

SENATE BILL 113 - STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

An Act to amend and reenact Sections 22.1-298, 22.1-299, and 22.1-303 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-299.3, relating to teacher licensure.

§ 22.1.298. Regulations governing licensure.

- G. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section and the Board's authority to license teachers, local school boards shall be authorized to issue valid three-year local eligibility licenses pursuant to § 22.1-299.3.*
- H. Upon the expiration of a three-year local eligibility license, the holder of such license shall be eligible, as appropriate for the degree issued to such person, for a collegiate professional license or a postgraduate professional license to be issued by the Department of Education upon satisfaction of the following conditions: (i) recommendation by the division superintendent and the school board for such licensure; (ii) the completion of three successful years of teaching experience while holding a valid three-year local eligibility license as certified by the division superintendent and school board; (iii) achieving a satisfactory score on the professional teacher's examinations required by the Board; and (iv) such standards as may be prescribed by the Board of Education.*

§ 22.1-299. License required of teachers.

No teacher shall be regularly employed by a school board or paid from public funds unless such teacher holds a license or provisional license issued by the Board of Education or a three-year local eligibility license issued by a local school board pursuant to § 22.1-299.3...

§ 22.1-299.3 Three-year local eligibility license.

- A. *Local school boards shall be authorized, upon recommendation of the local superintendent, to issue a valid three-year nonrenewable local eligibility license to classroom teacher candidates in accordance with the following criteria:*
1. *No more than ten percent of the classroom teachers employed by the relevant local school division shall hold such local licenses, based on the number of classroom teachers employed by such school division during the preceding school year.*
 2. *The applicant for a three-year local eligibility license shall have earned a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher education and shall have such experience or training in a subject or content area as the local school board and superintendent may deem appropriate for the intended teaching assignment.*
 3. *The holder of a three-year local eligibility license shall be required to complete such training within the three-year licensure period as may be specified by the division superintendent, the school board, and standards prescribed by the Board of Education which shall include, but need not be limited to, curriculum and instruction, including educational technology, reading, and other specific course content relating to the Standards of Learning, differentiation of instruction, classroom/behavior management, and human growth and development.*
 4. *The local eligibility license shall only be valid within the issuing school division.*
 5. *No local eligibility license shall be issued if the teacher candidate/applicant is eligible for a collegiate professional or postgraduate professional license issued by the Department of Education.*

6. Teachers issued a three-year local eligibility license shall be considered probationary teachers, shall not be eligible for continuing contract status while employed under the authority of a local license, and shall be subject to the probationary terms of employment specified in section 22.1-303.
- B. Except as specified in this section and section 22.1-303, a teacher employed while holding a local eligibility license shall be entitled and subject to all other requirements and rights provided by law or regulation.
- C. Any teacher employed pursuant to a local eligibility license shall be issued a collegiate professional or postgraduate professional license upon the expiration of the local eligibility license upon satisfaction of the following conditions:
(i) recommendation by the division superintendent and the school board for such license; (ii) the completion of three successful years of teacher experience while holding a valid-three-year local eligibility license as certified by the division superintendent and the school board; (iii) achieving a satisfactory score on the professional teacher's examinations required by the Board; and (iv) such standards as may be prescribed by the Board of Education.
- D. Local school boards shall provide to the Board of Education information about teachers receiving local eligibility licenses and other data related to the local school division's issuance of eligibility licenses as prescribed by the Board. The Board is authorized to revoke and reinstate a local school board's authority to issue local eligibility licenses upon a determination of any violation of section 22.1-299.3.

§ 22.1-303. Probationary terms of service for teachers.

- D. Teachers holding three-year local eligibility licenses pursuant to section 22.1-299.3 shall not be eligible for continuing contract status while teaching under the authority of such license. Upon attainment of a collegiate professional or postgraduate professional license issued by the Department of Education, such teachers shall serve the three-year probationary period prior to being eligible for continuing contract status pursuant to this section.