

## **FINAL NOTICE**

**TO:** Employers of Educators  
Preparers of Educators  
Other Interested Parties

**FROM:** Matt Arthur, Executive Secretary

**SUBJECT:** Professional Standards Commission Rule Rescission/Amendment/Adoption

On October 12, 2023, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) initiated the rulemaking process to **(1) adopt** the current rule in Chapter 505-2- Certification, effective January 1, 2024, as follows: 505-2-.195; **(2) repeal** the current rules in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective January 1, 2024, as follows: 505-3-.63, 505-3-.72, 505-3-.92, and 505-3-.104; **(3) adopt** the current rules in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation rules, effective January 1, 2024, as follows: 505-3-.63, 505-3-.70, 505-3.72, 505-3-.92, and 505-3-.104; **(4) amend** the current rules in Chapter 505-3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective January 1, 2024, as follows: 505-3-.01, 505-3-.02, 505-3-.71, and 505-3-.76; and **(5) amend** the current rules in Chapter 6- Professional Practices, effective January 1, 2024, as follows: 505-6-.01, and 505-6-.02.

On December 14, 2023, the Commission adopted the aforementioned rule, effective January 1, 2024.

These adopted rules may be downloaded in their entirety from the GaPSC website at <http://www.gapsc.com/Commission/Rules/home.aspx> by clicking on the titles of the rules. Presentation of rules in this format is permissible under O.C.G.A. § 50-13-2.

### **Certification**

#### **505-2-.195 SCHOOL SAFETY AND ANTI-GANG ENDORSEMENT**

This newly adopted rule creates an endorsement that will expose qualified individuals to multidisciplinary best practices for promoting and preserving safe schools and for identifying and deterring youth gangs.

### **Educator Preparation**

#### **505-3-.01 REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS**

This newly adopted rule allows out-of-state organizations accredited by CAEP without conditions or probation and approved by the home state without conditions or probation to seek GaPSC approval to offer non-credit-bearing certification-only programs leading to initial teacher certification. Clarifications are included related to embedded endorsement programs, approval process requirements, certain definitions, and to remove outdated language. Approval review application information, policies, and procedures for qualifying out-of-state organizations will be made available by April 1, 2024, and the approval review process will begin after June 1, 2024.

#### **505-3-.02 EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDER ANNUAL REPORTING AND EVALUATION**

This newly adopted rule removes references to Leader Preparation Program Measures, updates definitions, and removes outdated language.

#### **505-3-.63 CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION PROGRAM**

This newly adopted rule reflects updates to the program content standards and content pedagogy course requirements.

#### **505-3-.70 SPEECH-LANGUAGE ASSOCIATE PROGRAM**

This newly adopted Service field rule results in the preparation of individuals at the baccalaureate degree level qualified to support certified Speech-Language Pathologists in school settings. A shortage of certified Speech-Language Pathologists, for which master's degree level preparation is required, has led to diminished services to P-12 children with communication disorders. The need for this field was established by a GaPSC-convened Task Force comprised of individuals representing the Georgia Department of Education, Georgia P-12 schools and school districts, and GaPSC-approved providers of Speech and Language Pathology programs.

**505-3-.71 SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY PROGRAM**

This newly adopted rule updates program content standards.

**505-3-.72 TEACHER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

This newly adopted rule includes updated program content standards.

**505-3-.76 ALTERNATIVE PREPARATION FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

This newly adopted rule changes program admission requirements to ensure candidates hold a minimum of a master's degree from a GaPSC-accepted accredited college or university, and clarifies the requirement that candidates must work in a leadership position for at least one-half day or more each day.

**505-3-.92 K-5 MATHEMATICS ENDORSEMENT**

This newly adopted rule includes the current program content standards.

**505-3-.104 TEACHER LEADER ENDORSEMENT**

This newly adopted rule includes updated program content standards.

**Professional Practices****505-6-.01 THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR EDUCATORS**

This newly adopted rule removes outdated references to the Department of Human Resources and makes necessary revisions.

**505-6-.02 PROCEDURES FOR INVALIDATED OR DENIED CERTIFICATION**

This newly adopted rule removes outdated references to the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation and the Department of Human Resources.