

DCPS Licensure Update for SY 2021-22

Given the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) has granted DCPS a final year of licensure flexibility for new hires for SY21-22.

Terminations for licensure non-compliance for SY 20-21 will not be rescinded. However, educators are eligible to apply for a position if they have submitted an OSSE application between June 1, 2020 and May 27, 2021. In addition to meeting this requirement, all other onboarding and clearance requirements must be met in order for candidates to be selected for rehire.

Although a license is not required to apply to teach in DCPS, consistent with governing regulations (5-A DCMR §1601.1), a teaching credential is required to teach in DCPS. **DCPS will be monitoring to ensure that all staff members in positions requiring a license are licensed by March 1, 2022. Teachers not licensed by this date will be terminated effective the end of SY 21-22.**

Please note that OSSE is a separate government agency from DC Public Schools that sets forth the credential qualifications and manages the credentialing process.

Minimum Eligibility Criteria

Candidates must meet **one** of the following criteria to move through the TeachDC screening process:

- OSSE-issued credential or valid credential from another state
- 1 year of full-time lead teaching experience
- Enrolled in a teacher preparation program
- Registered for at least 2 of the 4 required educator credential exams

Suggested Next Steps

Below you can find suggested next steps if you are advanced to the Recommended Pool:

- All candidates should be working toward securing their teaching credential through OSSE. We encourage you to register for [required educator credential exams](#) if you have not yet.
- If you have passing scores for the approved basic skills and subject content knowledge exam, we encourage you to [submit your application to OSSE](#) for a teaching credential, as this process can take up to 12 weeks.
- If you hold a valid (active) and full (non-provisional) teaching license from another state, and meet [certain requirements](#), you may be eligible for reciprocal DC licensure.
- If you hold a valid and full (non-provisional) license from another state but *do not meet the testing requirements* (e.g., you have not taken a pedagogy exam), OSSE will grant you an Initial Credential, which is valid for three years. You will then need to come into compliance with DC's testing requirements within the three-year period of the Initial Credential in order to obtain a Standard Credential.
- You can explore the different types of OSSE-issued teaching credentials [here](#).
- If you are in need of renewing your teaching credential, you can find more on how to do so on OSSE's [website](#).

Other Resources

Below you can find our licensure requirements that will be reinstated for the 2022-23 school year.

- Our previous licensure requirements that will go back into effect for the 2021-22 school year can be found here:
 - [Teacher Credential Minimum Eligibility Requirements](#)



- [Teacher Credential Eligibility Requirements \(Spanish\)](#)

To apply for licensure, please contact OSSE through their [website](#), via email at osse.asklicensure@dc.gov, or by phone at (202) 741-5881.

Visit our [Candidate Resources](#) to help guide you through the application process. For additional questions about your teacher application, please email teach.dcps@k12.dc.gov.