

# HOUSE BILL No. 1020

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 20-28.

**Synopsis:** Teacher licensing requirements. Removes the requirement for a pedagogy examination as a prerequisite for obtaining a teaching license.

**Effective:** July 1, 2024.

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January 8, 2024, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

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Second Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2024)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

# HOUSE BILL No. 1020

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 20-28-3-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.170-2023,
- 2 SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 3 JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 1. (a) As used in this section, "teacher candidate"
- 4 means an individual recommended for an initial teaching license from
- 5 a teacher preparation program located in Indiana.
- 6 (b) As used in this section, "teacher preparation program" includes,
- 7 but is not limited to, the following:
- 8 (1) A teacher education school or department.
- 9 (2) A transition to teaching program under IC 20-28-4.
- 10 (3) Any other entity approved by the department to offer a course
- 11 of study leading to an initial teaching license.
- 12 (c) The department shall:
- 13 (1) arrange a statewide system of professional instruction for
- 14 teacher education;
- 15 (2) accredit and review teacher preparation programs that comply
- 16 with the rules of the department;
- 17 (3) approve content area licensure programs for particular kinds



1 of teachers in accredited teacher preparation programs; and

2 (4) specify the types of licenses for individuals who complete  
3 programs of approved courses.

4 (d) The department shall work with teacher preparation programs to  
5 develop a system of teacher education that ensures individuals who  
6 complete teacher preparation programs are able to meet the highest  
7 professional standards.

8 (e) Before July 1, 2015, the department shall establish standards for  
9 the continuous improvement of program processes and the performance  
10 of individuals who complete teacher preparation programs. The state  
11 board shall adopt rules containing the standards not later than two  
12 hundred seventy (270) days after the department finishes the standards.

13 (f) The standards established under subsection (e) must include  
14 benchmarks for performance, including test score data for each teacher  
15 preparation entity on content area licensure tests. ~~and test score data for~~  
16 ~~each teacher preparation entity on pedagogy licensure tests.~~

17 (g) Each teacher preparation program shall annually report the  
18 program's performance on the standards and benchmarks established  
19 under this section to the department. The department shall make the  
20 information reported under this subsection available to the public on  
21 the department's website. Each teacher preparation program shall make  
22 the information reported under this subsection available to the public  
23 on the teacher preparation program's website. In addition to reporting  
24 performance, each teacher preparation program must report to the  
25 department the following:

26 (1) The attrition, retention, and completion rates of teacher  
27 candidates for the previous three (3) calendar years. The teacher  
28 preparation program must also provide underlying data, as  
29 determined by the department, used as part of calculating the  
30 teacher preparation program's retention rates.

31 (2) The number of teacher candidates in each content area who  
32 complete the teacher preparation program during the year,  
33 disaggregated by ranges of cumulative grade point averages.

34 (3) The number of teacher candidates in each content area who,  
35 during the year:

36 (A) do not pass a content area licensure examination; and

37 (B) do not retake the content area licensure examination.

38 (h) In making information available to the public on the  
39 department's website, the department shall include in the report under  
40 subsection (g), in addition to the matrix ratings described in subsection  
41 (i), the following information:

42 (1) Average scaled or standard scores of teacher candidates who



1 complete teacher preparation programs on basic skills **and**  
 2 content area ~~and pedagogy licensure~~ examinations.

3 (2) The average number of times teacher candidates who  
 4 complete a teacher preparation program take each licensing test  
 5 before receiving a passing score and the percentage of teacher  
 6 candidates who receive a passing score on each licensing test on  
 7 the teacher candidates' first attempts.

8 (i) Not later than July 30, 2016, the department and the commission  
 9 for higher education, in conjunction with the state board, the  
 10 Independent Colleges of Indiana, Inc., and teacher preparation  
 11 programs, shall establish a matrix rating system for teacher preparation  
 12 programs based on the performance of the programs as demonstrated  
 13 by the data collected under subsections (g) and (h). The matrix rating  
 14 system may not rank or compare teacher preparation programs. The  
 15 matrix rating system must be based on data collected for teachers who  
 16 initially receive their teaching license during the previous three (3)  
 17 years. The department shall make the matrix ratings available to the  
 18 public on the department's website.

19 (j) Each teacher preparation program shall report to the department,  
 20 in a manner prescribed by the department, the teacher preparation  
 21 program's admission practices, in accordance with:

22 (1) the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation  
 23 standards, for teacher preparation programs accredited by the  
 24 Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation;

25 (2) rigorous academic entry requirements for admission into a  
 26 teacher preparatory program that are equivalent to the minimum  
 27 academic requirements determined by the Council for the  
 28 Accreditation of Educator Preparation, for teacher preparation  
 29 programs that are not accredited by the Council for the  
 30 Accreditation of Educator Preparation; or

31 (3) the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator  
 32 Preparation standards, for teacher preparation programs  
 33 accredited by the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator  
 34 Preparation.

