

House Engrossed Senate Bill
teacher certification; leadership preparation programs

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-fifth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2022

SENATE BILL 1159

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 15-501.01, 15-533 AND 15-553, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES;
AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE 3, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 15-554; RELATING TO SCHOOL EMPLOYEES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 15-501.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended
3 to read:

4 15-501.01. Requirements for teachers; teaching certificates;
5 rules; reciprocity; placement; posting

6 A. Notwithstanding any other law, all teachers who are certificated
7 pursuant to this section must have a baccalaureate degree and a valid
8 fingerprint clearance card.

9 B. The state board of education shall adopt rules for the issuance
10 of the following types of certificates for teachers ~~to reflect the source~~
11 ~~of the training the teacher obtains:~~

12 1. Standard teaching certificate.

13 2. Alternative teaching certificate for persons who obtain training
14 pursuant to subsection C, paragraph 1 of this section.

15 3. Subject-matter expert standard teaching certificate for persons
16 who obtain training pursuant to subsection C, paragraph 8 of this section.

17 4. Classroom-based standard teaching certificate for ~~persons~~
18 **INDIVIDUALS** who obtain training from a school district or charter school.

19 5. Career and technical education teaching certificate.

20 C. The state board of education shall adopt rules to carry out the
21 purposes of this section. The rules:

22 1. Shall provide for a variety of alternative teacher and
23 administrator preparation programs that allow for variations in program
24 sequence and design to apply for program approval. The state board shall
25 adopt rules pursuant to this paragraph designed to allow for a variety of
26 formats and shall not require a prescribed answer or design from the
27 program provider in order to obtain approval from the state board. Any
28 rules adopted by the state board pursuant to this paragraph shall be
29 substantially different from the rules adopted for the approval of
30 traditional preparation programs and may not unnecessarily restrict a
31 variety of alternative preparation programs from operating and providing
32 instruction in this state. The state board shall evaluate each program
33 provider based on the program's ability to prepare teachers and
34 administrators and to recruit teachers and administrators with a variety
35 of experiences and talents. The state board shall allow universities
36 under the jurisdiction of the Arizona board of regents, community colleges
37 in this state, private postsecondary institutions licensed by this state,
38 school districts, charter schools, professional organizations, nonprofit
39 organizations and private entities to apply for program approval and shall
40 create application procedures and certification criteria that are
41 substantially less restrictive than those for traditional preparation
42 programs. At the completion of an alternative preparation program,
43 graduates shall:

44 (a) Hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary
45 education institution.

1 (b) If applicable, demonstrate professional knowledge and subject
2 knowledge proficiency pursuant to section 15-533.

3 (c) Obtain a valid fingerprint clearance card pursuant to section
4 15-534.

5 (d) If applicable, complete training in structured English
6 immersion as prescribed by the state board pursuant to section 15-756.09.

7 (e) If applicable, complete training in research-based systematic
8 phonics instruction as prescribed in paragraph 2 of this subsection.

9 (f) Demonstrate the required proficiency in the Constitutions of
10 the United States and Arizona as prescribed in section 15-532.

11 2. Shall require that, within three years after a certificate for
12 elementary education or early childhood education is issued, the
13 certificate holder complete, from a public or private provider, at least
14 forty-five classroom hours or three college-level credit hours, or the
15 equivalent, in both research-based:

16 (a) Science of reading instruction, including systematic phonics
17 instruction.

18 (b) Reading instruction, including training on assessments,
19 instructional practices and interventions to improve student reading
20 proficiency. Beginning July 1, 2021, instruction provided pursuant to
21 this subdivision must meet the requirements for dyslexia training
22 prescribed in section 15-219.

23 3. Beginning August 1, 2025, shall establish a literacy endorsement
24 as a requirement for all certificated teachers who provide literacy
25 instruction in kindergarten programs or in any of grades one through ~~grade~~
26 five as determined by the board. The rules shall require that a
27 certificated teacher who receives a certificate after August 1, 2025 and
28 who provides literacy instruction in kindergarten programs or in any of
29 grades one through ~~grade~~ five must obtain a literacy endorsement within
30 three years after the teacher's certificate is issued. The rules shall
31 require that a certificated teacher who received a certificate before
32 August 1, 2025 and who provides literacy instruction in kindergarten
33 programs or in any of grades one through ~~grade~~ five must obtain a literacy
34 endorsement on or before August 1, 2028. The literacy endorsement shall
35 require the teacher to complete evidence-based science of reading training
36 or coursework as determined by the board and to pass a literacy
37 instruction assessment to show that the teacher is capable of doing all of
38 the following:

39 (a) Effectively teaching foundational reading skills, phonemic
40 awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

41 (b) Implementing reading instruction using high-quality
42 instructional materials.

