

I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
BILL STATUS

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES	NOTES
202-35 (COR)	Régine Biscoe Lee Sabina Flores Perez	AN ACT TO ADD A NEW ITEM (t) TO § 8104, CHAPTER 8, TITLE 5A, GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS, RELATIVE TO AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL EXEMPTIONS FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION FOR FORMER PROFESSORS.	9/5/19 3:18 p.m.						

I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2019 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 202-31 (cop)

Introduced by:

PBL
Régine Biscoe Lee
Sabina Flores Perez SFP

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW ITEM (t) TO § 8104, CHAPTER 8, TITLE 5A, GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS, RELATIVE TO AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL EXEMPTIONS FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION FOR FORMER PROFESSORS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. A new item (t) is hereby *added* to § 8104 of Chapter 8, Title 5A, Guam Administrative Rules and Regulations to read:

“§ 8104. Issuance of Certificates, General.

(a) Certificates, General. The Certificates issued by the Commission shall be those listed in these rules and regulations accompanied by their specific certification requirements and subject to the provisions of these rules and regulations.

(b) Examination of General Knowledge. All candidates for Guam Professional Educator Certification, except for those listed in Subsection (c) of this Section, shall take and pass the test of essential skills in reading, writing, and mathematics known as PRAXIS I. Applicants shall designate that the Guam Certification Office receive official test scores from ETS. Guam’s passing scores for PRAXIS are those scores for Guam as published by ETS.

(c) Exemption from Examination of General Knowledge Requirement. Candidates for the following certificates, due to their unique

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1 specialization, shall be exempt from the Examination of General Knowledge
2 Requirement under Subsection (b) of this Section:

3 (1) all Certificates for Chamorro Language and Culture under §
4 8106 of this Chapter;

5 (2) all certificates issued for Basic Preschool provided under §
6 8107 of this Chapter; and

7 (3) all certificates issued for Career and Technical Education
8 under § 8108 of this Chapter;

9 (d) Examination of Specialization or Content Area Knowledge.

10 Where applicable, candidates for Guam Professional Educator Certification
11 shall pass an appropriate test for content area knowledge. Where no content
12 area test has been approved by the Commission, Guam's content test passing
13 score shall be the Praxis II test passing score adopted by the State of Hawaii or
14 a score reflecting eighty percent (80%) pass rate of the average maximum range
15 respectively.

16 (e) Examination of Pedagogical Knowledge. Candidates for Guam
17 Professional Teacher Certification shall pass a test for pedagogical knowledge.

18 (f) Certification Validity Date. A certificate shall be valid from the
19 date that the certificate is issued by the Guam Certification Office. The length
20 of certification of that particular certificate shall be specified by GCEC rule,
21 unless revoked, suspended, or extended by the Commission.

22 (g) Renewal of Expired Certification. Any person holding an expired
23 Guam Professional Certification is subject to the following:

24 (1) if such certification expired five (5) years or less from the
25 date of application for reinstatement, such person shall complete the
26 requirements for recertification specified in regulations in effect during
27 the validity period of the expired certificate; or

1 (2) if such certification expired more than five (5) years from
2 the date of application for reinstatement, such certificate shall not be
3 eligible for renewal. The applicant must apply for initial certification
4 pursuant to current requirements.

5 (h) Recency of Study. All applicants seeking professional certification
6 must satisfy recency of study through one (1) of the following routes:

7 (1) completion of six (6) semester hours or equivalent credits in
8 professionally related course work earned within five (5) years preceding
9 the date of application; or

10 (2) completion of at least one (1) full year of acceptable school
11 experience (teaching, administrative, or program specialist) within five
12 (5) years preceding the date of application while working in one (1) of
13 the fifty (50) states on a valid certificate issued by that state.

14 (i) Basis for Certification. College credits or degrees to be applied
15 towards fulfilling certification requirements must be from accredited colleges
16 or universities of the United States, or any of its administrative jurisdictions
17 notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary contained in these rules.

18 (j) Transcripts. Official transcripts, furnished by the college or
19 university, shall be the basis for determining the educational qualifications of
20 an applicant for certification. Transcripts shall be forwarded from the university
21 or college to the Guam Certification Office or by the applicant in an unopened,
22 unaltered envelope sealed by the registrar.

