

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to educator certifications; amending
3 s. 1012.56, F.S.; revising the criteria for the award
4 of a temporary educator certification to include
5 certain persons with expired professional
6 certificates; amending s. 1012.585, F.S.; requiring
7 subject area coverages and endorsements for a
8 certificateholder to be reinstated with the
9 certificateholder's professional certificate; revising
10 requirements for reinstatement of a professional
11 certificate; prohibiting certain requirements for
12 reinstatement of a professional certificate to be met
13 using specific inservice points; amending s. 1012.981,
14 F.S.; requiring the Florida Center for Teaching
15 Excellence to collaborate with the David C. Anchin
16 Center for the Advancement of Teacher for specified
17 purposes; requiring, rather than authorizing, the
18 center to submit a specified professional learning
19 system for approval by the department; requiring the
20 center to allow certain certified educators to use
21 such system for specified purposes at no cost to the
22 educator; requiring the center to submit inservice
23 points for such educators to the department; requiring
24 the center to provide information for certain school
25 district professional learning systems; providing an

effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section 1012.56, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—

(7) TYPES AND TERMS OF CERTIFICATION.—

(b) The department shall issue a temporary certificate to any applicant who:

1. Completes the requirements outlined in paragraphs (2)(a)–(f) and completes the subject area content requirements specified in state board rule or demonstrates mastery of subject area knowledge pursuant to subsection (5) and holds an accredited degree or a degree approved by the Department of Education at the level required for the subject area specialization in state board rule;

2. For a subject area specialization for which the state board otherwise requires a bachelor's degree, documents 48 months of active-duty military service with an honorable discharge or a medical separation; completes the requirements outlined in paragraphs (2)(a), (b), and (d)–(f); completes the subject area content requirements specified in state board rule or demonstrates mastery of subject area knowledge pursuant to subsection (5); and documents completion of 60 college credits

51 with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0
52 scale, as provided by one or more accredited institutions of
53 higher learning or a nonaccredited institution of higher
54 learning identified by the Department of Education as having a
55 quality program resulting in a bachelor's degree or higher; ~~or~~

56 3. Is enrolled in a state-approved teacher preparation
57 program under s. 1004.04; is actively completing the required
58 program field experience or internship at a public school;
59 completes the requirements outlined in paragraphs (2)(a), (b),
60 and (d)-(f); completes the subject area content requirements
61 specified in state board rule or demonstrates mastery of subject
62 area knowledge pursuant to subsection (5); and documents
63 completion of 60 college credits with a minimum cumulative grade
64 point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, as provided by one or more
65 accredited institutions of higher learning or a nonaccredited
66 institution of higher learning identified by the Department of
67 Education as having a quality program resulting in a bachelor's
68 degree or higher; or.

69 4. Completes the requirements outlined in paragraphs
70 (2)(a)-(f) and whose previously issued professional certificate
71 has expired.

72
73 At least 1 year before an individual's temporary certificate is
74 set to expire, the department shall electronically notify the
75 individual of the date on which his or her certificate will

76 expire and provide a list of each method by which the
77 qualifications for a professional certificate can be completed.

78 **Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 1012.585, Florida**
79 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

80 1012.585 Process for renewal or reinstatement of
81 professional certificates.—

82 (5) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to
83 allow the reinstatement of expired professional certificates,
84 including each subject area coverage and endorsement held by the
85 certificateholder at the time of the certificate's expiration.

86 The department may reinstate an expired professional certificate
87 if the certificateholder:

88 (a) Submits an application for reinstatement of the
89 expired certificate.

90 (b) Completes the requirements in s. 1012.56(2)(a)-(f).

91 (c)-(b) Documents completion of 6 college credits during
92 the 5 years immediately preceding reinstatement of the expired
93 certificate, completion of 120 inservice points, or a
94 combination thereof, in an area specified in paragraph (3)(a) to
95 include the credit required under paragraph (3)(e).

96 ~~(c) During the 5 years immediately preceding reinstatement~~
97 ~~of the certificate, achieves a passing score on the Florida-~~
98 ~~developed subject area examination or, if a Florida subject area~~
99 ~~examination has not been developed, a standardized examination~~
100 ~~specified in state board rule for each subject to be shown on~~

101 ~~the reinstated certificate.~~

102
103 The requirements of this subsection may not be satisfied by
104 ~~subject area examinations or~~ college credits or inservice points
105 completed for issuance of the certificate that has expired.

106 **Section 3. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 1012.981,**
107 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

108 1012.981 The Florida Center for Teaching Excellence.—

109 (2) The center shall, in collaboration with the David C.
110 Anchin Center for the Advancement of ~~Innovative~~ Teaching within
111 ~~and Learning at~~ the University of South Florida, do all of the
112 following:

113 (a) Develop and deliver evidence-based professional
114 learning opportunities aligned to the Florida Educator
115 Accomplished Practices.

116 (b) Develop and deliver educator training programs
117 pursuant to s. 1012.98 that integrate high-quality instructional
118 materials included on the state-adopted instructional materials
119 list under s. 1006.28, materials evaluated and identified
120 pursuant to s. 1001.215(4), and materials developed by or under
121 the direction of the department as provided in s. 1006.39. These
122 programs must focus on the effective use of knowledge-based
123 curricula, highlighting when and how to incorporate intervention
124 materials, and emphasize the importance of background knowledge
125 in building advanced reading comprehension grounded in the

126 science of reading and critical thinking skills.

127 (c) Develop and design models of high-quality clinical
128 experiences for aspiring teachers. These model experiences shall
129 serve as a standard that institutions approved pursuant to ss.
130 1004.04 and 1004.85 can adopt or adapt, enabling participants to
131 demonstrate mastery of instructional techniques, classroom
132 management strategies, and the application of high-impact
133 teaching strategies in authentic educational settings.

134 (d) Collaborate with school districts and other
135 educational stakeholders to identify emerging needs in teacher
136 preparation and align center programs accordingly, conducting
137 gap analyses to provide comprehensive coverage of the science of
138 learning, high-impact teaching strategies, and knowledge-rich
139 curriculum implementation.

140 (e) Establish a statewide network of teachers and
141 instructional leaders equipped with the knowledge and skills to
142 mentor and support aspiring and current educators participating
143 in the center's programs. This network shall model effective
144 pedagogical practices and facilitate professional growth.

145 (f) Conduct research and disseminate findings on high-
146 impact teaching practices and the implementation of knowledge-
147 based curricula to inform policy, improve classroom instruction,
148 and address the importance of background knowledge in student
149 achievement.

150 (g) Report to the department the completion of

professional learning by individuals who are not employed by entities with an approved professional learning system.

(3) The center:

(a) Must ~~may~~ submit a professional learning system for approval pursuant to s. 1012.98.

(b) Shall allow a certified educator seeking to renew or reinstate his or her certificate to use the system at no cost and submit any inservice points earned by the educator through the system to the department on the educator's behalf.

(c) Shall provide a certified educator seeking to renew or reinstate a certificate with information on school district professional learning systems that provide access to inservice training to persons not employed by the school district.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.