35 The department shall include information reported to the department  
 36 on the department's website.

37 (k) Not later than July 30, 2016, the department and the commission  
 38 for higher education, in conjunction with the state board, the  
 39 Independent Colleges of Indiana, Inc., and teacher preparation  
 40 programs, shall establish a minimum rating under the matrix rating  
 41 system established under subsection (i) that teacher preparation  
 42 programs must achieve to avoid referral under subsection (l).



1 (l) Not later than July 1 of each year, the department shall submit a  
 2 list of teacher preparation programs that do not meet the minimum  
 3 rating established under subsection (k) or the requirements of section  
 4 3.1 of this chapter to the commission for higher education and the  
 5 Independent Colleges of Indiana, Inc. for one (1) of the following  
 6 actions:

7 (1) In the case of a state educational institution, the commission  
 8 for higher education shall place the teacher preparation program  
 9 on an improvement plan with clear performance goals and a  
 10 designated period in which the performance goals must be  
 11 achieved.

12 (2) In the case of a proprietary postsecondary educational  
 13 institution, the commission for higher education shall recommend  
 14 to the teacher preparation program an improvement plan with  
 15 clear performance goals and a designated period in which the  
 16 performance goals should be achieved.

17 (3) In the case of a nonprofit college or university, the  
 18 Independent Colleges of Indiana, Inc., shall coordinate a peer  
 19 review process to make recommendations to the peer institution  
 20 in achieving the department's performance metrics.

21 (m) The department shall approve at least two (2) accreditors that:

22 (1) accredit teacher preparation programs; and

23 (2) are recognized by the Council for Higher Education  
 24 Accreditation;

25 to accredit teacher preparation programs for use in Indiana.

26 SECTION 2. IC 20-28-4-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.275-2019,  
 27 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 28 JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 6. The department shall grant an initial  
 29 practitioner license to a program participant who does the following:

30 (1) Successfully completes the requirements of the program.

31 (2) Demonstrates proficiency through a written examination in

32 ~~(A) pedagogy; and~~

33 ~~(B) knowledge of the areas in which the program participant~~  
 34 is required to have a license to teach under IC 20-28-5-12(b).

35 (3) Possesses a bachelor's degree.

36 (4) Participates successfully in a beginning teacher residency  
 37 program that includes implementation in a classroom of the  
 38 teaching skills learned in the program.

39 (5) Receives a successful assessment of teaching skills upon  
 40 completion of the beginning teacher residency program under  
 41 subdivision (4) from the administrator of the school where the  
 42 beginning teacher residency program takes place, or, if the



1 program participant does not receive a successful assessment,  
 2 continues participating in the beginning teacher residency  
 3 program.

4 SECTION 3. IC 20-28-5-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.243-2023,  
 5 SECTION 10, AND BY P.L.245-2023, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED  
 6 TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 12. (a)  
 7 Subsection (b) does not apply to an individual who:

- 8 (1) held an Indiana limited, reciprocal, or standard teaching  
 9 license on June 30, 1985; or  
 10 (2) is granted a license under section 12.5 or 18 of this chapter.

11 (b) Except as provided in section 12.5 of this chapter, the  
 12 department may not grant an initial practitioner license to an individual  
 13 unless the individual has demonstrated proficiency in the following  
 14 areas on a written examination or through other procedures prescribed  
 15 by the department:

- 16 ~~(1) Pedagogy:~~  
 17 ~~(2) (1) Knowledge of the areas in which the individual is required~~  
 18 ~~to have a license to teach.~~  
 19 ~~(3) (2) If the individual is seeking to be licensed as an elementary~~  
 20 ~~school teacher, comprehensive scientifically based reading~~  
 21 ~~instruction skills aligned to the science of reading.~~

22 (c) An individual's license examination score may not be disclosed  
 23 by the department without the individual's consent unless specifically  
 24 required by state or federal statute or court order.

25 (d) Subject to section 22 of this chapter, the state board shall adopt  
 26 rules under IC 4-22-2 to do the following:

- 27 (1) Adopt, validate, and implement the examination or other  
 28 procedures required by subsection (b).  
 29 (2) Establish examination scores indicating proficiency.  
 30 (3) Otherwise carry out the purposes of this section.

