training institute and ongoing professional development required by Teach for America, including instruction in goal-oriented, standards-based instruction, diagnosing and assessing students, lesson planning and instructional delivery, classroom management, maximizing learning for diverse students, and teaching methodologies; and
  4. Successfully passes written tests designated by the Education Professional Standards Board for content knowledge in the specific teaching field of the candidate with minimum scores in each test as set by the board.
- (b) The temporary provisional certificate granted under paragraph (a) of this subsection may be renewed two (2) times with a recommendation of the superintendent and approval of the Education Professional Standards Board.
- (c) A Teach for America participant who is approved for a second renewal of his or her temporary provisional certificate under paragraph (b) of this subsection may participate in the internship program under KRS 161.030.
- (d) A Teach for America participant shall be issued a professional certificate upon

the participant's successful completion of the internship program and assessments relating to teaching of subject matter required by the Education Professional Standards Board under KRS 161.030.

- (e) Notwithstanding any statute or administrative regulation to the contrary, a teacher certified under this subsection shall have ten (10) years from the date that the teacher successfully completed the internship program to complete a master's degree or fifth year program, or the equivalent as specified by the Education Professional Standards Board in administrative regulation.
  - (f) Alternative certification under this subsection shall be considered a pilot program and shall be an option from July 15, 2010, until the federal Race to the Top funding program under Sections 14005 and 14006 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. No. 111-5, is completed, except that the Education Professional Standards Board may promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A to make this a permanent option.
- (10) A public school teacher certified under subsections (2) to (9) of this section shall be placed on the local district salary schedule for the rank corresponding to the degree held by the teacher.
- (11) Veterans who were discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions after six (6) or more years of continuous active duty immediately before the discharge or release, and who have at least four (4) years of occupational experience in the area in which they seek certification as a vocational industrial education teacher, shall apply for certification under and meet the requirements of the administrative regulations promulgated by the Education Professional Standards Board.
- (12) Subsections (1) to (3) of this section notwithstanding, a candidate who possesses the following qualifications may receive certification for teaching programs for



exceptional students:

- (a) An out-of-state license to teach exceptional students;
  - (b) A bachelor's or master's degree in the certification area or closely related area for which certification is sought; and
  - (c) Successful completion of the teacher internship requirement required under KRS 161.030.
- (13) A teacher who is fully certified in Kentucky and who is seeking an additional certification is not required to repeat the Kentucky teacher internship program.
- (14) Under KRS 161.030(5), a candidate for alternative certification may serve his or her internship in a nonpublic school.