

Education Quality Team

Staff Report for 10 January 2023

From the Education Quality Division: Patrick Halladay, Division Director

While we are still cleaning up from the extended 2022 licensing season, we are about to embark on the 2023 season. We have pushed the date where we will open the system for renewals to 1 February in order to make sure we have all criminal background checks from 2022 complete. The office sent out a notification to all educators with expiring licenses notifying them of the date that the system will open and steps to take in preparation. There are about 3,500 expiring licenses this year. This is a substantially smaller number than we saw over the past few years as we no longer have the overlap of expiring five- and seven-year licenses.

The office has received a couple of requests for the board to extend the licensing window in a similar manner as 2022 to allow educators to complete professional learning. At this point, we are not recommending this action but, rather, to continue to monitor the need through conversations with L/RSBs.

Endorsement revisions are moving along, and we are currently working on School Counselor, Early Childhood Education, and Special Educator. Unfortunately, the effects on educators' capacity are carrying over into this process, as engagement has been increasingly lack luster as the school year progresses. Participants are enthusiastic and providing great input when available, but it is clear that priorities are understandably elsewhere. Andrew will continue to adapt and accommodate to ensure the widest range of viewpoints are included in the process.

Finally, I announced to the division that I will be leaving the Agency of Education effective 20 January. I was offered and accepted the role of Director of Educator Licensure at UVM. While I will continue to be intimately involved in issues of licensure and education preparation, it will be from the other side of the conversation moving forward. Working with the board over the past four years has been one of the pleasures of this position. In responding to pressing needs during COVID and the subsequent impact on the educator pipeline and interrogating our existing policies and practices to ensure equity, the board has continually distinguished itself as a thoughtful and pragmatic deliberative body. Thank you for the hours of provocative conversation.

Josh Souliere has been appointed as the interim division director and Ron Ryan will serve as the interim point of contact with the Standards Board.

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

Special Education Provisional Waivers:

Currently we have 59 applications for 2022. That represents about 33 SU'S/SD'S who have submitted applications. 12 of those SU'S/SD'S have submitted 2 or more special education provisional waivers. The breakdown of instructional levels is below:

59 Special Education Waiver Provisional applications submitted

4 closed

29 of the applications represent Grades K through Age 21 Special Education

16 of the applications represent Grades K through 8 Special Education

4 of the applications represent Grades 7 through Age 21 Special Education

6 of the applications represent Birth through Age 6 Early Childhood Education.

L/RSB: Licensing Specialists are currently waiting on receiving payments and CRC Reports for 40+ 2022 renewals. VCIC is currently taking approximately 10 weeks to process CRC Reports (if all procedures are followed correctly).

D. Giles has submitted 51 Grant Agreements for the 2022-2023 year to AOE Finance Office. 47/51 Grant Agreements have been completed. December reminders were emailed to the L/RSBs regarding missing Grant Applications.

An L/RSB December Newsletter for 2022 was emailed to all L/RSB Chairs and Co-Chairs with various pieces of information for L/RSBs on December 8, 2022.

Online meetings are being scheduled with individual Boards. One LSB held a virtual meeting in December. Several LSBs have scheduled virtual meetings for January 2023.

Deb also continues to address questions and concerns from L/RSBs and educators regarding relicensure.

Current Work Queue per application type as of 12-29-2022: *Applications in the work queue are in various stages of processing from just received to waiting for payment from applicant.*

Application Type	Total
Initial	80
Reinstatement	19
Renewal	34
Retired	4
Temporary	163
1 Yr. Temporary – extenuating circumstance	2
Transcript Review – Initial	24
Transcript Review – Add endorsement	27
Peer Review - Initial	58
Peer Review – Add endorsement	16