MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Preparing World-Class Students

Bernard J. Sadusky, Ed.D.
Interim State Superintendent of Schools

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TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Bernard J. Sadusky, Ed.D.

DATE: January 24, 2012

SUBJECT: COMAR 13A.12.02.27, Specialized Professional Areas (Grades 7-12)
(NEW)
APPROVAL

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this item is to request approval of proposed regulation, COMAR13A.12.02.27, Specialized Professional Areas (Grades 7-12) which incorporates recommendations received during the open comment period when this regulation was originally published in the *Maryland Register.*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At your April 26-27, 2011 meeting, you reviewed the original proposal which the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) had voted to publish at its April meeting and determined that a Joint Conference Committee was not necessary prior to publication. The proposed regulation was published in the *Maryland Register* on July 1, 2011; the period for public comment ended August 1, 2011 and several comments with recommendations were submitted.

Staff presented an analysis of those comments to the PSTEB at its August 4, 2011 meeting. After discussion, the PSTEB voted to accept two of the recommendations and republish the proposed regulation incorporating the proposed changes which included specifying the number of credits required in the professional education sequence and limiting the scope of the certificate to specialized programs and/or specialized schools. At your September 27, 2011 meeting, you again reviewed the proposed changes and determined that a Joint Conference Committee was not required prior to the republication.

A copy of the proposed changes as published in the Maryland Register on December 16, 2011 is attached. The period for public comment concluded on January 16, 2012. No comments were submitted. The changes have no economic impact, nor is there any impact on individuals with disabilities. There is no corresponding federal standard for the proposed action.

SUMMARY:

The proposed, new regulation incorporates two of the recommendations received during the open comment period when this was first published in the *Maryland Register*: specifically, the number of credits required in the professional education sequence and limiting the scope of the certificate to specialized programs and/or specialized schools. This regulation provides another pathway for individuals with specific professional expertise to enter the teaching profession.

ACTION:

I am requesting approval of COMAR 13A.12.02.27, Specialized Professional Areas.

BJS: jes

Attachment

B.—G. (text unchanged)

BERNARD J. SADUSKY, ED.D.
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Subtitle 12 CERTIFICATION

13A.12.02 Teachers

Authority: §§2-205, 2-303(g), 6-121, and 6-701—6-705, Annotated Code of Maryland

Notice of Proposed Action

[11-164-R]

The Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board proposes to adopt new Regulation **.27** under **COMAR 13A.12.02 Teachers**. This action was considered at the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board on August 4, 2011. Because substantive changes have been made to the original proposal as published in 38:4 Md. R. 815 (July 1, 2011), this action is being reproposed at this time.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this action is to allow individuals who possess a unique career skill set to enter the teaching profession.

Comparison to Federal Standards

There is no corresponding federal standard to this proposed action.

Estimate of Economic Impact

The proposed action has no economic impact.

Economic Impact on Small Businesses

The proposed action has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses.

Impact on Individuals with Disabilities

The proposed action has no impact on individuals with disabilities.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Comments may be sent to Jean Satterfield, Assistant State Superintendent, Certification and Accreditation, Maryland State Department of Education, 200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, or call 410-767-0385, TTY: 410-333-6442, or email to jsatterfield@msde.state.md.us, or fax to 410-333-8963. Comments will be accepted through January 17, 2012. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

Open Meeting

Final action on the proposal will be considered by the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board during a public meeting to be held on February 2, 2012 at 9 a.m., at 200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201.

Ed. Note: Pursuant to State Government Article, §10-113, Annotated Code of Maryland, if a promulgating agency substantively alters the text of regulations that have been previously proposed in the Maryland Register, the altered text must be published in the Maryland Register as though it were initially proposed. The text of regulations appearing immediately below has been altered substantively from the initially proposed text.

Symbols: Roman type indicates existing text of regulations. *Italic* type indicates initially proposed new text. ***Helvetica Bold Italic*** type indicates new text that substantively alters the text as initially proposed. [Single brackets] indicate existing text proposed for repeal. [[Triple brackets]] indicate text proposed for deletion which substantively alters the originally proposed text.

.27 Specialized Professional Areas (Grades 7-12).

A. To receive certification in specialized professional areas (grades 7-12), the applicant shall complete one of the following options:

(1) [[*Earn a secondary school diploma/high school equivalency;*]] ***Option I:***

(a) An applicant shall have earned a bachelor's or higher degree from an IHE in the area to be taught and provide official verification of 5 years of satisfactory career professional experience in the area to be taught; and

(b) Meet the professional education course work required in §B of this regulation; or

(2) [[*Present official verification of 5 years of satisfactory career professional experience in the area to be taught; and*]]***Option II:***

(a) An applicant shall have earned an associate's degree in the area to be taught and provide official verification of 5 years of satisfactory career professional experience in the area to be taught; and

(b) Meet the professional education course work required in §B of this regulation; or

(3) [[*Meet the professional education coursework as required in §B2 of this regulation.*]] ***Option III:***

(a) An applicant shall have earned a secondary school diploma and provide official verification of 5 years of satisfactory career professional experience in the area to be taught; and

(b) Meet the professional education coursework as required in §B of this regulation.

B. Professional Education Courses.

(1) The applicant for specialized professional areas shall complete [[*the*]] ***12 semester hours of*** *professional education course work, as provided in §B(2) of this regulation, from an IHE or through Department-approved Continuing Professional Development credits.*

(2) (originally proposed text unchanged)

C. Special Provisions.

(1) Department-recognized specialized certifications from [[*appropriate*]] ***Department-approved*** *professional organizations may be used in lieu of 2 years of career professional experience.*

(2) This certification [[*is not transferable to corresponding disciplines in a comprehensive*]] ***may only be used for instruction in a specialized program or at a specialized school.***

(3) (proposed text unchanged)

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