Effective January 1, 2026

505-2-.170. K-5 Science Endorsement

(1) Eligibility Requirements.

(a) To be eligible for the Professional or Five-year Induction K-5 Science Endorsement, an individual must:

1. Have a minimum of one (1) year of teaching experience;

2. Hold a level four (4) or higher renewable Professional or Five-Year Induction certificate in one or more of the following fields:

(i) Elementary Education; Middle Grades Science; or Special Education General Curriculum/ Elementary Education (Grades P-5); or

(ii) Any of the following fields combined with a core academic content concentration in science: Special Education General Curriculum; Special Education Adapted Curriculum; Behavior Disorders; Learning Disabilities; Deaf Education; Physical and Health Disabilities; Visual Impairment; or Gifted P-12; and

3. Complete other requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule 505-2-.14 ENDORSEMENTS.

(2) Salary Stipend. Certified individuals holding the K-5 Science Endorsement and teaching at least one science course in grades K through 5 will be eligible to earn salary incentives when funded by the General Assembly.

(a) The previously existing Early Childhood Science Endorsement, valid for grades P-5, shall continue to be listed on the certificate of educators who have been issued it prior to June 30, 2010. However, that P-5 endorsement does not qualify for a salary stipend, as required by HB 280. Individuals holding the Early Childhood Science Endorsement may add the new K-5 Science endorsement upon recommendation by a GaPSC-approved K-5 Science Endorsement program provider.

(3) In-Field Statement (See GaPSC Rule 505-2-.40 IN-FIELD ASSIGNMENT).

(a) An individual with the optional K-5 Science Endorsement has strengthened and enhanced competency levels in science content and instruction for K-5 science. The endorsement will apply only to the grade levels of the base teaching certificate within the K-5 range.

Authority O.C.G.A. § 20-2-200.