

## **EDUCATION DEPARTMENT[281]**

### **Notice of Intended Action**

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 256.7(5), the State Board of Education hereby proposes to amend Chapter 79, “Standards for Practitioner and Administrator Preparation Programs,” Iowa Administrative Code.

This proposed change would allow prospective teaching candidates to have an alternative measure of testing to demonstrate their competence in pedagogy and content from the status quo. The status quo would continue as an option but this would also allow for the inclusion of a second test to be chosen by the Director for prospective teaching candidates to meet or exceed the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile nationally. With passage at that level, instructors passing either test would be eligible for Iowa licensure.

An agencywide waiver provision is provided in 281—Chapter 4.

Interested individuals may make written comments on the proposed amendments on or before March 11, 2014, at 4:30 p.m. Comments on the proposed amendments should be directed to Mike Cormack, Iowa Department of Education, Second Floor, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146; telephone (515)281-3399; or E-mail [mike.cormack@iowa.gov](mailto:mike.cormack@iowa.gov).

A public hearing will be held on March 11, 2014, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the State Board Room, Second Floor, Grimes State Office Building, East 14th Street and Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, at which time persons may present their views either orally or in writing. Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should advise the Department of Education of their specific needs by calling (515)281-5295.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

These amendment is intended to amend Iowa Code 256.16..

The following amendment is proposed.

**ITEM 1.** Amend subrule 79.15(7)“a” as follows:

**79.15(7)** Each teacher candidate demonstrates acquisition of the knowledge, skills and dispositions designated by the unit standards and aligned with the INTASC standards embedded in the professional education core for an Iowa teaching license at a level appropriate for a novice teacher. Each candidate exhibits competency in all of the following professional core curricula:

*a. Content/subject matter specialization.* The candidate demonstrates an understanding of the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structure of the discipline(s) the candidate teaches and creates learning experiences that make these aspects of the subject matter meaningful for students. This is evidenced by a completion of a 30-semester-hour teaching major which must minimally include the requirements for at least one of the basic endorsement areas, special education teaching endorsements, or secondary level occupational endorsements. Each candidate must either meet or exceed-achieve a score above the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile nationally on subject assessments designed by a nationally recognized testing service that measure pedagogy and knowledge of at least one subject area as approved by the Director of the Department of Education or they must meet or exceed the equivalent of a score above the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile nationally on an alternate assessment also approved by the Director. That assessment must be a valid and reliable subject-area-specific, performance-based assessment for preservice teacher candidates, that is centered on student learning. Additionally, each elementary candidate must also complete a field of specialization in a single discipline or a formal interdisciplinary program of at least 12 semester hours.