

TALKING POINTS



Temporary Emergency Authorized License (TEAL)

KEY POINTS

- The COVID-19 pandemic has stretched Kansas' teacher ranks to the breaking point.
- District leaders are pleading with the state to take action that addresses the substitute teacher shortage.
- Educators must be able to stay home when they're feeling ill or when they need to care for an ill family member. This is a critical way we can help stem this pandemic.
- Waiving rigorous licensure requirements for those in the classroom is never the State Board's first choice. However, districts are in an emergency situation and this requires an immediate, short-term fix.
- This emergency license is designed to be utilized by districts that have an existing relationship with an individual – thus the requirement for a verified employment commitment.
- The TEAL is intended to be utilized by districts as a last resort to fill a temporary need.

THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAS CREATED AN UNPRECEDENTED DEMAND FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS THAT THE CURRENT SUPPLY IS UNABLE TO MEET.

- Schools are pleading for the state's support to address this emergency situation.
- The Kansas State Board of Education has issued an emergency declaration that will allow any individual with a high school diploma to apply for a **Temporary Emergency Authorized License (TEAL)**.



Temporary Emergency Authorized License (TEAL)

THE TEAL IS NOT A LONG-TERM SOLUTION. IT IS SIMPLY A SHORT-TERM FIX TO ADDRESS AN EMERGENCY SITUATION.

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS:

- Have a high school diploma. Individuals with a general educational development (GED) diploma/certificate aren't eligible.
- Have a verified employment commitment from a district or system.
- Be fingerprinted and pass a background check.

HOW TEAL WORKS:

- TEAL is to be **used as a last resort**. Districts should exhaust all options to find a qualified candidate before turning to the TEAL option.
- TEAL licensees are **not intended to fill long-term positions**.
- The TEAL license will expire June 1, 2022, and is **not eligible to renew**.
- Applicant must submit a completed application to KSDE.
- An application is required for each district/private school in which the licensee has a verified employment commitment.
- License will state the district/private school name in which the licensee has a verified employment commitment.
- Application will be submitted by the district/private school to KSDE.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Current Requirements for Kansas Emergency Substitute License

- Minimum requirement: 60 semester credit hours from a regionally accredited college or university. Semester credit hours and/or degrees must be earned through a college or university accredited by one of the following regional accrediting associations:
 - New England Association of Schools and Colleges
 - Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
 - The Higher Learning Commission (HLC)
 - Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges
 - Southern Association of Colleges and Schools



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- Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
 - Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges
 - Association for Biblical Higher Education
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- CEU's and/or Clock Hours are NOT equivalent to semester credit hours.
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- An individual's first emergency substitute license will be valid for the school year in which they apply through June 30th. Each renewal of an emergency substitute teaching license will be valid for two school years. Individuals can apply to renew an emergency substitute license in February of the year it expires.

For more information, contact:

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