



Office of Teaching Initiatives
Executive Coordinator

To: Chief School Officers of Public and Non-Public
School Districts, BOCES Regional Certification
Officers

Date: July 18, 2003

From: Charles C. Mackey, Jr.

Charles C. Mackey, Jr.

Subject: New York State Education Department Policy on Modified Temporary License

I write in follow up to my July 9, 2003 transmittal concerning the Department's policy on the issuance of Modified Temporary License. At its meeting on July 17, 2003, the Board of Regents voted to approve the new "Modified Temporary License" regulations that will permit the employment of a limited number of uncertified individuals to teach in subject shortage areas during the 2003-2004 and 2004 -2005 school years. Attached is a copy of the "Modified Temporary License" application form.

While complete information about the application procedures for the Modified Temporary License is contained in the attached application, it is important to note that a candidate must meet the following conditions prior to being issued a Modified Temporary License in a classroom teaching title only:

- Have achieved a qualifying score on the initial examination required for certification, the New York State Teacher Certification Examination - Liberal Arts & Sciences Test (LAST);
- Hold the minimum level degree required for the provisional certificate (until February 1, 2004) or the initial certificate (after February 1, 2004) in the certification area of the Modified Temporary License;
- Have completed 27 semester hours of coursework required in content core and/or pedagogical core for the provisional certificate (until February 1, 2004) or for the initial certificate (after February 1, 2004) in the title of the Modified Temporary License being sought;
- Have a satisfactory record of service (for currently employed teachers) or have completed a rigorous interview screening process (for newly employed teachers); and
- Be assigned to teach in a subject matter shortage area as determined by the Commissioner of Education.

Schools and/or school districts making application for a Modified Temporary License must attest that:

- No certified and qualified teacher is available after extensive and documented recruitment in the subject area of the Modified Temporary License;
- No candidate with a Modified Temporary License will be assigned to teach in a building that is a School Under Registration Review, a school in School Improvement Status or a school in Corrective Action Status. (Current teachers with a temporary license who have rendered satisfactory performance and who meet all of the qualifications for the Modified Temporary License may remain in these buildings); or
- No candidate will be assigned to a position supported by Title I funds in violation of section 1119 of the Federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

Due to the short timeframe between the approval of this new form of license and the commencement of the next school year, I suggest you print copies of the attached application form in the quantity necessary for your respective district and/or school. The Office of Teaching Initiatives is committed to being responsive to the applications for the Modified Temporary License submitted in a timely manner. However, your cooperation is enlisted to submit applications only in accordance with the above requirements and only for candidates who so qualify. In order that staff has time to review and evaluate each application, we ask that you forward complete applications as soon as possible. For all applications received by August 8, 2003, staff anticipates a determination as to eligibility prior to September 2, 2003.

School administrators may contact the Office of Teaching Initiatives Policy Unit at (518) 474-3829 with questions.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Attachment