43 (c) Providing effective instruction and interventions for students
44 with reading deficiencies, including students with characteristics of
45 dyslexia.

1 4. Beginning August 1, 2022, shall require all approved educator
2 preparation programs in elementary education and early childhood education
3 to require the courses that are necessary to obtain a literacy endorsement
4 pursuant to paragraph 3 of this subsection.

5 5. Shall establish a process to allow a local education agency, at
6 the request of a teacher, to verify to the department of education that
7 the teacher possesses the instructional knowledge and skills prescribed in
8 paragraph 3 of this subsection, demonstrated through classroom
9 observations and student achievement data across subgroups using
10 evidence-based measures. A certificated teacher who has had a local
11 education agency verify the teacher's knowledge and skills in the science
12 of reading pursuant to this paragraph is not required to complete the
13 coursework, training or assessment requirements prescribed in paragraph 3
14 of this subsection to obtain the literacy endorsement.

15 6. Shall not require a teacher to obtain a master's degree or to
16 take any additional graduate courses as a condition of certification or
17 recertification.

18 7. Shall allow but shall not require the superintendent of a school
19 district to obtain certification from the state board of education.

20 8. Shall provide for the issuance of a subject-matter expert
21 standard teaching certificate to persons who have expertise in a content
22 area or A subject matter. Persons who are certified pursuant to this
23 paragraph shall complete training, if applicable, in structured English
24 immersion as prescribed by the state board pursuant to section 15-756.09.
25 Persons who are certified pursuant to this paragraph are exempt from the
26 subject knowledge proficiency requirements prescribed in section 15-533
27 and from the proficiency requirements prescribed in section 15-532 on the
28 Constitutions of the United States and Arizona. Persons who are subject
29 to subdivision (a) of this paragraph are also exempt from the professional
30 knowledge proficiency requirements pursuant to section 15-533. A person
31 who obtains a subject-matter expert standard teaching certificate pursuant
32 to this paragraph may provide instruction in the person's field of
33 expertise in grades six through twelve at any public school in this state.
34 Issuance of the subject-matter expert standard teaching certificate may
35 not be conditioned on the person's employment with a local education
36 agency. A person who meets the requirements of this paragraph shall be
37 issued a subject-matter expert standard teaching certificate without
38 having to demonstrate professional knowledge proficiency pursuant to
39 section 15-533, except that the person shall have at least two years to
40 demonstrate professional knowledge proficiency pursuant to section 15-533.
41 School districts shall evaluate and provide support pursuant to section
42 15-537 to teachers who are certified pursuant to this paragraph. If a
43 person fails to meet the professional knowledge requirements of this
44 section within two years, the department of education or state board of
45 education may temporarily suspend the subject-matter expert standard

1 teaching certificate. A certificate that is temporarily suspended
2 pursuant to this paragraph is not considered a disciplinary action, and a
3 person shall be allowed to correct the deficiency within the remaining
4 time of the subject-matter expert standard teaching certification. This
5 paragraph does not require a person who has obtained another type of
6 teaching certificate from the state board to obtain a subject-matter
7 expert standard teaching certificate pursuant to this paragraph in order
8 to provide instruction in grades six through twelve. PERSONS WHO ARE
9 CERTIFICATED PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL REVIEW AND ATTEST TO
10 REVIEWING THE BEST PRACTICES FOR SOCIAL MEDIA AND CELLULAR TELEPHONE USE
11 BETWEEN STUDENTS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD OF
12 EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-203, SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 44 BEFORE
13 RECEIVING A CERTIFICATE AND, WITHIN TWO YEARS AFTER RECEIVING A
14 CERTIFICATE, COMPLETE TRAINING IN PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS FROM A PUBLIC
15 OR PRIVATE PROVIDER APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, WHICH MAY
16 INCLUDE A NO-COST OPTION TO THE PERSON PROVIDED BY THE STATE BOARD. A
17 person is eligible for a subject-matter expert standard teaching
18 certificate pursuant to this paragraph if the person has a baccalaureate
19 degree and meets any of the following requirements:

