

**Draft FY 13-14 School Code Policy Changes**  
**Related to Educators**

Section 1203.1. Minimum educational requirements.

Every person certified or permitted to serve in the schools of this Commonwealth shall possess a baccalaureate degree or higher graduate degree as a general education requirement.

Section 1207.1. Postbaccalaureate Certification.--\* \* \*

(a.1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Department of Education may approve applicants for certification who complete an out-of-State postbaccalaureate certificate program that is comparable to postbaccalaureate certification programs developed under this section. Nothing under this subsection shall be construed to waive any other certification requirements applicable to out-of-State applicants.

\* \* \*

Section 1207.2. Baccalaureate Certification Basic Skills Assessment.--(a)Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the assessment of basic skills required under 22 Pa. Code § 49.18 (relating to assessment) must be completed and a satisfactory achievement level must be obtained prior to entry into a Pennsylvania baccalaureate teacher preparation program.

(b)An assessment of basic skills shall not be required for entry into a Pennsylvania postbaccalaureate teacher preparation program or for any applicant for certification who completes a postbaccalaureate certification program or holds a

postbaccalaureate degree.

Section x. Effective August 1, 2014, no baccalaureate certification program shall admit a student who has not met the requirements of 1207.2

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Section 1209. Disqualifications.--No teacher's certificate shall be granted to any person who:

[(1) Has not submitted, upon a blank furnished by the Secretary of Education, a certificate from a physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant licensed or certified in this Commonwealth, or in any other state or the District of Columbia, setting forth that the applicant is not disqualified by reason of a mental or physical disability or a communicable disease from the successful performance of the essential functions of a teacher with or without a reasonable accommodation.]

~~(2)~~ (1) Does not have a good moral character.

~~(3)~~ (2) Engages in the illegal use of controlled substances or alcoholic beverages. An applicant for certification may overcome the disqualification under this paragraph and receive a teaching certificate if the applicant is reviewed by the Department of Education pursuant to the requirement of paragraph ~~(2)~~ (1) and determined to be of good moral character.

Section x. 22 Pa.Code § 49.12(2) is abrogated.

Section x. This act shall take effect immediately.