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MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents
School District Assistant School Superintendents
Private School Organization Contacts

FROM: Pam Stewart

DATE: February 28, 2014

SUBJECT: Special Temporary Certificate in Educational Leadership

At the January 2014 State Board of Education meeting, revisions were adopted to the Educator Certification Rule 6A-4.004, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) pertaining to Florida Educator's Certificates. These rule revisions become effective on March 5, 2014.

Through revisions to this rule, Educator Certification will now be authorized to issue a special Temporary Certificate covering Educational Leadership to an individual who meets specified eligibility criteria. The Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 1664, enacted as Chapter 2013-185, within which section 7 amends s. 1012.55, Florida Statutes, authorizing the State Board of Education to adopt this provision in rule and establishing the specific eligibility criteria. The rule revision also clarifies the specific types of valid certificates to which subjects or endorsements may be added.

To be eligible for the new special Temporary Certificate in Educational Leadership requires the following:

1. a bachelor's degree;
2. a passing score on the Florida Educational Leadership Examination (FELE) administered on or after January 1, 2014;
3. three (3) years of executive management or leadership experience; and
4. mentorship by a Florida state-certified school administrator.

A complete application must be submitted to the Bureau of Educator Certification (BEC). The individual who applies for a certificate in Educational Leadership will receive an official evaluation based on the subject specialization requirements specified in Rule 6A-4.0082, F.A.C., which include a master's or higher graduate degree and successful completion of the Florida Educational Leadership Core Curriculum.

For subsequent issuance of the special Temporary Certificate in Educational Leadership, the BEC must receive the passing score results for the FELE and the eligible Florida school employer must submit the following:

1. verification of the applicant's three (3) years of successful experience in a full-time executive management or leadership position;
2. a special request for issuance of the certificate on which the employer attests to designate a state-certified school administrator as the educator's mentor; and
3. original fingerprint reports that satisfy the certification eligibility requirement for background screening.

The certification form (CT110S), which shall be submitted to the BEC as both (1.) acceptable verification of the applicant's employment experience and as (2.) a special request for issuance of the special temporary certificate in educational leadership, is included as **Attachment A**.

For more information about these rule revisions, please visit the Educator Certification website at www.fldoe.org/edcert. If you have questions or need assistance related to these rule changes for Educator Certification, please contact Mr. David LaJeunesse at David.LaJeunesse@fldoe.org or 850-245-0431.

PS/dlj

cc: Human Resources Directors
Personnel Directors
Certification Partners