20 (a) Has taught courses relevant to a content area or subject matter
21 for the last two consecutive years and for a total of at least three years
22 at one or more regionally or nationally accredited public or private
23 postsecondary institutions. A person demonstrates compliance with this
24 requirement by providing the state board with written proof of employment
25 for specific durations from one or more qualifying postsecondary
26 institutions.

27 (b) Has either a baccalaureate degree, a master's degree or a
28 doctoral degree in a specific subject area that is relevant to a content
29 area or subject matter taught in public schools.

30 (c) Demonstrates expertise through relevant work experience of at
31 least five years in a field that is relevant to a content area or subject
32 matter taught in public schools. A person demonstrates compliance with
33 this requirement by providing the state board with written proof of
34 employment.

35 9. Notwithstanding section 15-533, shall exempt persons applying
36 for a secondary education certificate from the subject knowledge portion
37 of the proficiency examination if the state board determines that the
38 person has work experience in science, technology, engineering or
39 mathematics and can demonstrate adequate knowledge of a particular subject
40 through a postsecondary education degree or twenty-four credit hours of
41 relevant coursework.

42 10. Shall allow for a certificate issued to a person pursuant to
43 subsection B, paragraph 1, 3, 4 or 5 of this section or section 15-203 or
44 15-782.01, as applicable, to be both issued and renewed for at least
45 twelve years and may not require more than fifteen hours of continuing

1 education credits each year in order to renew that certificate pursuant to
2 this paragraph.

3 11. Shall allow for a certificate issued to a person pursuant to
4 subsection B of this section or section 15-132, 15-203 or 15-782.01, as
5 applicable, and any endorsement or approved area related to that
6 certificate, to be renewed at least two years but not more than ten years
7 after that certificate expires without any other requirements adopted by
8 the state board of education or the department of education if the person
9 is in good standing, ~~has at least ten years of verified full-time~~
10 ~~experience in this state in the area in which the person is seeking~~
11 ~~renewed certification~~ and possesses a valid fingerprint clearance card
12 issued pursuant to section 15-534. A certificate renewed pursuant to this
13 paragraph shall be identical to the expired certificate.

14 D. The rules for certification reciprocity shall include a
15 requirement that the applicant possess a comparable valid certification
16 from another state and be in good standing with that other state. An
17 applicant who possesses a valid certification from another state and a
18 fingerprint clearance card pursuant to section 15-534 and who is in good
19 standing with that other state shall be issued a comparable standard
20 certificate or a comparable certificate issued pursuant to section 15-132,
21 15-203 or 15-782.01, as applicable, without any other requirements from
22 the state board of education or the department of education. A person who
23 is issued a certificate pursuant to this subsection is not required to
24 meet any requirement prescribed in section 15-533.

25 E. Placement decisions of teaching intern certificate holders
26 issued pursuant to subsection C, paragraph 1 of this section and section
27 15-552 shall be based on agreements between the teacher preparation
28 provider, the provider's partner organizations and the local education
29 agency. The practices of the department of education and the rules and
30 policies of the state board of education may not restrict placement of
31 teaching intern certification holders based on local education agency
32 instructional models and may only consider the academic quality of the
33 school, the effectiveness of the teaching intern certification holder's
34 on-site mentor and the opportunity for a wide variety of schools and
35 school models to access teaching intern certification holders.

36 F. Notwithstanding subsection A of this section, the following
37 persons are not required to have a baccalaureate degree:

38 1. A teacher who is otherwise exempt by law from obtaining a
39 baccalaureate degree and who provides instruction in STEM or career and
40 technical education pursuant to section 15-782.01.

41 2. A person who obtains any of the following:

42 (a) A Native American language certificate.

43 (b) A student teaching intern certificate.

44 (c) A junior reserve officer training corps certificate.

45 (d) An athletic coaching certificate.

1 (e) An emergency substitute certificate.

