

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
CERTIFICATION/INCENTIVES DEPARTMENT

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WHAT'S NEW IN CERTIFICATION

ESE Teachers

With all of the recent changes surrounding course code assignments for students with disabilities, many of our ESE teachers now need to obtain certification in Kindergarten-6. This may be a good time to check out the *Elementary K-6 Online Content Review Module* provided by the State. The primary focus of this module focuses on the core content needed to demonstrate knowledge of the competencies required on the K-6 certification exam <http://fdlrshrd.nefec.org/elemk6/main.aspx>. And, remember, reimbursement is available for the exam. <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/certification/NoChildLB.html>

How to Request Payment for Advanced Degrees

Complete the Request for Payment of an Advanced Degree for Teachers form, attach the official transcript showing "DEGREE CONFERRED" (or a Credential Evaluation Report if a foreign degree), and send to the Broward County Certification office for payment. <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/certification/ReqPymtAdvDegTeachers.pdf>

Note to Teachers Hired after July 1, 2011: Per FL Statute 1012.22(1)(c)(3), payment for advanced degrees will only be provided if the degree is held in the area of certification shown on the Florida certificate. Therefore, general graduate degrees such as Curriculum and Instruction or Education, which do not match any of the Department of Education certification subjects, would not be acceptable unless the transcript identifies a major or specialization in your certificate subject (e.g., Mathematics, English, Elementary Education, etc.). To determine if your degree matches the certification held on your FL Department of Education teaching certificate, please view a listing of the Certification Acceptable Majors. <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/certification/DOEDegreeMajors.pdf>

Out-of-Field Training Compliance Timelines

State Board of Education Rule 6A-1.0503 Definition of Qualified Instructional Personnel and the Multicultural Education Training Advocacy (META) timeline (ESOL) mandate that teacher's out-of-field for their teaching assignments complete training in the out-of-field subject within a specified timeline. If you are out-of-field, you can view how many points you have completed towards your out-of-field assignment in Employee Self-Service. If you have yet to complete mandated training, it is highly recommended that you do so at once. Failure to do so will result in a loss of funds for your school during an audit and can negatively affect your place in the classroom. Pay close attention to the specific training requirements and timelines found at: <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/certification/Out-of-Field.html>.

Completed Inservice Requirements for ESOL, Gifted, Reading Endorsements

Have you completed all of the required training for the ESOL, Gifted or Reading endorsements? If so, have you added the endorsement area to your certificate? If not, and you were identified as out-of-field in any of these areas, you are still considered out-of-field and your principal must notify the parents/guardians of the students you are teaching. Download the application to add the Endorsement to your certificate from our website and submit to our office for priority processing <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/certification/Forms.html>. You save no money by waiting to add the Endorsement when you submit your application for renewal and/or your initial professional certificate.

What is your Certificate Status?

Now is the time to evaluate your credentials to ensure you have a valid certificate on file with the Certification Department on or before June 30, 2012.

- ◆ If you have a State of FL five-year certificate and have 120 inservice points and/or six hours of coursework, submit your application to our office now for priority renewal processing. <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/certification/Forms.html>
- ◆ If you have a State of FL temporary certificate and all requirements outlined in your Statement of Status of Eligibility letter are complete, apply on line for your five-year professional certificate. <http://www.fldoe.org/edcert/apply.asp>
- ◆ If you have a State of FL temporary certificate expiring June 30, 2013, you will need to provide evidence to the Certification Department that you have passed all four portions of the General Knowledge exam.