

505-2-.13 WAIVER CERTIFICATE

Nature of Amendment(s):

☒ Substantive
☐ Clarification
☐ Further Definition

Discussion:

It is proposed that Rule 505-2-.13 WAIVER CERTIFICATE dated July 1, 2019, be RESCINDED and that a new rule with the same number and title be INITIATED to clarify requirements to qualify for a Waiver certificate.

(1) Purpose. A Waiver certificate may be issued at the request of a Georgia local unit of administration (LUA), and at the discretion of the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC), to individuals who have not satisfied all certification requirements and/or educators with two unremediated, unsatisfactory, needs development or ineffective evaluators. The GaPSC will review the completed application and, if approved, a one (1)-year Non-Renewable Waiver certificate will be issued.

(2) Eligibility Requirements.

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

1. Hold a bachelor's degree or higher from a GaPSC-accepted accredited institution, unless Georgia does not require a bachelor's degree for the specific field or requires a higher degree. Minimum degree requirements are defined in the applicable teaching, service or leadership rule.
2. Have adequate time to complete all remaining requirements for the type of certificate requested within one (1) year.

(3) Application Requirements.

(a) The application for the Waiver certificate must be submitted by the employing Georgia LUA.

(b) The LUA must submit a written waiver request to the director of certification verifying that the individual is the most qualified candidate for employment.

(4) Validity. The Waiver certificate is issued for a maximum validity period of one (1)-year and may not be renewed.

(5) Highly Qualified Status. An individual holding a Waiver certificate does not satisfy Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) In-Field requirements as outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. For complete ESSA In-Field requirements, including assessment, please contact the Georgia Department of Education at www.gadoe.org.

Authority O.C.G.A. 20-2-200