2 G. ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15 OF EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT OF
3 EDUCATION SHALL REPORT AND POST ON ITS WEBSITE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

4 1. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TEACHING CERTIFICATES ISSUED IN THE PREVIOUS
5 CALENDAR YEAR DISAGGREGATED BY THE TYPE OF TEACHING CERTIFICATE AND
6 DEMOGRAPHICS.

7 2. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CURRENTLY ISSUED TEACHING CERTIFICATES IN
8 THIS STATE DISAGGREGATED BY THE TYPE OF TEACHING CERTIFICATE AND
9 DEMOGRAPHICS.

10 3. ANY OTHER HISTORICAL DATA OR TRENDS REGARDING CERTIFICATED
11 INDIVIDUALS IN THIS STATE.

12 Sec. 2. Heading change

13 The article heading of title 15, chapter 5, article 3, Arizona
14 Revised Statutes, is changed from "CERTIFICATION AND EMPLOYMENT OF
15 TEACHERS" to "CERTIFICATION AND EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL EMPLOYEES".

16 Sec. 3. Section 15-533, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
17 read:

18 15-533. Proficiency examination; examination reciprocity

19 A. To qualify for a standard teaching certificate, or equivalent
20 certificate later adopted by the state board of education, a person must
21 pass each component of the proficiency examination developed and
22 administered by the state board of education **UNLESS OTHERWISE EXEMPTED BY**
23 **LAW**. The proficiency examination shall consist of only a professional
24 knowledge test and a subject knowledge test.

25 B. A person is not required to take ~~the~~ **ANY** examination **PURSUANT TO**
26 **THIS SECTION** if the person possesses a comparable valid certification from
27 another state and is in good standing with that other state pursuant to
28 section ~~15-203, subsection A, paragraph 27~~ **15-501.01, SUBSECTION D**.

29 C. A person who is applying for a standard **TEACHING**
30 certificate, ~~or~~ or any other certificate adopted by the state board of
31 education, ~~is~~ is not required to take the professional knowledge test, the
32 subject knowledge test or the entire proficiency examination if the person
33 has passed corresponding portions of an examination adopted by a state
34 agency in another state that is **substantially** similar to the examination
35 adopted by the state board of education. A person who is applying for a
36 standard **TEACHING** certificate, ~~or~~ or any other certificate adopted by the
37 state board of education, ~~is~~ is not required to take any portion of the
38 proficiency examination if the person has been a full-time teacher **OR IN A**
39 **FULL-TIME SCHOOL LEADERSHIP POSITION** in any state, including this state,
40 for at least three years in the same area of certification in which the
41 person is applying for certification in this state.

42 D. An applicant for a standard **TEACHING** certificate or any other
43 certificate adopted by the state board of education may demonstrate
44 subject knowledge proficiency instead of taking the subject knowledge test
45 required pursuant to this section by meeting any of the following:

1 1. Has taught courses relevant to a content area or subject matter
2 for the last two consecutive years and for a total of at least three years
3 at one or more regionally or nationally accredited public or private
4 postsecondary institutions. ~~★ THE~~ person shall demonstrate compliance
5 with this requirement by providing the state board with written proof of
6 employment for specific durations from one or more qualifying
7 postsecondary institutions.

8 2. Has either a baccalaureate degree, a master's degree or a
9 doctoral degree in a subject area that is relevant to a content area or
10 subject matter taught in public schools.

11 3. Demonstrates expertise through relevant work experience of at
12 least five years in a field that is relevant to a content area or subject
13 matter taught in public schools. ~~★ THE~~ person shall demonstrate
14 compliance with this requirement by providing the state board with written
15 proof of employment.

16 E. A person who obtained structured English immersion training in
17 another state that the state board of education determines is comparable
18 to the structured English immersion training required in this state ~~shall~~
19 ~~IS~~ not ~~be~~ required to obtain additional structured English immersion
20 training in this state pursuant to section 15-756.09.

21 F. The state board of education may grant a standard teaching
22 certificate ~~OR ANY OTHER CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE BOARD~~ for at least
23 three years to a teacher who has not met the requirements of this section
24 at the time of application.

25 G. A person is not required to pass the proficiency examination or
26 the equivalent examination more than once. The state board of education
27 may adopt rules to modify the requirements of subsection B or C of this
28 section for persons who have taught, obtained certification or obtained a
29 master's degree in another country.

