Washington State Educator Certification
Frequently Asked Questions: E2SHB 1341 and related WAC
Updated October 12, 2017

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Questions? Please contact PESB Program Manager Maren Johnson at Maren.Johnson@k12.wa.us or 360-725-6264.
What major changes were made at the September 21-22 PESB meeting in response to E2SHB 1341?

The board adopted a set of changes allowing for continuity in credentialing requirements across many roles and certificate types. Taken as a whole, this set of changes means that:

Residency, professional, and continuing certificate holders, in the roles of teacher, administrator, and ESA, now **all have the same options** to renew their certificates:

- 100 clock hours or the equivalent in college credit
- Or, by completing four annual PGPs during the five-year validity date of the certificate
- Or, by combining completed PGPs with clock hours for a total of 100 hours (e.g. 3 PGPs + 25 CH = 100 CH)
- Or, for professional or continuing certificates for teachers or counselors, by possession of a valid certificate issued by National Board for Professional Teaching Standards; or for school psychologists, by the National Association of School Psychologists.

Changes adopted by the board in September include:

- Setting the clock hour renewal requirement for professional and continuing certificates at 100 clock hours rather than 150 clock hours.
- Allowing PGPs as an option in addition to clock hours for renewing residency certificates.
- Allowing clock hours as an option in addition to PGPs for renewing teacher and ESA professional certificates first earned after September 1, 2014, and all administrator professional certificates.
- Professional Growth Plans (PGPs) will be worth the equivalent of 25 clock hours instead of 30 beginning July 1, 2018.
- PGPs for residency, professional, and continuing certificates are aligned to career level benchmarks.
- NBCTs will be considered to have met the TPEP certificate renewal requirement for professional and continuing certificates.
- Second tier certification is now optional for school counselors and school psychologists. Educators in these roles are now able to choose to renew their residency certificates.

In addition, clarification is provided on when the 100 clock hours or equivalency for certificate renewal must be earned. For lapsed or expired residency or professional certificates, the clock hours or equivalency must be completed in the five years prior to the application for the five-year certificate.
Applications for renewal of a residency or professional certificate may not be submitted earlier than twelve months prior to the expiration date of the current certificate.

What were the major changes made at the July PESB meeting in response to E2SHB 1341?

- Professional certification is now optional for teachers and administrators. (PESB action this past spring made professional certification optional for school counselors.)
- 100 clock hours or the credit equivalent is now required to renew a residency certificate for teachers, principals, and program administrators. These clock hours or the equivalency must be completed during the validity period of the certificate.
- National Board Certified Teachers with a valid certificate are considered to have met the STEM renewal requirement.

What is the impact of E2SHB 1341 on residency and professional certificates for teachers and principals?

Teachers and principals may now renew their residency certificates in five-year intervals by completing 100 clock hours. Obtaining a professional certificate is now optional.

E2SHB 1341 states:

By September 1, 2017, the Washington Professional Educator Standards Board shall adopt rules allowing teachers and principals with at least two years of experience, who hold or have held a residency certificate and have not achieved the professional certificate, to renew their residency certificate in five-year intervals based on completion of ten credits or one hundred clock hours as defined in RCW 28A.415.020 and 28A.415.023.

Can teachers still pursue professional certification through ProTeach or National Board Certification?

Yes, ProTeach and National Board Certification are still available as options to obtain a professional teaching certificate. ETS has agreed to honor the current contract, ending December 31, 2019, and offer the ProTeach Portfolio at its current cost. The PESB will discuss and determine what, if any, new means for attaining a professional certificate, other than National Board Certification, will exist.

Individuals who choose to cancel their ProTeach registration may do so and renew their residency certificate through the 100 clock hour option. The ProTeach refund policy had
long been established prior to the Washington State Legislature making their decision regarding E2SHB 1341 this June. The legislative decision does not change the refund policy established in contract with the testing vendor. Candidates are eligible for a partial refund within their registration window. See the ProTeach website for more information http://www.waproteach.org/registration/fees.html.

If I choose to attain the Professional Certificate through ProTeach or National Board certification, what are the incentives?

Successfully passing the ProTeach Portfolio earns 150 clock hours per PESB WAC.

Successfully achieving National Board Certification earns 90 clock hours per PESB WAC. The first 45 clock hour allotment is offered to National Board candidates upon completion of the National Board process. The second 45-clock-hour allotment is available upon achieving the National Board certificate.

The Fiscal Year 2018 budget continues the annual base bonus and challenging school bonus for National Board Certified Teachers, along with annual cost-of-living increases.

What are the remaining submission and score release dates for the ProTeach assessment?

There are four more submission dates available to candidates: Jan 31, 2018; June 28, 2018; Jan 31, 2019; and June 28, 2019. The last submission date is June 28, 2019. Scores will be released on March 28, 2018; August 23, 2018; March 28, 2019 & August 23, 2019. Scores from the June 28, 2019 submission will be available on August 23, 2019. Candidates will have the usual 20 calendar days to request a rescore from ETS. Rescores are typically completed by ETS before Sept 30 of that same year.

