

HOUSE BILL No. 2335

By Representatives Landwehr, DeCastro and Huebert

2-6

AN ACT concerning teachers; providing for initial licensure upon completion of the alternate teacher preparation program.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. The state board of education shall adopt rules and regulations for administration and effectuation of the provisions of this act and, in accordance therewith, may issue an initial license to teach in this state to any person who successfully completes the alternate teacher preparation program.

Sec. 2. As used in this act:

(a) "Alternate teacher preparation program" means a program which is provided for by the state board of education under contractual arrangements with an accredited Kansas teacher education institution having an approved teacher education program and with accredited schools and which is designed to ensure the attainment of the basic competencies necessary to engagement in the profession of teaching through correlation of professional development study at the teacher education institution with practical experience at an accredited school.

(b) "Teacher licensure applicant" means a person who applies under authority of this act for an initial license to teach in this state.

Sec. 3. (a) The alternate teacher preparation program will require a teacher licensure applicant to complete:

(1) Nine semester hours of professional development study at the teacher education institution. Professional development study shall include, but not be limited to, study of adolescent psychology, foundations of education, classroom management, and methodology. Professional development study may be taken during a summer or regular session and must be completed by the applicant prior to entry into the classroom;

(2) a 10 contact hour preservice orientation conducted by the employing accredited school prior to a classroom assignment. Orientation shall include familiarization with school policies, procedures, curriculum, instructional model, community characteristics, and resources;

(3) an internship of two school years (four semesters). During internship, the applicant will be enrolled in three credit hours of internship each semester. The contact and delivery system will be determined by

1 the teacher education institution. At the successful completion of intern-
2 ship, student teaching requirements will be waived; and

3 (4) professional development coursework during the second year of
4 internship or the second summer of participation in the program as
5 needed to meet professional development standards set by the state board
6 of education.

7 (b) During internship, a teacher licensure applicant will be super-
8 vised by a team of three persons consisting of a mentor teacher from the
9 accredited school employing the applicant, the building principal, and a
10 faculty member from the teacher education institution. Guidelines for
11 supervision will be provided by the teacher education institution. The
12 supervisory team will meet no fewer than three times per school year to
13 evaluate, consult with, and provide advice to the applicant. The last meet-
14 ing of the first year of internship will result in a recommendation for
15 discontinuation of the program or continuation for the second year of
16 internship. Successful completion of the program will result in a recom-
17 mendation for licensure.

18 (c) In order to receive institutional recommendation for initial licen-
19 sure, a teacher licensure applicant must successfully complete the re-
20 quired semester hours of professional development study at the teacher
21 education institution and the two years of internship. An applicant will
22 be suspended from participation in the program by failure to attain a 3.0
23 grade point average on a 4.0 scale or for causes for suspension arising
24 under law or rules and regulations of the state board of education.

25 Sec. 4. A teacher licensure applicant shall:

26 (a) Be the holder of a baccalaureate or higher degree, earned with a
27 minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale, and
28 granted by an accredited college or university;

29 (b) have earned academic credits appropriate to meeting subject and
30 field requirements for licensure with an endorsement at the secondary
31 level for such subject or field. The teacher education institution will as-
32 sure attainment by the applicant of the minimum semester hour require-
33 ments for general education and minimum competence in subjects or
34 fields of specialization. Minor deficiencies in the subject or field of spe-
35 cialization may be satisfied through additional course work approved by
36 the teacher education institution;

37 (c) take and pass the PPST or other basic skills test as prescribed by
38 the state board of education;

39 (d) apply for and receive from the state board of education a re-
40 stricted license valid for three years and renewable in accordance with
41 rules and regulations of the state board of education;

42 (e) fulfill formal requirements for admission to a teacher education
43 program at an accredited Kansas teacher education institution;

1 (f) meet all nonacademic requirements of the teacher education in-
2 stitution upon which the applicant will depend for initial institutional
3 recommendation;

4 (g) receive and document an offer of a teaching position at an ac-
5 credited Kansas school in accordance with rules and regulations of the
6 state board of education;

7 (h) pay a fee approved by the state board of education as part of the
8 contractual arrangements with the teacher education institution and em-
9 ploying accredited school, which fee shall be in an amount determined
10 to be necessary for payment of the costs of the program including, but
11 not limited to, the costs related to the credit hours of professional devel-
12 opment study and internship earned at the teacher education institution,
13 the costs for travel expenses of the teacher education institution faculty
14 member of the supervisory team, and the costs for remuneration of the
15 principal and mentor teacher members of the supervisory team. The ap-
16 plicant and employing accredited school will share equally in the costs
17 for remuneration of the principal and mentor teacher.

18 Sec. 5. Upon successful completion of the alternate teacher partici-
19 pation program as verified by the teacher education institution, a teacher
20 licensure applicant may apply for licensure on a form provided by the
21 state board of education. The state board shall review the application and
22 the recommendation of the teacher education institution and shall grant
23 or deny licensure. Successful completion of the alternate teacher prepara-
24 tion program will not entitle a teacher licensure applicant to certifica-
25 tion with an endorsement in special education.

26 Sec. 6. Upon completion of each school year, commencing with the
27 2004-05 school year, the state board of education shall make a report to
28 the governor and the legislature on the effectiveness of the alternate
29 teacher preparation program. The report shall include the following
30 information:

31 (a) The number of accredited schools participating in the program;

32 (b) the number of persons who applied for employment as teacher
33 licensure applicants and the number of such applicants who actually were
34 employed;

35 (c) the number of persons who successfully completed the alternate
36 teacher preparation program, who were recommended for licensure, and
37 who were granted licenses;

38 (d) the rate of attrition of teachers granted licenses under this act as
39 compared with teachers who have completed a regular teacher prepara-
40 tion program; and

41 (e) the costs of the alternate teacher preparation program as com-
42 pared with costs associated with regular teacher preparation programs.

43 Sec. 7. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed to abrogate,

1 affect the status, force or operation of any other provision of law relating
2 to initial issuance of licenses to teach or of any rules and regulations
3 adopted pursuant thereto. The requirements and procedures contained
4 in this act for initial issuance of licenses to teach shall be deemed alter-
5 native to the requirements and procedures therefor that are in effect
6 under any other provision of law and under rules and regulations adopted
7 pursuant thereto by the state board of education.

8 Sec. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
9 publication in the statute book.

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