30 H. A person who is not required to pass the proficiency examination
31 developed and administered in this state by the state board of education
32 pursuant to this section shall ~~only~~ be granted reciprocity for those
33 proficiency examinations required in this state that pertain to the grade
34 levels and content areas that the person is certified to teach in another
35 state.

36 Sec. 4. Section 15-553, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
37 read:

38 15-553. School districts and charter schools; classroom-based
39 preparation program providers; teacher
40 certification; rules

41 A. In addition to any alternative preparation program provider path
42 approved by the state board of education, a school district or charter
43 school may apply to the state board of education for authority to approve
44 the certification of teachers as a classroom-based preparation program
45 provider.

1 B. The state board of education shall adopt rules, policies and
2 procedures to be administered by the department of education. The rules
3 may not be more restrictive or require more than is prescribed in this
4 subsection. The rules shall facilitate the approval and certification
5 process pursuant to this section and provide for all of the following:

6 1. The superintendent of a school district or the principal of a
7 charter school must verify that the applicant for certification has made
8 satisfactory progress and achievement with students. A teacher who is
9 teaching courses or subjects that are tested by the statewide assessment
10 pursuant to section 15-741 may not receive a certificate pursuant to this
11 section until the teacher has been in the classroom for at least two years
12 and student data has been submitted by the school district or charter
13 school confirming that the teacher's students, at the end of the school
14 year, either are performing at grade level or have achieved at least one
15 year of academic growth at a rate equivalent to the state average for the
16 students' associated peer groups.

17 2. ~~For informational purposes only, allow~~ A school district or
18 charter school ~~to~~ MUST submit a program sequence or training schedule
19 along with any information regarding mentoring and coaching of teacher
20 candidates. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL PROVIDE FOR A VARIETY OF
21 OPTIONS IN PROGRAM SEQUENCE, CONTENT AND DESIGN AND MAY NOT REQUIRE A
22 PRESCRIBED PROGRAM SEQUENCE, CONTENT OR DESIGN FROM THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR
23 CHARTER SCHOOL IN ORDER TO OBTAIN APPROVAL FROM THE STATE BOARD.

24 3. A school district or charter school must submit data supporting
25 the efficacy of the school district's or charter school's teacher
26 preparation program. A school district or charter school may contract
27 with a third-party provider to provide the teacher preparation program and
28 may use that program's efficacy data to meet the requirements of this
29 paragraph.

30 4. A school district or charter school may adopt PROFESSIONAL
31 EXPECTATIONS, PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS OR student achievement
32 requirements that exceed the ~~student achievement~~ EXPECTATIONS AND
33 requirements prescribed by this section, INCLUDING REQUIRING CANDIDATES TO
34 COMPLETE SPECIFIED COURSEWORK OR TRAININGS.

35 5. IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A CLASSROOM-BASED STANDARD TEACHING
36 CERTIFICATE AFTER SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING THE PROGRAM, an applicant for
37 certification pursuant to this section must hold at least a bachelor's
38 degree from an accredited public or private postsecondary institution and
39 meet background and fingerprint clearance card requirements pursuant to
40 section 15-534.

41 6. An applicant pursuing certification pursuant to this section
42 must demonstrate subject knowledge and professional knowledge through any
43 available option pursuant to section 15-533.

1 7. THE APPLICATION FOR A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL TO BE A
2 CLASSROOM-BASED PREPARATION PROGRAM PROVIDER MUST INCLUDE ALL OF THE
3 FOLLOWING:

4 (a) THE NAME OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL APPLYING.

5 (b) A LIST OF ALL STAFF MEMBERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING THE
6 PROGRAM AND THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH PERSON.

7 (c) THE AREAS OF CERTIFICATION FOR WHICH THE APPLICANT WILL OFFER
8 THE PROGRAM.

9 (d) A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM.

10 C. On the submission of verification from a school district or
11 charter school that the requirements prescribed in this section have been
12 met, the state board shall issue a classroom-based standard teaching
13 certificate to the teacher pursuant to section 15-203.