For how long will ProTeach score reports be available?
All candidates will have until December 31, 2019 to download their score report from ETS.

If a candidate does not pass ProTeach, what are the final deadlines for the resubmission of entries?
Candidates who have not passed may submit a full or partial portfolio for scoring on any of the remaining four submission dates. There will be no opportunity for candidates to submit a full or partial portfolio after the June 28, 2019 submission date. Any candidate not having a passing score after the scoring of June 28, 2019 will be unable to obtain a passing score.
Residency Certificates

When can the 100 clock hours or equivalent in credits or PGPs be earned for certificate renewal for teachers, principals, program administrators or ESAs?

For the **first five-year residency certificate**, the clock hours, credits, or PGPs must be completed within the previous five years from the date of the five-year renewal application.

For **subsequent five-year residency** certificates, and for **professional and continuing** certificates, five-year renewals shall be issued based on completion of 100 clock hours or the equivalent in credits or PGPs completed during the validity period of the most recent certificate.

Applications for renewal of a five-year **residency or professional** certificate may not be submitted earlier than twelve months prior to the expiration date of the current certificate.

**When can the 100 clock hours or equivalent for renewing a lapsed or expired residency or professional certificate be earned?**

The 100 clock hours or equivalent for renewal of a lapsed or expired teacher, principal, program administrator or ESA residency or professional certificate must be completed within the previous five years from the date of the five-year renewal application.

**When are teachers eligible for a five-year residency certificate?**

Teachers are eligible for a five-year residency certificate when they have accumulated 1.5 FTE of successful experience over at least two years.

**When are principals, program administrators, and educational staff associates eligible for a five-year residency certificate?**

Principals, program administrators, and educational staff associates are eligible for a five-year residency certificate (also called a dated residency or residency reissuance) when they have completed two years of successful service in the role in Washington with a school district, state approved private school, or state agency that provides educational services for students.
These two years do not need to be consecutive, they do not need to be completed with the same employer, and the individual does not need to have a contract for a third year with an employer in place prior to the issuance of the five-year residency certificate.

How may Professional Growth Plans (PGPs) be used in certificate renewal?

Professional Growth Plans (PGPs) may be used in the renewal of residency, professional, and continuing certificates for teachers, administrators, and ESAs. Beginning July 1, 2018, PGPs are counted at the equivalency of twenty-five clock hours. Currently they are the equivalent of thirty clock hours. These clock hours may be eligible for use in salary advancement.

PGPs are a way for educators to earn clock hours at no cost for work they may already be completing, including focused evaluations, PLCs, and classroom, school, or district initiatives. Click for a one-page flyer on PGPs: https://docs.google.com/document/d/15uopY6keGGbB1ZE6hZhVT9Zx7fzsgoVBjQ6ilyeRf5w/edit?usp=sharing

The PGPs document the formalized learning opportunities and professional development activities that relate to the appropriate career-level benchmarks: http://assessment.pesb.wa.gov/professional-growth-plan-pgp/pgp-planning/all-benchmarks. No more than one PGP may be completed each year.

How may a teacher renew a residency certificate?

Residency teacher certificate holders have three options for renewing a residency certificate:

- Renew with 100 clock hours or the equivalent in college credit
- Or, renew by completing four PGPs during the five-year validity date of the certificate
- Or, renew by combining completed PGPs with clock hours for a total of 100 hours. Each PGP is worth 25 clock hours. (e.g. 3 PGPs + 25 CH = 100 CH)

Each of these renewal options must be completed during the validity period of the certificate. Applications for renewal of a five-year residency certificate may not be submitted earlier than twelve months prior to the expiration date of the current certificate.
For teachers at the elementary and secondary levels in STEM-related subjects, renewal applications for residency, professional, continuing and CTE certificates must document completion of the STEM professional development requirement.

How can principals and program administrators renew their residency certificates?

Residency certificate holders for the principal, program administrator, and ESA roles have the following options for renewing a residency certificate for five years:

- Renew with 100 clock hours or the equivalent in college credit
- Or, renew by completing four PGPs during the five-year validity date of the certificate
- Or, renew by combining completed PGPs with clock hours for a total of 100 hours. Each PGP is worth 25 clock hours. (e.g. 3 PGPs + 25 CH = 100 CH)

Each of these renewal options must be completed during the validity period of the certificate. Applications for renewal of a five-year residency certificate may not be submitted earlier than twelve months prior to the expiration date of the current certificate.

Principals and program administrators are also eligible for a one time 3-year renewal. This option is available to residency principals and program administrators whose certificate has an expiration date on or prior to June 30, 2019. This is a paper-only application; it will not be available in the ECert system.

How can school counselors and school psychologists renew their residency certificates?

