

**Education Quality Team**  
*Staff Report for August 11, 2020*

*From the Education Quality Division: Patrick Halladay, Director*

Much of the work this month has been dedicated to helping educators and education preparation programs prepare for the upcoming fall semester. The board's decision in July to set 15 October as the expiration date for all educator licenses was publicized, and the ALiS system has been altered to show 15 October as the expiration date.

We have continued to work with EPPs on student teaching alternations for the fall. Northern Vermont University—Johnson submitted a thorough application for review at today's meeting. Due to the governor's directive to set 8 September as the date for all pK-12 schools in Vermont to start, NVU is asking for a shortened student teaching window of 11 weeks, as their on-campus instruction will end before Thanksgiving. The boards will consider this proposal later in the meeting.

There are a number of EPPs that did not submit a substantive change application for the fall. We will be following up with each of these programs later in the week to ensure that they are not envisioning major alterations to their design.

We have been in contact with the governor's office regarding new standards board members. The two teacher positions and one superintendent position have been advertised. We have received interest for both positions. We hope to have new members seated by the September meeting.

NVU-Lyndon has submitted a request for to extend the authority to recommend licensure for the two programs currently under Teach-Out Plans to no later than Dec. 31, 2021. This will allow the students in the program to complete their degree, without NVU having to go through an additional ROPA review for programs that are close to being sunset. We do not believe the Board needs to vote on this extension, but we wanted to bring it to the board so that you are aware.

The anticipated date for Rule filing is September 4, 2020. The draft publication schedule is below. At the October VSBE meeting, the Board tentatively will review public comment before voting to file with LCAR.

Submission Date	2020-09-04
Submission Month	September
Submission Year	2020
Posted Online	9/9/2020
Published in Newspapers	9/17/2020
Earliest Hearing	10/9/2020
Deadline for Comment	No less than 7 days following last hearing
Deadline for Comment without a Hearing	10/1/2020

We have heard from the governor’s office that all state employees should expect to work largely remotely until at least the end of the calendar year.

The office approved a waiver of the PRAXIS CORE for an educator in Franklin West SU who has met all the requirements needed to be eligible. The educator is seeking a special education endorsement.

***From the Education Quality Division: Ron Ryan, Education Programs Manager***

Continued acknowledgement to the licensing team for responding promptly to emails, phone calls and questions that arise during this stressful and unsure time. All applications continue to be processed during this COVID-19 era. Fingerprinting centers and testing centers have reopened around the state. Applicants have now been able to schedule fingerprinting appointments in order to complete their renewal applications. Licensing specialist have worked closely with applicants to assist them where needed along with providing guidance on fulfilling licensing obligations. Seven districts have taken advantage of being able to expand the instructional range of general elementary teachers working in a PK-8 or K-8 school building. Out of the 5282 renewals that were sent electronically on January 7, 2020, the AOE has received approximately 3430 renewals up to July 31<sup>st</sup> and have approved approximately 3150 to July 31<sup>st</sup>. The AOE continues to wait for submissions, payments and Criminal Record Reports to be able to complete the 2020 renewal cycle.

VSBPPE has two open seats for currently practicing teacher representatives and one open seat for an administrative representative.

**L/RSB:** D. Giles has been focusing on Completed Board Reports – informing Boards of educators who have yet to submit their renewal application to the AOE, etc... Deb has also been hearing from educators and Boards regarding educators who can no longer access their 2020 renewal application. The ALiS system was designed with the June 30<sup>th</sup> expiration date as a cut-off date for renewals – it was not designed to allow for a pandemic. A. Scalabrini has reached out to Aithent to make the necessary changes, but until the change occurs – changing the expiration date must be done manually.

39/61 Grant Agreements for the 2020-2021 year have been forwarded to Finance. Reminders will soon be sent to Boards who have yet to submit an Annual Report and /or a Grant Application.

The contact list for the 2020-2021 L/RSB Chairs will soon be updated to go on the AOE website and for the VSA & VPA ED Directory. Board members will also need to be updated in ALiS for the upcoming year.

Deb also continues to address questions and concerns from L/RSBs and educators mostly regarding 2020 renewals.

Current Work Queue per application type as of 8-4-2020: *Applications in the work queue are in various stages of processing from just received to waiting for payment from applicant.*

Application Type	Total
Initial	294
Reinstatement	18
Renewal	251
Retired	4
Temporary	41
1 Yr. Temporary – extenuating circumstance	2
Transcript Review – Initial	59
Transcript Review – Add endorsement	61
Peer Review - Initial	65
Peer Review – Add endorsement	14