

505-2-.87 HEALTHCARE SCIENCE

Nature of Amendment(s):

☒ **Substantive**
☐ **Clarification**
☐ **Further Definition**

Discussion:

It is proposed that GaPSC Rule 505-2-.87 HEALTHCARE CERTIFICATE, dated July 1, 2022, be AMENDED to include a change in testing providers resulting in new assessment titles, the addition of the new state-required literacy assessments in compliance with The Georgia Early Literacy Act (HB 538) of 2023 changes, the option for certification based on an expired healthcare license in good standing, and to both organize format and include information for clarity and consistency.

Current/Amended Sections(s):

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

(1) Summary: This rule outlines the requirements and procedures for issuance of a teaching certificate in Healthcare Science P-12, which allows individuals certified in this field to provide students with the opportunity to explore careers in healthcare.

(2) Provisional Requirements (For Individuals Transitioning to a Career in Education).

(a) Issuance.

1. Hold an associate's degree or higher from a GaPSC accepted accredited institution in a healthcare-related field.
2. Hold a valid **or expired** healthcare professional license, registration, or certification **in good standing** that relates to the healthcare field and has been issued by an appropriate governing or regulatory body, which may be found [here](#).
3. Have a minimum of two (2) years of occupational work experience in the healthcare field.
4. Pass the GACE ~~Educator~~ Ethics **for Teachers** Assessment.
5. Meet Standards of Conduct.
6. Have the certificate requested by the employing Georgia local unit of administration following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES](#).

(b) The Provisional certificate will be issued for one (1)-year pending verification of enrollment in a GaPSC-~~accepted~~ **approved** educator preparation program leading to certification in the certification field held by the individual. Once enrolled in a **GaPSC-approved** or ~~GaPSC-accepted~~ program, the certificate will be extended for two additional years (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.08 PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE](#)).

(c) Conversion.

1. Complete a **GaPSC-approved** ~~GaPSC-accepted~~ program in the field of issuance.
2. Meet the following Special Georgia Requirements:

- (i) Satisfy the Special Education requirement with a grade of B or better.
- (ii) Have passed the GACE ~~Educator~~ Ethics **for Teachers** Assessment.
- (iii) **Have passed the GACE Fundamentals of the Science of Reading literacy assessment.**

~~(iii)~~**(iv)** Meet Standards of Conduct.

- 3. Apply for certification following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES](#).
- (d) The Standard Professional certificate or Performance-Based certificate will be issued based on meeting experience requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.05 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE](#)).

(3) Induction Requirements.

- (a) Five (5)-Year Induction (For Individuals Lacking Teaching Experience to Qualify for Professional Certification).

1. Issuance.

- (i) Hold an associate's degree or higher from a GaPSC accepted accredited institution in a healthcare-related field.
- (ii) Verify completion of a **GaPSC-approved or** GaPSC-accepted program in the field, hold a valid or expired professional certificate in the field from another state, or verify completion of a GaPSC-accepted program in the field from another country.
- (iii) Have passed the GACE ~~Educator~~ Ethics **for Teachers** Assessment.
- (iv) Have passed the required GACE Fundamentals of the Science of Reading literacy assessment unless exemption criteria is met as outlined in GaPSC Rule 505-2-.26 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ASSESSMENT.**
- ~~(iv)~~**(v)** Have less than three (3) years of successful experience while holding a professional certificate.
- ~~(v)~~**(vi)** Meet Standards of Conduct.
- ~~(vi)~~**(vii)** Apply for certification following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES](#).

2. Conversion.

- (i) Earn three years of successful experience while holding a professional certificate.
- (ii) For individuals applying based on reciprocity or completion of a GaPSC-accepted program from another state or country, meet the following requirement.
 - (I) Satisfy the Special Education requirement with a grade of B or better.
- (iii) Meet Standards of Conduct.

- (iv) Apply for conversion following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES](#).
 - 3. The Standard Professional certificate or Performance-Based certificate will be issued based on meeting experience requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.05 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE](#)
- (b) Three (3)-Year Induction (Teaching Out-of-Field).
 - 1. Issuance.
 - (i) Hold a valid five (5) year Induction certificate in any teaching field.
 - (ii) Have a minimum of two (2) years of occupational work experience in the healthcare field.
 - (iii) Meet Standards of Conduct.
 - (iv) Have the certificate requested by the employing Georgia local unit of administration following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES](#).
 - 2. Conversion.
 - (i) Hold a valid **or expired** healthcare professional license, registration, or certification **in good standing** that relates to the healthcare field and has been issued by an appropriate governing or regulatory body, which may be found [here](#).
 - (ii) **Have passed the required GACE Fundamentals of the Science of Reading literacy assessment unless exemption criteria is met as outlined in GaPSC Rule 505-2-.26 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ASSESSMENT.**
 - ~~(ii)~~**(iii)** Meet Standards of Conduct.
 - ~~(iii)~~**(iv)** Apply for conversion following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES](#).
- (c) The Standard Professional certificate or Performance-Based certificate will be issued based on meeting experience requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.05 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE](#).

(4) Professional Requirements (For individuals with Three or More Years of Educator Experience).

- (a) Issuance.
 - 1. Hold an associate's degree or higher in a healthcare-related field.
 - 2. Verify completion of a **GaPSC-approved or** GaPSC-accepted program in the field, hold a valid or expired professional certificate in the field from another state; or verify completion of a GaPSC-accepted program in the field from another country.

