

## OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

The State Superintendent of Education, pursuant to the authority set forth in Sections 2a, 3(b)(11), (12) and (15), and 3a of the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000, effective October 21, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C. Official Code §§ 38-2601.01, 38-2602(b)(11), (12), and (15), 38-2602.01), and Section 1002(b) of the Non-Health Related Occupations and Professions Licensure Act of 1998, effective April 20, 1999 (D.C. Law 12-261; D.C. Official Code § 47-2853.04(a)(22) and (36)), hereby gives notice of her intent to adopt the following amendments to Sections 1601, 1602, and 1604 of Chapter 16 (Credentials for Teachers and School Administrators) of Subtitle A (Office of the State Superintendent of Education) of Title 5 (Education) of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (“DCMR”) in not less than thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice in the *District of Columbia Register*.

The rulemaking would make the following changes to the existing rules: (1) a new specialized performing or visual arts teaching credential would be established (Sections 1601.20-22, 1602.1, 1604.3, and 1604.4); (2) technical amendments would be made to the list of available teacher credentials to alphabetize and synchronize the names of the credentials (Section 1602.1); and (3) a technical amendment would be made to eliminate two obsolete sections (Sections 1604.5 and 1604.6).

The specialized performing or visual arts teaching credential would provide a pathway for District of Columbia (“DC”) teachers with specialized performing or visual arts training, knowledge, or skills to teach students enrolled in performing or visual arts coursework in DC local educational agencies (“LEAs”).

To earn a specialized performing or visual arts credential, an applicant must demonstrate relevant, professional performing or visual arts training, experience, or skills. Specifically, to earn this credential, applicants must demonstrate successful completion of coursework culminating in, at a minimum, a secondary school diploma or its equivalent. Additionally, applicants for this credential must demonstrate that they possess one or more of the following: professional training in the performing or visual arts discipline for which the credential is being sought from a recognized institution or organization culminating in a certificate recognizing successful completion; a minimum of five (5) years of professional experience in the performing or visual arts discipline for which the credential is being sought; or a sustained record of unique and extraordinary contributions to the performing or visual arts discipline for which the credential is being sought, which may include a history of national recognition and awards. A sustained record of unique and extraordinary contributions may consist of a portfolio that includes, for example, exhibition history, artist talks, press and media representation, a history of being included in public and private collections, performance and directing experiences, and artistic residencies. Finally, an applicant for this credential would be required to demonstrate actual or conditional employment as the teacher of record in a performing or visual arts subject area in a DC LEA.

Requiring applicants to meet these requirements prior to earning a specialized performing or visual arts teaching credential is necessary to ensure that individuals seeking this credential possess the

expertise in a specialized performing or visual arts area to enable them to effectively instruct students in the specified discipline.

The specialized performing or visual arts credential would be valid for a period of four (4) years and fully renewable for additional four (4)-year terms, provided that specialized performing or visual arts credential holders meet certain requirements. Specifically, specialized performing or visual arts credential holders would be required to either demonstrate effectiveness in their discipline or complete professional learning. These requirements are designed to help ensure that specialized performing or visual arts credential holders maintain their professional and educational expertise to continue to be credentialed beyond the initial four (4)-year credential validity period.

**Title 5, EDUCATION, Subtitle A, OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION, Chapter 16, CREDENTIALS FOR TEACHERS AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS, is amended as follows:**

**Section 1601, TEACHER CREDENTIALS, is amended follows:**

**New Subsections 1601.20 through 1601.22 are added to read as follows:**

1601.20 All applicants seeking a specialized performing or visual arts teaching credential in the District of Columbia shall provide documentation satisfactory to OSSE to confirm that the applicant:

- (a) Has successfully earned, at a minimum, a secondary school diploma or the equivalent;
- (b) Has successfully completed one or more of the following requirements:
  - (1) Professional training in the performing or visual arts discipline for which the credential is being sought from a recognized institution or organization culminating in a certificate recognizing successful completion;
  - (2) A minimum of five (5) years of professional experience in the performing or visual arts discipline for which the credential is being sought; or
  - (3) A sustained record of unique and extraordinary contributions to the performing or visual arts discipline for which the credential is being sought, which may include a history of national recognition and awards, such as exhibition history, artist talks, press and media representation, a history of being included in public and private collections, performance and directing experiences, and artistic residencies; and

- (c) Is employed as a teacher of record or has a conditional offer of employment to be a teacher of record in a performing or visual arts discipline in an LEA operating in the District of Columbia.

