

Effective March 15, 2006

505-2-.07 WAIVER CERTIFICATE

(1) A Waiver certificate may be issued at the request of an employing school system, and at the discretion of the PSC, to individuals who have not satisfied all certification requirements. This includes: completers of Georgia state-approved programs who have satisfied all requirements except the content assessment(s) and have received a bachelor's degree or higher and been recommended by the program provider; educators with two unaddressed, unsatisfactory annual performance evaluations during the 5-year period preceding the renewal date; educators who have not completed all Special Georgia Requirements (except for the Computer Skill Competency Requirement).

(2) To be eligible for a Waiver certificate, the applicant shall:

(a) hold a bachelor's degree or higher from a PSC-accepted accredited institution, unless Georgia does not require a bachelor's degree for the specific field;

(b) have a cumulative undergraduate Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale from a PSC-approved accredited institution OR have completed a master's degree or higher OR been admitted to a master's degree program or state-approved educator preparation program, including Georgia TAPP. If the bachelor's degree is the highest degree and the GPA is less than 2.5, and the date on which the degree was awarded is 10 years or more prior to the date of application for certification, then the GPA requirement does not apply;

(c) have the Waiver certificate requested by the employing school system; and

(d) have adequate time to complete all remaining requirements for the type of certificate requested within one year.

(3) The employing school system must verify in a written request letter that accompanies the application packet that the applicant is the most qualified candidate for employment.

(4) The Waiver certificate is issued for a one-year validity period and may NOT be extended.

(5) An individual holding a Waiver certificate does NOT satisfy Federal "Highly Qualified" requirements as outlined in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 2001 (No Child Left Behind). Additional information on the Federal and state "Highly Qualified" guidelines may be found on the PSC web site at www.gapsc.com.

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