3. Have passed **Pass or exempt** the GACE Educator Ethics **for Teachers** Assessment.
 4. **Pass the required GACE Fundamentals of the Science of Reading literacy assessment unless exemption criteria is met as outlined in GaPSC Rule 505-2-.26 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ASSESSMENT.**
 - ~~4-5.~~ Have a minimum of three (3) years of successful experience while holding a professional certificate.
 - ~~5-6.~~ Meet Standards of Conduct.
 - ~~6-7.~~ Apply for certification following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES.](#)
- (b) Renewal.
1. Meet requirements outlined in the GaPSC Rule [505-2-.36 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS.](#)
 2. Meet Standards of Conduct.
 3. Individuals applying based on reciprocity or completion of a program out-of-state or out-of-country must satisfy the Special Education requirement with a grade of B or better as part of renewal requirements.
- (c) The Standard Professional certificate or Performance-Based certificate will be issued based on meeting experience requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.05 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE\).](#)
- (5) Non-Renewable Professional Requirements.**
- (a) One (1)-year Non-Renewable Professional (Issued to Individuals Who Have Not Completed Renewal Requirements **or cannot exempt the GACE Fundamentals of the Science of Reading literacy assessment when applying by reciprocity).**
1. Issuance.
 - (i) Hold an expired professional Georgia certificate **or valid or expired professional out-of-state certificate** in the field.
 - (ii) Meet Standards of Conduct.
 - (iii) Have the certificate requested by the employing Georgia local unit of administration following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES.](#)
 2. Conversion.
 - (i) **For Georgia educators with expired certificates, verify** Verify completion of requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.36 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS.](#)
 - (ii) **For out-of-state educators applying by reciprocity, pass the required GACE Fundamentals of the Science of Reading literacy assessment or meet exemption criteria as outlined in GaPSC Rule 505-2-.26 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ASSESSMENT.**

- ~~(ii)~~**(iii)** Meet Standards of Conduct.
- ~~(iii)~~**(iv)** Apply for conversion following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES](#).
- 3. The Standard Professional certificate or Performance-Based certificate will be issued based on meeting experience requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.05 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE](#).
- (b) Three (3)-year Non-Renewable Professional. (Teaching Out-of-Field)
 - 1. Issuance.
 - (i) Hold a valid Five (5)-Year professional **teaching** certificate.
 - (ii) Have a minimum of two (2) years of occupational work experience in the healthcare field.
 - (iii) Meet Standards of Conduct.
 - (iv) Have the certificate requested by the employing Georgia local unit of administration following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES](#).
 - 2. Conversion.
 - (i) Hold a valid **or expired** healthcare professional license, registration, or certification **in good standing** that relates to the healthcare field and has been issued by an appropriate governing or regulatory body, which may be found [here](#).
 - (ii) Meet Standards of Conduct.
 - (iii) **Have passed the GACE Fundamentals of the Science of Reading literacy Assessment or meet exemption criteria as outlined in GaPSC Rule 505-2-.26 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ASSESSMENT.**
 - ~~(iii)~~**(iv)** Apply for conversion following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES](#).
 - 3. The Standard Professional certificate or Performance-Based certificate will be issued based on meeting experience requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.05 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE](#).
- (6) **Permit** (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.10 PERMIT](#)).
- (7) **To Add the Field** (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.34 ADD A FIELD](#)).
- (a) To add Healthcare Science to a Professional teaching certificate, an individual must meet the following:
 - 1. Hold a valid **or expired** healthcare professional license, registration, or certification **in**

good standing that relates to the healthcare field and has been issued by an appropriate governing or regulatory body, which may be found [here](#).

2. Have a minimum of two (2) years of occupational work experience in the healthcare field.
3. Meet Standards of Conduct.
4. **Pass the GACE Fundamentals of the Science of Reading literacy assessment.**
- ~~4-5.~~ Apply for conversion following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES](#).
- (b) To add Healthcare Science to a Service or Leadership certificate when a (5)-year Induction or Professional teaching field has not been established, an individual must:
 1. Hold an associate's degree or higher from a GaPSC accepted accredited institution in a healthcare-related field.
 2. Complete a **GaPSC-approved or** GaPSC-accepted program in the field of issuance.
 3. Hold a valid **or expired** healthcare professional license, registration, or certification **in good standing** that relates to the healthcare field and has been issued by an appropriate governing or regulatory body, which may be found [here](#).
 4. Have a minimum of two (2) years of occupational work experience in the healthcare field.
 5. Complete **Pass** the Georgia Educator Ethics **for Teachers** Assessment.
 6. **Pass the GACE Fundamentals of the Science of Reading literacy assessment or meet exemption criteria as outlined in GaPSC Rule 505-2-.26 CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE ASSESSMENT.**
 - ~~6-7.~~ Satisfy the Special Education requirement with a grade of B or better.
 - ~~7-8.~~ Meet Standards of Conduct.

Apply for conversion following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION, MyPSC AND TEST ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES](#).

(8) Additional Certificate Titles Issued in the Field.

- (a) International Exchange Certificate (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.11 INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE CERTIFICATE](#)).
- (b) Retired Educator. (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.44 RETIRED EDUCATOR](#)).

(9) To Upgrade the Level (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.33 CERTIFICATE UPGRADE](#)).

(10) Renewal Requirements (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.36 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS](#)).

(11) In-Field Statement (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.40 IN-FIELD ASSIGNMENT](#)). Educators certified in Healthcare Science are in-field to teach specified Georgia curriculum courses in grades P-12. Each state-approved curriculum course, with specified certificate fields that are designated as in-field, may be found under Certification/Curriculum Assignment Policies (CAPS) on the GaPSC web site at www.gapsc.com.

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