

505-2-.32 VALIDITY PERIODS AND DATING OF CERTIFICATES

Nature of Amendment(s):

Substantive
 Clarification
 Further Definition

Discussion:

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.32 VALIDITY PERIODS AND DATING OF CERTIFICATES, dated October 15, 2019, be AMENDED to simplify language, provide greater clarity, and to coincide with revisions in connected certification rules.

Current/Amended Sections(s):

(Additions are underlined in bold type; deletions are marked through.)

(1) Summary: This rule outlines the requirements and procedures for determining the validity period, effective date and issue date of certificates and licensure.

(2) Validity Periods. Certificate fields are issued with specific validity periods depending upon the type and title (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.02 CLASSIFICATION).

(a) The standard validity periods for the various types and titles of certificates are as follows:

1. **Induction**, Standard Professional, Performance-Based Professional, Advanced Professional and Lead Professional certificates are valid for five (5) years (See GaPSC Rules **505-2-.04 INDUCTION CERTIFICATE**, 505-2-.05 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE, 505-2-.06 ADVANCED PROFESSIONAL and 505-2-.07 LEAD PROFESSIONAL) with the following exceptions:
 - (i) A renewable professional certificate issued to an individual holding another unexpired, renewable professional certificate is only valid for the remaining validity period of the existing renewable professional certificate;
 - (ii) A One (1)-year, or Three (3)-year Induction certificate may be issued to those meeting criteria outlined in Rule 505-2-.04 INDUCTION CERTIFICATE.**
2. Life certificates are valid for the educator's lifetime, but are issued with validity periods for record-keeping purposes. During the certificate holder's lifetime, a Life certificate is automatically renewed at the end of the validity period (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.12 LIFE CERTIFICATE);
3. Pre-Service certificates are valid for five (5) years, with the following exceptions (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.03 PRE-SERVICE CERTIFICATE):
 - (i) Invalidated upon program completion;
 - (ii) Invalidated if an individual withdraws, transfers or is removed from a program; and
 - (iii) May be extended at the request of the educator preparation provider (EPP).
4. ~~Induction~~ **Provisional** certificates are valid for three (3) years, with the following exceptions (See GaPSC Rule ~~505-2-.04 INDUCTION CERTIFICATE~~ **505-2-.08 PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE**):

- (i) Valid from one (1) to three (3) years if an individual ~~qualifying through Induction Pathway Four (4)~~ has previously held a Non-Renewable Non-Professional, **Provisional**, or Induction Pathway 4 certificate. In these circumstances, the ~~Induction~~ **Provisional** certificate will be issued for the number of full years for which the educator can document that the Non-Renewable Non-Professional, **Provisional**, or Induction Pathway 4 certificate was unused.
 - (ii) Valid for one (1) year ~~for an educator qualifying through Induction Pathway Four (4)~~ pending verification of enrollment in a GaPSC-accepted educator preparation program leading to certification in the ~~Induction~~ Provisional field held by the individual. Once enrolled in a GaPSC-accepted program, the certificate may be extended for two additional years if requested by the employing LUA and following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule 505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION PROCEDURES.
 - (l) Educators who are not enrolled in a GaPSC-accepted program after the initial one-year validity period may be issued a certificate for an additional year upon the request of the employing LUA. Once enrolled in a GaPSC-accepted program, the certificate may be extended for a third year if requested by the employing LUA and following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule 505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION PROCEDURES. **Should an individual not be enrolled by the third year, a waiver certificate must be requested by the employing LUA.**
5. Non-Renewable Professional certificates are valid for three (3) years, with the following exceptions (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.09 NON-RENEWABLE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE):
- ~~(i) Non-Renewable Professional certificates in endorsement fields are valid for two (2) years;~~
 - ~~(ii)~~**(i)** Non-Renewable Professional certificates issued to Georgia educators lacking renewal requirements are valid for one (1) year;
 - ~~(iii)~~**(ii)** Non-Renewable Professional certificates issued to individuals who have previously held a Supplemental **or Three (3)-year** Induction certificate in that field are valid for the standard validity period decreased by the number of years for which the Supplemental **or Three (3)-year** Induction field was held;
 - ~~(iv)~~**(iii)** Initial Non-Renewable Professional certificates in the field of Educational Leadership are valid for three (3) years, and subsequent Non-Renewable Performance-Based Professional certificates in the field are valid for three (3) years.
6. International Exchange certificates are valid for three (3) years (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.11 INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE CERTIFICATE);
7. Waiver certificates and Adjunct licenses are valid for one (1) year (See GaPSC Rules 505-2-.13 WAIVER CERTIFICATE and 505-2-.15 ADJUNCT LICENSE);
8. ~~Clearance certificates~~, Educational Interpreter licenses, Non-Instructional Aide licenses, Paraprofessional licenses and Support Personnel licenses are valid for five (5) years (See GaPSC Rules 505-2-.42 CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE, 505-2-.16 EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETER LICENSE, 505-2-.17 NON-INSTRUCTIONAL AIDE LICENSE, 505-2-.18 PARAPROFESSIONAL LICENSE and 505-2-.19 SUPPORT PERSONNEL LICENSE):

