

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR  
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control No. 290 Department or Agency Alabama State Department of Education  
Rule No. 290-3-3-.04 in the Teacher Education Chapter of the Alabama Administrative Code  
Rule Title: Class B (Bachelor's Degree Level) Programs for Teaching Fields  
         New     X     Amend          Repeal          Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety?          No         

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare?          Yes         

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public?          No         

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved and, if so, to what degree?          No         

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule?          No         

Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public?          No         

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Does the proposed rule have an economic impact?          No         

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

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Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Reference Service.

Signature of certifying officer                   

Date          3/29/12         

(DATE FILED)  
(STAMP)

APA-2  
07/04

**Alabama State Department of Education  
Office of Teaching and Leading**

**NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION**

AGENCY NAME: State Department of Education

RULE NO. & TITLE:

290-3-3 is the Teacher Education Chapter of the Alabama Administrative Code.

290-3-3-.01	Definitions
290-3-3-.02	College and University Requirements
290-3-3-.04	Class B (Bachelor's Degree Level) Programs for Teaching Fields
290-3-3-.42	Class A (Master's Degree Level) Programs for Teaching Fields
290-3-3-.44	Alternative Class A Programs for Teaching Fields
290-3-3-.45	English for Speakers of Others Languages (ESOL) (Grades P-12)
290-3-3-.45.01	Reading Specialist (Grades P-12)
290-3-3-.46	Speech and Language Impaired (Grades P-12)
290-3-3-.47	Class A (Master's Degree Level) Programs for Areas of Instructional Support Personnel
290-3-3-.48	Instructional Leadership
290-3-3-.49	Library Media
290-3-3-.50	School Counseling
290-3-3-.51	School Psychometry
290-3-3-.51.01	Sport Management
290-3-3-.52	Class AA (Sixth-Year Level) Programs for Teaching Fields
290-3-3-.52.01	Teacher Leader
290-3-3-.53	Class AA (Sixth-Year Level) Programs for Areas of Instructional Support
290-3-3-.53.01	Instructional Leadership
290-3-3-.54	School Psychology

INTENDED ACTION: Amend

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: Amend

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.01 to add definitions for instructional support area, levels of Alabama Professional Certificates, and program overlap; revise definitions on levels of educator preparation programs, professional studies, and teaching field; and delete language about converting a "pass" grade.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.02 to allow for program overlap in accordance with written institutional policies and provide language to allow an individual who completed an educator preparation program at an Alabama institution and wishes to return to complete a program on the same degree level to use coursework from the first program without violating the rule limiting the number of courses that may be taken prior to unconditional admission.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.04 to use consistent language about State requirements for unconditional admission.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.42 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in an approved program; to stipulate courses from a prior-level of certification may not be used to meet requirements of a higher-level program; and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.44 to clarify language about State requirements for unconditional admission to an Alternative Class A program.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.45 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in the approved program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.45.01 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in the approved program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.46 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in the approved program.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.47 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in an approved program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.48 to emphasize a person must be unconditionally admitted before enrolling in courses in the approved program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.49 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in the approved program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.50 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in the approved program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.51 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in the approved program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.51.01 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in the approved program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.52 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in the approved program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.52.01 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in the approved program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.53 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in the approved program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.53.01 to emphasize a person must be unconditionally admitted before enrolling in courses in the program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

Amend Rule 290-3-3-.54 to require unconditional admission before a person has taken more than five courses in the approved program and to clarify prerequisite certificates must be valid.

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: A public hearing will be held at 9:30 a.m., April 12, 2012, Auditorium Plaza Level, Gordon Persons Building, 50 North Ripley Street, Montgomery, Alabama. All persons wishing to express their views should contact the State Superintendent of Education at (334) 242-9700 no later than April 2, 2012, in order to ensure being scheduled on the agenda. All persons wishing to express their views in writing to the State Superintendent of Education should address all written comments to the State Superintendent of Education, Gordon Persons Building, P.O. Box 302101, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2101.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE: June 5, 2012

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY:

Dr. Jayne Meyer  
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P.O. Box 302101  
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(334) 242-9560

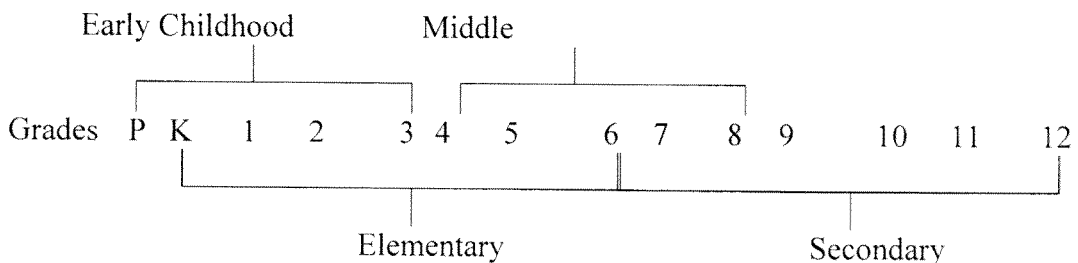


(Signature of officer authorized to promulgate and adopt rules or his or her deputy)

**290-3-3-.04 Class B (Bachelor's Degree Level) Programs for Teaching Fields.**

(1) **Overview.** Formal preparation of educators occurs at two levels, undergraduate and graduate. Successful completion of an undergraduate program may qualify the candidate for Class B certification. Graduate programs are extensions of basic preparation and are divided into Class A and Class AA programs. Completion of an Alternative Class A program may qualify the candidate for initial certification at the graduate level. Advanced programs differ from basic programs not in general purpose but in the competence they seek to develop. Additional information is provided in Rule 290-3-3-.01(2625).

