



## Minnesota Legislature 2017-2018—HOUSE FILE 140

### Description of Tiered Teacher Licensure System Lines 30.22 to 34.12

#### Sec. 10. [122A.181] TIER 1 LICENSE.

Subdivision 1. **Requirements.** The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board must issue a Tier 1 license to a candidate who provides information sufficient to demonstrate each of the following:

- (1) a school district or charter school has requested that the candidate be issued a license to teach in a specified content area. The school district or charter school must provide the board with confirmation that a criminal background check has been completed for any candidate for whom a teaching license has been requested;
- (2) the candidate has completed a bachelor's or associate's degree, or obtained a professional credential that the school district finds sufficient to teach in a specified content area; and
- (3) the candidate has completed the coursework required under subdivision 2.

Subd. 2. **Coursework.** (a) A candidate for a Tier 1 license must meet the coursework requirement by demonstrating completion of one of the following:

- (1) three years of relevant work experience;
- (2) 2,000 hours of relevant work experience within the preceding five years;
- (3) at least eight upper division credits in the relevant content area;
- (4) a passing score on all required licensure exams under section 122A.185;
- (5) completion of human relations coursework under section 122A.186; or
- (6) experience teaching in a field for which there is no license.

(b) For purposes of paragraph (a), "upper division" means classes normally taken at the junior or senior level of college which require substantial knowledge and skill in the field. Candidates must identify the upper division credits that fulfill the requirement in paragraph (a), clause (3).

Subd. 3. **Term of license.** The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board must issue an initial Tier 1 license for a term of one year. A Tier 1 license may be renewed three times. The board must issue rules setting forth the conditions for additional renewals after the initial license has been renewed three times. If the board fails to issue rules providing conditions for additional renewals, the board must renew a Tier 1 license to a candidate that meets the renewal requirements provided in statute.

Subd. 4. **Application.** The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board must accept applications for a Tier 1 teaching license beginning July 1 of the school year for which the license is requested and must issue or deny the Tier 1 teaching license within 30 days of receiving the completed application.

Subd. 5. **Limitations on license.** (a) A Tier 1 license is limited to the content matter indicated on the application for the initial Tier 1 license under subdivision 1, clause (1), and limited to the district or charter school that requested the initial Tier 1 license.

(b) A Tier 1 license does not bring an individual within the definition of a teacher for purposes of section 122A.40, subdivision 1, or 122A.41, subdivision 1, clause (a).

(c) A Tier 1 license does not bring an individual within the definition of a "teacher" under section 179A.03, subdivision 18.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2018.



**Sec. 11. [122A.182] TIER 2 LICENSE.**

**Subdivision 1. Requirements.** The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board must issue a Tier 2 license to a candidate who provides information sufficient to demonstrate each of the following:

- (1) the candidate has completed a bachelor's degree, or obtained a professional credential that the school district finds sufficient to teach in a specified content area; and
- (2) the candidate has completed the coursework required under subdivision 2, or is enrolled in an approved teacher preparation program.

**Subd. 2. Coursework.** (a) A candidate for a Tier 2 license must meet the coursework requirement by demonstrating completion of two of the following:

- (1) at least eight upper division credits in the relevant content area;
- (2) field-specific methods of training, including coursework;
- (3) at least two years of teaching experience in a similar content area in any state;
- (4) a passing score on all required licensure exams under section 122A.185;
- (5) completion of human relations coursework under section 122A.186; or
- (6) completion of a state-approved teacher preparation program.

(b) For purposes of paragraph (a), "upper division" means classes normally taken at the junior or senior level of college which require substantial knowledge and skill in the field. Candidates must identify the upper division credits that fulfill the requirement in paragraph (a), clause (1).

**Subd. 3. Term of license.** The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board must issue an initial Tier 2 license for a term of one year. A Tier 2 license may be renewed three times. The board must issue rules setting forth the conditions for additional renewals after the initial license has been renewed three times. If the board fails to issue rules providing conditions for additional renewals, the board must renew a Tier 2 license to a candidate that meets the renewal requirements provided in statute.

**Subd. 4. Limitations on license.** A Tier 2 license shall not be construed to bring an individual within the definition of a teacher for purposes of section 122A.40, subdivision 1, or 122A.41, subdivision 1, clause (a).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2018.

**Sec. 12. [122A.183] TIER 3 LICENSE.**

**Subdivision 1. Requirements.** The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board must issue a Tier 3 license to a candidate who provides information sufficient to demonstrate all of the following:

- (1) the candidate has completed a bachelor's degree or obtained a professional credential that the school district finds sufficient to teach in a specified content area;
- (2) the candidate has obtained a passing score on all required licensure exams under section 122A.185;
- (3) the candidate has completed human relations coursework under section 122A.186; and
- (4) the candidate has completed the coursework required under subdivision 2.

**Subd. 2. Coursework.** A candidate for a Tier 3 license must meet the coursework requirement by demonstrating completion of one of the following:



- (1) a Minnesota-approved teacher preparation program;
- (2) a state-approved teacher preparation program that includes field-specific student teaching equivalent to field-specific student teaching in Minnesota-approved teacher preparation programs. The field-specific student teaching requirement does not apply to a candidate that has two years of teaching experience; or
- (3) a content-specific licensure portfolio.

**Subd. 3. Term of license.** The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board must issue an initial Tier 3 license for a term of three years. A Tier 3 license may be renewed every three years without limitation.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2018.

**Sec. 13. [122A.184] TIER 4 LICENSE.**

**Subdivision 1. Requirements.** The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board must issue a Tier 4 license to a candidate who provides information sufficient to demonstrate all of the following:

- (1) the candidate meets all requirements for a Tier 3 license under section 122A.183;
- (2) the candidate has at least three years of teaching experience in Minnesota; and
- (3) the candidate has received at least one summative teacher evaluation, rated effective or higher, pursuant to section 122A.40, subdivision 8, or 122A.41, subdivision 5.

**Subd. 2. Term of license.** The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board must issue an initial Tier 4 license for a term of five years. A Tier 4 license may be renewed every five years without limitation.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2018.