31 (e) Subject to section 18 of this chapter, the state board shall adopt  
 32 rules under IC 4-22-2 establishing the conditions under which the  
 33 requirements of this section may be waived for an individual holding  
 34 a valid teacher's license issued by another state.

35 SECTION 4. IC 20-28-5-12.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.243-2023,  
 36 SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 37 JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 12.5. (a) The department shall grant an initial  
 38 practitioner license to an individual who:

- 39 (1) possesses a bachelor's degree from an accredited  
 40 postsecondary four (4) year institution;  
 41 (2) successfully completes an alternative teacher certification  
 42 program that includes:



- 1 (A) the required content training in the area in which the  
 2 individual seeks to be licensed;
- 3 (B) pedagogy training ~~and an examination~~ that is in  
 4 substantive alignment with nationally recognized pedagogical  
 5 standards and teaches effective:
- 6 (i) instructional delivery;
- 7 (ii) classroom management and organization;
- 8 (iii) assessment;
- 9 (iv) instructional design; and
- 10 (v) professional learning and leadership;
- 11 (C) successful demonstration of content area proficiency in an  
 12 examination that includes content area material in substantive  
 13 alignment with nationally recognized content area standards in  
 14 the areas that the individual is required to have a license to  
 15 teach;
- 16 (D) verification from a third party that regularly reviews  
 17 educational and professional examinations that the alternative  
 18 certification examination is equal to or greater in rigor than the  
 19 written examination under section 12 of this chapter;
- 20 (E) content within the curriculum that prepares teacher  
 21 candidates to use evidence based trauma informed classroom  
 22 instruction, including instruction in evidence based social  
 23 emotional learning classroom practices that are conducive to  
 24 supporting students who have experienced trauma that may  
 25 interfere with a student's academic functioning; and
- 26 (F) content within the curriculum that:
- 27 (i) beginning July 1, 2024, is aligned to the science of  
 28 reading; and
- 29 (ii) beginning July 1, 2024, prepares teacher candidates or  
 30 program participants who seek to obtain an elementary  
 31 generalist license that is valid for teaching in kindergarten  
 32 through grade 5 or an early childhood license that is valid  
 33 for teaching prekindergarten through grade 3 to obtain the  
 34 literacy endorsement required under section 19.7 of this  
 35 chapter;
- 36 (3) successfully completes a Praxis Subject Assessment;
- 37 (4) holds a valid cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification from  
 38 a provider approved by the department; and
- 39 (5) has attended youth suicide awareness and prevention training.
- 40 (b) The individual must complete a one (1) year practical experience  
 41 program during the individual's first year in the classroom when the  
 42 individual is employed as a full-time teacher. The provider must:



- 1 (1) provide the practical experience program at no cost to the state  
2 or to the school corporation, charter school, or state accredited  
3 nonpublic school; and  
4 (2) as part of the practical instruction program, provide  
5 instruction in:  
6 (A) instructional design and planning;  
7 (B) effective instructional delivery;  
8 (C) classroom management and organization;  
9 (D) effective use of assessment data;  
10 (E) content in federal and Indiana special education laws; and  
11 (F) required awareness, preparation, and understanding of:  
12 (i) individualized education programs;  
13 (ii) service plans developed under 511 IAC 7-34;  
14 (iii) choice special education plans developed under 511  
15 IAC 7-49; and  
16 (iv) plans developed under Section 504 of the federal  
17 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794.  
18 (c) An in-state alternative teacher certification program under  
19 subsection (a)(2) must operate in accordance with the procedures and  
20 program approval standards and requirements set by the department  
21 and the state board for teacher education programs for the licensure of  
22 teachers.  
23 (d) An out-of-state alternative teacher certification program under  
24 subsection (a)(2) must:  
25 (1) currently operate in at least five (5) states; and  
26 (2) have operated an alternative teacher certification program for  
27 at least ten (10) years.  
28 (e) An individual who receives an alternative teacher certification  
29 under subsection (a)(2) is authorized to teach the subject and  
30 educational level that the individual has successfully completed.  
31 (f) An individual who receives an initial practitioner license under  
32 this section shall be treated in the same manner as an individual who  
33 receives an initial practitioner license after completing a traditional  
34 teacher preparation program.  
35 (g) An individual who graduates from an alternative teacher  
36 certification program must be treated in the same manner as a  
37 traditional teacher preparation program graduate during the transition  
38 from an initial practitioner license to a practitioner license.  
39 (h) An individual who receives an initial practitioner license under  
40 this section may not teach a special education course for a special  
41 education student for the period the individual maintains a license  
42 under this section unless the individual is at least twenty-six (26) years





1 of age and employed in a school setting or with another community  
 2 organization, including a for-profit or nonprofit organization, to  
 3 provide care or instruction for a student with a physical, intellectual, or  
 4 developmental disability. However, an individual who receives an  
 5 initial practitioner license under this section may not be a teacher of  
 6 record for a special education student for the period the individual  
 7 maintains the initial practitioner license.