Residency certificate holders for the school counselor and school psychologist roles have the following options for renewing a residency certificate for five years:

- Renew with 100 clock hours or the equivalent in college credit
- Or, renew by completing four PGPs during the five-year validity date of the certificate
- Or, renew by combining completed PGPs with clock hours for a total of 100 hours. Each PGP is worth 25 clock hours. (e.g. 3 PGPs + 25 CH = 100 CH)

Each of these renewal options must be completed during the validity period of the certificate. Applications for renewal of a five-year residency certificate may not be submitted earlier than twelve months prior to the expiration date of the current certificate.
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School Counselors also have the following residency renewal options:
- Two-year renewal (NBPTS) – An individual school counselor who completes or intends to complete a National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) school counselor assessment but does not earn National Board certification may use that completed assessment, or an affidavit of intention to complete, in order to renew the residency ESA certificate one time for two years.
- Three-year renewal (Expiration prior to 7/1/19) – An individual school counselor who holds or held a residency ESA school counselor certificate with an expiration date prior to 7/1/2019 may apply until 6/30/2020 for a three-year renewal.

School Psychologists also have the following residency renewal options:
- Two-year renewal (NCSP) – An individual school psychologist in the process of obtaining Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) certification from the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) may apply for a one-time two-year renewal with verification of NCSP submission. Additionally, individuals with expiring certificates in 2014, 2015, 2016, or 2017, may apply for a second two-year renewal with verification of NCSP submission.

What are the options for residency school social worker certificate holders?

Residency school social worker certificate holders have no residency renewal or professional certificate options and may apply for an initial ESA conversion or continuing ESA under requirements in place at the time of their application submission.

Professional and Continuing Certificates

How may professional or continuing certificates for teachers, ESAs, principals, program administrators, and superintendents be renewed?

For professional or continuing certificates for teachers, administrators, and ESAs, there are four options for renewing the certificate:
• Renew with 100 clock hours or the equivalent in college credit
• Or, renew by completing four PGPs during the five-year validity date of the certificate
• Or, renew by combining completed PGPs with clock hours for a total of 100 hours. (e.g. 3 PGPs + 25 CH = 100 CH)
• Or, for teachers or counselors, by possession of a valid certificate issued by National Board for Professional Teaching Standards; or for school psychologists, by the National Association of School Psychologists.

Teachers with STEM related endorsements are required to complete the **STEM professional development requirement** in order to renew their professional certificates.

Teachers, principals, program administrators and superintendents with professional or continuing certificates must complete the **TPEP certificate renewal requirement**.

School nurses, school counselors, school psychologists, and school social workers must attest to the completion of an approved suicide prevention training within the previous five years in order to renew a professional or continuing certificate. The training program must be at least three hours in length. ([RCW 28A.410.226](https://laws.wa.gov/RCW/28A.410.226))

**Other Certification Topics**

**What is the STEM professional development requirement for certificate renewal?**

Beginning on September 1, 2019, renewal applications for residency, professional, and continuing teacher and CTE certificates must document completion of at least 15 clock hours, or at least one goal from an annual professional growth plan (PGP), with an emphasis on STEM integration to meet this renewal requirement.

STEM integration is the authentic combination of at least two of the STEM components (science, technology, engineering, mathematics). The requirement applies to the following endorsement areas:

- Elementary Education (K-8) endorsement
- Early Childhood Education (P-3) endorsement
- Mathematics (5-12)
- Middle Level Math (4-9)
- Middle Level Science (4-9)
- Science (5-12)
- Designated Sciences (5-12): Biology, Chemistry, Earth & Space Science, Physics
- Technology Education
- CTE Teachers
The STEM certificate renewal requirement is considered to be met by holders of a valid National Board Certificate. Please see the OSPI Certification page on the STEM certificate renewal requirement for more information. STEM certificate renewal RCW may be found here.

What is the TPEP professional development requirement for certificate renewal?

Beginning on September 1, 2019, renewal applications for professional and continuing teacher, administrator, and CTE certificates must document completion of at least 15 clock hours, or at least one goal from an annual professional growth plan (PGP), related to the knowledge and competency of the teacher and principal evaluation criteria or system. This is not required for residency certificate renewal. Please see the OSPI Certification page on the TPEP certificate renewal requirement for more information. TPEP certificate renewal RCW may be found here.

The TPEP certificate renewal requirement is considered to be met by holders of a valid National Board Certificate.

What is the suicide prevention training requirement for ESAs?

School nurses, school counselors, school psychologists, and school social workers must attest to the completion of an approved suicide prevention training within the previous five years when renewing a continuing or professional certificate. The training program must be at least three hours in length. (RCW 28A.410.226)

What are the requirements for coursework in Issues of Abuse?

Candidates who apply for a residency renewal, continuing, or professional certificate who have not already successfully completed course work or an in-service program on issues of abuse, must complete the abuse course work requirement as defined in WAC 181-79A030.

How may an educator renew multiple certificates?

Under current WAC, the eligible clock hours you earn count for renewal of any certificate you hold. If you are choosing to renew a certificate with a Professional Growth Plan (PGP), that PGP counts towards other certificates you hold which may be renewed with a PGP. In addition, the clock hours earned for a PGP may count toward renewal of other certificates you hold that are renewed through clock hours.