14 ~~D. A school district or charter school may employ and enroll~~
15 ~~emergency teacher certification holders with a bachelor's degree into its~~
16 ~~classroom-based preparation program. Notwithstanding any other law and~~
17 ~~beginning in school year 2020-2021, a school district may hire and enroll~~
18 ~~into its classroom-based preparation program any teaching candidate who~~
19 ~~meets the requirements of subsection B, paragraph 5 of this section.~~

20 D. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER
21 SCHOOL MAY EMPLOY AND ENROLL ANY CANDIDATE INTO ITS CLASSROOM-BASED
22 PREPARATION PROGRAM WHO MEETS THE BACKGROUND AND FINGERPRINT CLEARANCE
23 CARD REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-534 AND WHO HOLDS AT LEAST A
24 BACHELOR'S DEGREE FROM AN ACCREDITED PUBLIC OR PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY
25 INSTITUTION, EXCEPT THAT A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL THAT OPERATES
26 A CLASSROOM-BASED PREPARATION PROGRAM MAY ENROLL A CANDIDATE WHO DOES NOT
27 CURRENTLY HOLD A BACHELOR'S DEGREE FROM AN ACCREDITED PUBLIC OR PRIVATE
28 POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION INTO THE PROGRAM IF THE CANDIDATE MEETS ALL OF
29 THE FOLLOWING:

30 1. THE BACKGROUND AND FINGERPRINT CLEARANCE CARD REQUIREMENTS
31 PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-534.

32 2. IS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN AN ACCREDITED PUBLIC OR PRIVATE
33 POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAM.

34 3. IS NOT A CONTRACTED OR PERMANENT FULL-TIME TEACHER OR THE
35 TEACHER OF RECORD FOR ANY CLASSROOM OF STUDENTS, EXCEPT THAT THE CANDIDATE
36 MAY BE EMPLOYED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL.

37 4. DOES NOT REGULARLY INSTRUCT STUDENTS WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF A
38 FULL-TIME TEACHER, CERTIFICATED TEACHER, INSTRUCTIONAL COACH OR
39 INSTRUCTIONAL MENTOR UNLESS THE CANDIDATE POSSESSES OTHER MEANS OF
40 CERTIFICATION, INCLUDING AN EMERGENCY SUBSTITUTE CERTIFICATE, SUBSTITUTE
41 CERTIFICATE OR EMERGENCY TEACHER CERTIFICATE.

42 E. IF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL IS APPROVED AS A
43 CLASSROOM-BASED PREPARATION PROGRAM PROVIDER PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, THE
44 APPROVAL IS VALID FOR SIX YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF APPROVAL. TO CONTINUE
45 AS A CLASSROOM-BASED PREPARATION PROGRAM PROVIDER, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR

1 CHARTER SCHOOL MUST APPLY FOR RENEWAL BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF ITS CURRENT
2 APPROVAL. IF THE APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL IS APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD
3 OF EDUCATION, THE RENEWAL IS VALID FOR SIX YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THE
4 APPROVAL.

5 Sec. 5. Title 15, chapter 5, article 3, Arizona Revised Statutes,
6 is amended by adding section 15-554, to read:

7 15-554. School districts and charter schools; locally based
8 school leadership preparation program providers;
9 certification; rules

10 A. IN ADDITION TO ANY ALTERNATIVE PREPARATION PROGRAM PROVIDER PATH
11 APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER
12 SCHOOL MAY APPLY TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR AUTHORITY TO APPROVE
13 THE CERTIFICATION OF PRINCIPALS, ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS, SUPERVISORS AND
14 OTHER SCHOOL-LEVEL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS AS A LOCALLY BASED SCHOOL
15 LEADERSHIP PREPARATION PROGRAM PROVIDER.

16 B. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL ADOPT RULES, POLICIES AND
17 PROCEDURES TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. THE RULES
18 MAY NOT BE MORE RESTRICTIVE OR REQUIRE MORE THAN IS PRESCRIBED IN THIS
19 SECTION. THE RULES SHALL FACILITATE THE APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATION
20 PROCESS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND PROVIDE FOR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

21 1. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR THE PRINCIPAL OF A
22 CHARTER SCHOOL MUST VERIFY THAT THE APPLICANT FOR CERTIFICATION HAS MADE
23 SATISFACTORY PROGRESS IN THE PROGRAM SEQUENCE AND MODEL, WHICH MAY INCLUDE
24 PROFESSIONAL EVALUATIONS OF THE APPLICANT, OBSERVATIONS OF THE APPLICANT,
25 STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DATA AND DEMONSTRATION OF COMPETENCIES, SKILLS AND
26 KNOWLEDGE ASSOCIATED WITH THE RELEVANT SCHOOL LEADERSHIP POSITION.