- (i) Non-Renewable Educational Interpreter licenses and Non-Renewable Paraprofessional licenses are valid for one (1) year;
- 9. Permit certificates are valid for three (3) years (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.10 PERMIT CERTIFICATE);
- 10. ~~Initial Retired Educator certificates are valid for thirty (30) years. Renewed Retired Educator certificates are valid for ten (10) years.~~

11. Clearance certificates are valid for five (5) years unless issued to coincide with the end validity of the base certificate.

(b) The standard validity period of a certificate may be decreased by the number of years for which an individual held a Non-Renewable Professional or Waiver certificate in the same field.

(c) Fields that are added to a valid certificate are valid only until the expiration date of the base field, at which time all fields renewed will have the same validity period.

(3) Effective Dates. The effective date of a certificate level or field is governed by employment, the category of certificate and the date the complete application package is received by the GaPSC. Effective dates may also be based on the GaPSC fiscal year, which is July 1 through June 30.

(a) The effective date of a certificate level or a renewable certificate or license is the more recent of the following:

- 1. The date on which requirements are completed; or
- 2. July 1 of the fiscal year in which the complete application package is submitted.

(i) The effective date of a certificate field or level issued based on an approved certification appeal will be the date the Certification Appeals Committee approved the appeal.

(b) The effective date of a Non-Renewable, an ~~Induction~~ **Provisional**, Permit, International Exchange certificate, or any other certificate or license not included in part (2)(a) is determined as follows:

- 1. If the employment date is between July 1 and December 31 and the complete application package is received prior to the end of the fiscal year (June 30), the effective date is the beginning of the fiscal year (July 1) if all certification requirements are met prior to this date;
- 2. If the employment date is between January 1 and June 30 and the complete application package is received between January 1 and June 30, the effective date is ~~the first day of the month in which the applicant became employed by the LUA requesting the certificate~~ **January 1** if all certification requirements are met prior to this date;
- 3. The effective dates of Waiver certificates are determined on a case-by-case basis.

(c) Certificates shall not normally be backdated prior to July 1 of the fiscal year in which the complete application package is received, regardless of the date requirements are met, with the following exception:

- 1. If the superintendent of an employing LUA submits a written statement verifying that all salary adjustments will be paid using only local funds, the GaPSC may issue a certificate or level with an effective date prior to July 1 of the fiscal year in which the complete application package is received.

(d) Certification issued based on rule revision shall not be issued prior to the effective date of the revised rule.

(4) Expiration Dates. The expiration date of all certificates, with the exception of Waiver certificates, is June 30 of the final year of validity. The final year of validity is determined by adding the number of years of validity to the calendar year of the effective date of the certificate. For example, a five (5)-year certificate with an effective date of December 10, 2014, would expire on June 30, 2019. A five (5)-year certificate with an effective date of January 1, 2015, would expire on June 30, 2020.

(a) The expiration dates of Waiver certificates are determined on a case-by-case basis.

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