1601.21 A specialized performing or visual arts credential shall be valid for a term of four (4) years.

1601.22 A specialized performing or visual arts credential may be renewed if the requirements for renewal of this credential are met in accordance with this chapter. A renewal period shall be for a term of four (4) years.

**Sections 1602, TEACHER CREDENTIALS: SUB-SPECIALIZATIONS, is amended as follows:**

**Subsection 1602.1 is amended to read as follows:**

1602.1 OSSE shall establish criteria for the preparation of teachers in the following sub-specializations:

- (a) Adult Basic Education (Adult);
- (b) Adult Education (Academic Subjects);
- (c) Art (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (d) Bilingual Education (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (e) Bilingual Special Education (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (f) Biology (Grades 7 – 12);
- (g) Business Education (Grades 7 – 12);
- (h) Chemistry (Grades 7 – 12);
- (i) Computer Education Laboratory Teacher (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (j) Computer Science (Grades 7 – 12);
- (k) Early Childhood Education (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 3);
- (l) Early Childhood Education, Montessori Primary (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 3);
- (m) Early Childhood Education, Special Education (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 3);

- (n) Educational Technology Teacher Trainer (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (o) Elementary Education (Grades 1 – 6);
- (p) Elementary Education, Montessori (Grades 1 – 6);
- (q) Elementary Mathematics Resource (Grades 1 – 6);
- (r) Elementary Science Resource (Grades 1 – 6);
- (s) English (Grades 7 – 12);
- (t) English as a Second Language (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (u) Foreign Languages (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (v) General Science (Grades 7 – 12);
- (w) Gifted and Talented Education (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (x) Health Education (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (y) Home Economics (Grades 7 – 12);
- (z) Industrial Arts (Grades 7 – 12);
- (aa) Instrumental Music (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (bb) Marketing Education (Grades 7 – 12);
- (cc) Mathematics (Grades 7 – 12);
- (dd) Middle School Education (Grades 4 – 8);
- (ee) Performing Arts – Dance (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (ff) Performing Arts – Drama and Theatre (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (gg) Performing Arts – Music (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (hh) Physical Education (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (ii) Physics (Grades 7 – 12);
- (jj) Reading (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);

- (kk) Social Studies (Grades 7 – 12);
- (ll) Special Education, Categorical (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (mm) Special Education, Non-Categorical (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (nn) Specialized Performing or Visual Arts – Dance (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (oo) Specialized Performing or Visual Arts – Drama and Theatre (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (pp) Specialized Performing or Visual Arts – Instrumental Music (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (qq) Specialized Performing or Visual Arts – Technical Design and Production (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (rr) Specialized Performing or Visual Arts – Visual Arts (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (ss) Specialized Performing or Visual Arts – Vocal Music (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12);
- (tt) Technical and Industrial Occupations (Grades 7 – 12); and
- (uu) Visual Arts (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12); and
- (vv) Vocal Music (Pre-kindergarten – Grade 12).

**Section 1604, CREDENTIAL STATUSES AND RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS, is amended as follows:**

**Subsections 1604.3 through 1604.6 are amended to read as follows:**

- 1604.3 To renew a standard teaching or a specialized performing or visual arts credential, credential holders shall present:
- (a) Documentation showing that the credential holder has achieved a summative LEA teacher evaluation rating of effective or equivalent for a minimum of three (3) years during the four (4) year term of validity; or
  - (b) Evidence showing that the credential holder has engaged in a minimum of one hundred twenty (120) hours of professional development activities during the four (4) year term of validity.

1604.4 A standard teaching or a specialized performing or visual arts credential that has expired cannot be renewed but may be reinstated by submitting and meeting the requirements for a new application.

1604.5 [RESERVED]

1604.6 [RESERVED]

All persons desiring to comment on the subject matter of this notice of proposed rulemaking should file comments in writing not later than thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice in the *District of Columbia Register* via email to: [ossecomments.proposedregulations@dc.gov](mailto:ossecomments.proposedregulations@dc.gov); or by mail to the Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Attn: Elizabeth Ross re: Specialized Performing or Visual Arts Credential, 1050 First Street, NE, Fifth Floor, Washington, DC 20002. Additional copies of this proposed rulemaking are available on the Office of the State Superintendent of Education website at [www.osse.dc.gov](http://www.osse.dc.gov).