(2) **Relationship of Teacher Preparation Programs and Grade Placement.**



(3) **General Program Requirements.**

(a) **Unconditional Admission to Class B programs.**

1. Admission to the institution does not qualify an individual for admission to a teacher education program. An applicant will be notified in writing whether his or her application for admission to a specific teacher education program has been accepted.

2. The college or university shall have clearly defined criteria for admitting candidates to a teacher education program which include the following:

(i) A criminal history background check. Additional information is provided in Rule 290-3-3-.02(5).

(ii) A formal written application for admission to professional studies.

(iii) A minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.50 overall in accordance with university policy, 2.50 in professional studies listed on the approved checklist for the program, and 2.50 in the teaching field listed on the approved checklist for the program.

(iv) Remedial courses may not be used to meet approved program requirements. Additional information is provided in Rule 290-3-3-.01(41 37).

(v) Satisfactory interviews designed to provide information on whether the applicant's dispositions and interests are consistent with the requirements for successful teaching.

(vi) Experiences in the schools, designed to assist the candidate in making a wise career choice.

3. Each institution shall establish and enforce a policy that specifies when the candidate must meet admission criteria to be before he or she is unconditionally admitted to the program.

(i) A candidate may not enroll in more than five professional studies courses before meeting all criteria for unconditional admission to a teacher education program.

(ii) On the checklist for each approved Class B program, the institution shall indicate up to five professional studies courses in which a candidate may enroll prior to being unconditionally admitted. Courses listed as teaching field courses on the State-approved checklist are exempt from the five-course limit.

(iii) Prior to program admission, the candidate may repeat any of the five courses in which she or he received a grade of C or below.

**(b) Special education course requirement.** A survey of special education course is required if not previously completed.

**(c) Requirements for Class B certification.**

1. An official transcript from a regionally accredited institution documenting an earned bachelor's degree.

2. Satisfactory completion of a State-approved program with a minimum GPA of 2.50 overall, 2.50 in the teaching field, and 2.50 in professional studies with no grade below a C in professional studies courses.

3. Successful completion of an internship shall be required. The internship must comply with Rule 290-3-3-.02(6)(a) and (c).

4. Passing scores on a comprehensive assessment(s) documenting mastery of the curriculum of professional studies and the teaching field, which may include, but may not be limited to, an oral examination.

**(d) Testing for Class B certification.** Applicants for initial certification must meet the requirements of the Alabama Prospective Teacher Testing Program (APTTP) as a precondition for certification. Additional information is provided in Rule 290-3-3-.01(3).

**Author:** ~~Dr. Joseph B. Morton.~~ Dr. Thomas R. Bice.

**Statutory Authority:** Ala. Code §§16-3-16 and 6-23-14 (1975).

**History:** New 12-19-78; amended 12-13-90, effective 02-01-91; amended 06-01-94; repealed and adopted new 01-09-97, effective 07-01-97; amended 12-09-99, effective 01-13-00; amended 03-14-02, effective 04-18-02; emergency rule to amend filed on 10-10-02; amended 12-12-02, effective 01-16-03; repealed and adopted new 09-11-03, effective 10-16-03; repealed and adopted new 07-13-04, effective 08-17-04; repealed and adopted new 04-14-05, effective 05-19-05; repealed and adopted new 08-06-07, effective 09-10-07; repealed and adopted new 08-03-09; effective 10-01-09 amended, effective \_\_\_\_\_.

**290-3-3-.42 Class A (Master's Degree Level) Programs for Teaching Fields.**

(1) **Purposes of Class A Programs for Teaching Fields.** Class A teacher education programs shall be designed to help teachers more effectively serve the purposes defined for the same teaching field at the Class B level provided such programs exist. The intent of the Class A program shall be to help the teacher develop higher levels of competence than is possible in the Class B program.

(2) **Institutional and Program Requirements.**

(a) The provision of Class A programs shall be limited to institutions that meet the standards for accreditation at the master's degree or higher level by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

(b) Post-bachelor's degree coursework shall comply with the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools' *Principles of Accreditation*, section on Educational Programs.

(c) Institutions must have and enforce policies that preclude a candidate who took a course for undergraduate credit from taking the same course for graduate credit.

(d) Completion of a Class A program for a teaching field requires at least 30 semester hours of graduate credit not used for prior-level certification in any teaching field or area of instructional support. ~~prior certification in any the same field.~~

(3) **Unconditional Admission to Class A Programs for Teaching Fields.**

Requirements for unconditional admission shall include a valid bachelor's-level professional educator certificate in the same teaching field(s) in which the Class A Professional Educator Certificate is sought, except for special education and as prescribed in the rules for Alternative Class A programs, English for speakers of other languages, and reading specialist.

(a) Unconditional admission to a Class A special education program requires at least a valid bachelor's-level certificate in any teaching field.

(b) It shall be the responsibility of the teacher education institution to ensure that Class B competencies as well as Class A competencies are met at the completion of a Class A program for which the student does not hold a valid Class B Professional Educator Certificate.

(c) If an individual is unconditionally admitted to a Class A program based on a valid bachelor's-level professional educator certification from another state completes a Class A program and subsequently applies for Alabama certification at the Class A level, then the individual must ~~earn~~ hold valid Alabama Class B certification before applying for Class A certification.

(d) Admission to the graduate school is not equivalent to unconditional admission to an approved program. Candidates admitted to the institution or graduate school on or after August 1, 2012, to enroll in courses in a Class A teaching field program may complete no more than five approved program courses prior to unconditional admission to the program.

**(4) Program Curriculum.** At the Class A level, the teacher may complete any of three types of programs, each of which requires at least 30 semester hours of graduate credit not used for prior level certification in any teaching field or area of instructional support. ~~any the same field.~~