27 2. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MUST SUBMIT A PROGRAM
28 SEQUENCE OR TRAINING SCHEDULE ALONG WITH ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE
29 LEARNING EXPERIENCES, MENTORING AND COACHING OF SCHOOL LEADER CANDIDATES.
30 THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL PROVIDE FOR A VARIETY OF OPTIONS IN
31 PROGRAM SEQUENCE, CONTENT AND DESIGN AND MAY NOT REQUIRE A PRESCRIBED
32 PROGRAM SEQUENCE, CONTENT OR DESIGN FROM THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER
33 SCHOOL IN ORDER TO OBTAIN APPROVAL FROM THE STATE BOARD.

34 3. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MUST SUBMIT EVIDENCE
35 SUPPORTING THE EFFICACY OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR CHARTER SCHOOL'S
36 PREPARATION PROGRAM. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY CONTRACT
37 WITH A THIRD-PARTY PROVIDER TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PREPARATION
38 PROGRAM AND MAY USE THAT PROGRAM'S EFFICACY EVIDENCE TO MEET THE
39 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

40 4. A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY ADOPT PROFESSIONAL
41 EXPECTATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS THAT EXCEED THE REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED BY
42 THIS SECTION, INCLUDING REQUIRING CANDIDATES TO COMPLETE SPECIFIED
43 COURSEWORK OR TRAININGS.

44 5. AN APPLICANT FOR CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST
45 HOLD AT LEAST A BACHELOR'S DEGREE FROM AN ACCREDITED PUBLIC OR PRIVATE

1 POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION AND MEET BACKGROUND AND FINGERPRINT CLEARANCE
2 CARD REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-534.

3 6. AN APPLICANT PURSUING CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION
4 MUST DEMONSTRATE SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE AND PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE THROUGH ANY
5 AVAILABLE OPTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-533.

6 7. THE APPLICATION FOR A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL TO BE A
7 LOCALLY BASED SCHOOL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM PROVIDER MUST INCLUDE THE
8 FOLLOWING:

9 (a) THE NAME OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL APPLYING.

10 (b) A LIST OF ALL STAFF MEMBERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING THE
11 PROGRAM AND THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH PERSON.

12 (c) THE AREAS OF CERTIFICATION FOR WHICH THE APPLICANT WILL OFFER
13 THE PROGRAM.

14 (d) A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM.

15 C. ON THE SUBMISSION OF VERIFICATION FROM A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR
16 CHARTER SCHOOL THAT THE REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION HAVE BEEN
17 MET, THE STATE BOARD SHALL ISSUE A STANDARD PRINCIPAL, ASSISTANT
18 PRINCIPAL, SUPERVISOR OR OTHER SCHOOL-LEVEL LEADERSHIP POSITION
19 CERTIFICATE TO THE INDIVIDUAL.

20 D. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER
21 SCHOOL MAY HIRE AND ENROLL INTO ITS PREPARATION PROGRAM ANY CANDIDATE WHO
22 MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION B, PARAGRAPH 5 OF THIS SECTION.

23 E. IF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL IS APPROVED AS A LOCALLY
24 BASED SCHOOL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM PROVIDER PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, THE
25 APPROVAL IS VALID FOR SIX YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF APPROVAL. TO CONTINUE
26 AS A LOCALLY BASED SCHOOL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM PROVIDER, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT
27 OR CHARTER SCHOOL MUST APPLY FOR RENEWAL BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF ITS
28 CURRENT APPROVAL. IF THE APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL IS APPROVED BY THE STATE
29 BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE RENEWAL IS VALID FOR SIX YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF
30 THE APPROVAL.

31 Sec. 6. Heading repeal

32 The article heading of former title 15, chapter 5, article 4,
33 Arizona Revised Statutes, is repealed.