23 (k) Continuing Education Units. Continuing Education Units (CEU)
24 may be used for recertification. For re-certification purposes, three (3) CEU will
25 equal to one (1) semester credit. The CEU cannot be used for degree credit
26 requirements. For Continuing Education Units to be counted for recertification,
27 they must be acquired from a program affiliated with a regionally accredited

1 institution.

2 (l) Holders of Degrees from NCATE-Accredited Institutions. Holders
3 of degrees in teacher preparation awarded by an institution accredited by the
4 National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) shall be
5 eligible for an Initial Educator Certificate.

6 (m) Interstate Reciprocity. Individuals holding a valid state teaching
7 credential, such as a license or certificate, may qualify for an initial Guam
8 certificate with comparable endorsement areas provided such license is issued
9 by a state that has signed the NASDTEC Inter-State Agreement and is a full
10 credential without deficiencies; or holds national certification from the National
11 Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).

12 (n) Graduate of Foreign Institutions of Higher Learning. Graduates of
13 foreign institutions of higher learning, to be granted a certificate, must meet the
14 Professional certification requirements of this policy. The applicant's
15 transcripts must be evaluated by an agency that is capable of determining the
16 country's educational system where the coursework was completed. The list of
17 agencies is available at the Guam Certification Office. A credential evaluation
18 report, including an equivalency summary, is required. A course by-course
19 evaluation, including the equivalency in United States semester credit hours and
20 United States grade equivalent, is necessary. A detailed report is required for
21 the GCEC to be able to determine if an equivalent teacher education program
22 has been completed.

23 (o) Related Work Experience. A statement signed by an appropriate
24 authorized official of a school district or other employing agency shall be the
25 basis for determining the experience qualifications of an applicant for
26 certification.

27 (p) Guam History or Culture. All persons issued an educational

1 professional certificate and who have not completed a three (3) semester credit
2 course in Guam history or culture shall complete one (1) such course during the
3 first year after certification. Failure to meet this requirement shall constitute
4 sufficient cause to cancel the certificate until the deficiency is corrected.

5 (q) Special Policy for Incumbents as of the School Year 1953-54.
6 Holders of certificates by the Guam Department of Education as of the School
7 Year 1953-54 shall be given credit for years of successful experience and for
8 attendance at Guam Summer Institutes and normal school, provided they were
9 of at least six (6) weeks duration, and were operated by the Department of
10 Education. After that date, only college credits earned will be credited toward
11 certificates.

12 (r) Masters Degree Equivalent for Certain Incumbents. Those
13 incumbents of the Guam Department of Education who earned what is known
14 as “masters degree equivalent” status under the policies of the Guam Education
15 Policy Board between August 22, 1966 and August 8, 2007 shall retain such a
16 status for certification purposes.

17 (s) Alternative Certification (Fast Track). Individuals participating in
18 the concentrated course program focused on the Department of Education
19 certification requirements known and referred to as the “Fast Track Teacher
20 Certification Program” shall waive student teaching or internship teaching
21 requirements with evidence of two (2) years of documented and verifiable
22 teaching experience. Teaching experience shall be scholastic in nature and
23 include college/university, vocational, military, business sector, or any other
24 related area. Both years of teaching experience must indicate satisfactory
25 performance. [Pursuant to P.L. 29-02]

26 (t) Additional Exemptions for Professors. Individuals possessing a
27 terminal degree and having at least two (2) years of documented and verifiable

1 teaching experience at any United States accredited college or university shall
2 be exempt from the requirements for an examination of general knowledge, an
3 examination of specialization or content area knowledge, an examination of
4 pedagogical knowledge, and any student teaching or teaching internship
5 experience. The individual must have been subject to an annual performance
6 review and the results of each annual review must indicate satisfactory
7 performance. The Guam Department of Education may conduct training or
8 workshops on classroom management and other administrative items prior to
9 the employment of individuals possessing a terminal degree under this
10 Subsection.”

11 **Section 2. Effective Date.** The provisions of this Act *shall* be effective on
12 October 1, 2020.