8 (i) A school corporation, charter school, or state accredited  
 9 nonpublic school shall submit a plan to the department if the school  
 10 corporation, charter school, or state accredited nonpublic school hires  
 11 one (1) or more individuals who have received an initial practitioner  
 12 license under this section. The plan must be submitted in a manner  
 13 prescribed by the department and must include a description of how the  
 14 school corporation, charter school, or state accredited nonpublic school  
 15 will, excluding the practical experience program described in  
 16 subsection (b), provide an individual who receives an initial  
 17 practitioner license under this section opportunities to obtain exposure  
 18 to classroom management and instructional techniques, including  
 19 meaningful exposure to special education. The plan is a public record.

20 (j) Not later than July 1, 2024, the department shall prepare a report  
 21 that shall be submitted to the general assembly in an electronic format  
 22 under IC 5-14-6. The report must contain the following information:

23 (1) Data showing how many teachers obtained an initial  
 24 practitioner license under this section.

25 (2) A description of the number of teachers who received an  
 26 initial practitioner license under this section who are currently  
 27 employed as a teacher by each:

28 (A) school corporation;

29 (B) charter school; or

30 (C) state accredited nonpublic school.

31 The description must include a breakdown of the subjects taught  
 32 by teachers who receive an initial practitioner license under this  
 33 section.

34 (3) A comparison of the Praxis Subject Assessment pass rates for  
 35 individuals who receive an initial practitioner license under this  
 36 section in comparison with the Praxis Subject Assessment pass  
 37 rates for teachers who obtained an initial practitioner license  
 38 using a different pathway to licensure.

39 (4) A description of how many teachers who received an initial  
 40 practitioner license under this section are rated as effective or  
 41 highly effective.

42 SECTION 5. IC 20-28-5-21, AS AMENDED BY P.L.275-2019,



1 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
2 JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 21. To be eligible for a career specialist permit to  
3 teach in a secondary school, an applicant must meet one (1) of the  
4 following:

5 (1) The applicant:

6 (A) has a bachelor's degree with a cumulative grade point  
7 average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent if  
8 another grading scale is used) in the content area in which the  
9 applicant intends to teach;

10 (B) has passed the approved content area examination in the  
11 content area in which the applicant intends to teach; **and**

12 ~~(C) demonstrates proficiency in the area of pedagogy under  
13 procedures prescribed by the department; and~~

14 ~~(D)~~ (C) has, within the immediately preceding five (5) years,  
15 at least four thousand (4,000) clock hours of documented  
16 occupational experience in the content area in which the  
17 applicant intends to teach.

18 (2) The applicant:

19 (A) meets the requirements under subdivision (1)(A) or (1)(B);  
20 **and**

21 ~~(B) demonstrates proficiency in the area of pedagogy under  
22 procedures prescribed by the department; and~~

23 ~~(C)~~ (B) has, within the immediately preceding seven (7) years,  
24 at least five thousand (5,000) clock hours of documented  
25 occupational experience in the content area in which the  
26 applicant intends to teach.

27 SECTION 6. IC 20-28-5-22, AS AMENDED BY P.L.156-2020,  
28 SECTION 78, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
29 JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 22. (a) This section applies to teacher licensing  
30 examinations administered to determine whether an individual  
31 demonstrates, in accordance with section 12(b) of this chapter,  
32 proficiency in

33 ~~(1) pedagogy; and~~

34 ~~(2) knowledge of the areas in which the individual is required to  
35 have a license to teach.~~

36 (b) Not later than July 1, 2020, the state board shall adopt teacher  
37 licensing examinations to replace the teacher licensing examinations  
38 administered on July 1, 2019.

39 (c) The state board shall adopt teacher licensing examinations that  
40 are already in existence and administered nationally.

41 (d) The department shall, not later than September 1, 2021,  
42 implement the teacher licensing examinations adopted under this



- 1 section.
- 2 (e) The state board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to carry out this
- 3 section.
- 4 **(f) The teacher licensing examinations adopted under this**
- 5 **section may:**
- 6 **(1) be examinations regarding knowledge of the area in which**
- 7 **the individual is required to have a license to teach;**
- 8 **(2) be content area examinations; and**
- 9 **(3) not be pedagogy examinations.**

