

1 AN ACT relating to teachers.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 161.030 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) Notwithstanding the age of the pupil, the certification of all teachers and other
5 school personnel, in public schools only, is vested in the Education Professional
6 Standards Board. When so certified, teachers and other school personnel shall not
7 be required to have licensure, certification, or other forms of approval from any
8 other state agency for the performance of their respective assignments within the
9 system of public schools~~[common schools]~~, except as provided for by law. All
10 certificates authorized under KRS 161.010 to 161.126 shall be issued in accordance
11 with the administrative regulations of the Education Professional Standards Board.
12 After July 15, 1994, all certificate applications and other data collection instruments
13 of the board shall include a request for voluntary information about the applicant's
14 ethnic background. This information shall be available to help local school districts
15 locate minority candidates. A person who holds a certificate prior to this
16 requirement may request that ethnic information be added to his or her file. Nothing
17 in this section shall preclude the right of an individual in a nonpublic school from
18 seeking voluntary certification by the Education Professional Standards Board.
- 19 (2) Certificates shall be issued upon written application and in accordance with statutes
20 and regulations in effect at the time of application to persons who have completed,
21 at colleges, universities, or local school district programs approved by the
22 Education Professional Standards Board for the preparation of teachers and other
23 school personnel, the curricula prescribed by the administrative regulations of the
24 Education Professional Standards Board.
- 25 (3) (a) Certification of all new teachers and teachers seeking additional certification
26 shall require the successful completion of appropriate assessments prior to
27 certification. The assessments shall be selected by the Education Professional

1 Standards Board and shall measure knowledge in the specific teaching field of
2 the applicant, including content of the field and teaching of that content. The
3 Education Professional Standards Board shall determine the minimum
4 acceptable level of achievement on each assessment. The assessments shall
5 measure those concepts, ideas, and facts which are being taught in teacher
6 education programs in Kentucky. Upon successful completion of the
7 assessments and the approved teacher preparation program, a **professional**
8 certificate valid for **five (5) years**~~[one (1) year]~~ shall be issued.

9 (b) If an applicant for teacher certification has completed the approved teacher
10 preparation program and has taken but failed to successfully complete the
11 appropriate assessments selected by the Education Professional Standards
12 Board, a conditional certificate may be issued for a period not to exceed one
13 (1) year.~~[, if]~~ The employing school district, in collaboration with the teacher
14 education institution, **shall**~~[agrees to]~~ provide technical assistance and
15 mentoring support to the conditionally certified teacher. The teacher shall
16 retake the assessments during the validity period of the conditional certificate.
17 The conditional certificate shall not be reissued. Upon successful completion
18 of the required assessments, a **professional** certificate valid for **five (5)**
19 **years**~~[one (1) year]~~ shall be issued~~[and the teacher shall be eligible to~~
20 ~~participate in the internship program as provided in subsection (5) of this~~
21 ~~section. The teacher shall not be eligible to participate in the internship~~
22 ~~program while teaching on the conditional certificate].~~ The Education
23 Professional Standards Board shall promulgate administrative regulations to
24 establish the standards and procedures for issuance of **a**~~[the]~~ conditional
25 certificate.

26 (c) If an out-of-state teacher with less than two (2) years' experience comes to
27 Kentucky after the deadline for taking the assessments, a temporary certificate

1 may be issued for a period up to six (6) months ~~[provided the local board~~
2 ~~cannot fill the vacant position with a certified teacher]~~. The teacher shall take
3 the assessments ~~[if they are administered]~~during the period of the temporary
4 certificate. ~~[The certificate shall be extended for the remainder of the year if~~
5 ~~the teacher successfully completes the assessments.]~~If the teacher fails the
6 assessments, the temporary certificate shall be valid only for the current
7 semester. *If the teacher passes the assessments, a professional certificate*
8 *valid for five (5) years shall be issued.*

9 (4) A reasonable fee to be paid by the teacher and directly related to the actual cost of
10 the administration of the assessments shall be established by the Education
11 Professional Standards Board. Provisions shall be made for persons having less than
12 minimum levels of performance on any assessment to repeat that assessment, and
13 candidates shall be informed of their strengths and weaknesses in the specific
14 performance areas. The Education Professional Standards Board shall provide for
15 confidentiality of the individual assessment scores. Scores shall be available only to
16 the candidate and to the education officials who are responsible for determining
17 whether established certification standards have been met. Scores shall be used only
18 in the assessment for certification of new teachers and of out-of-state teachers with
19 less than two (2) years of teaching experience who are seeking initial certification
20 in Kentucky.

21 (5) ~~[Except as provided in subsection (3)(b) of this section, all new teachers and out-of-~~
22 ~~state teachers with less than two (2) years of successful teaching experience who~~
23 ~~are seeking initial certification in Kentucky shall serve a one (1) year internship.~~
24 ~~The teacher shall be a full time employee or shall have an annual contract and serve~~
25 ~~on at least a half time basis and shall have supervision, assistance, and assessment~~
26 ~~during the one (1) year internship. The internship may be served in a public school~~
27 ~~or a nonpublic school which meets the state performance standards as established in~~

1 ~~KRS 156.160 or which has been accredited by a regional or national accrediting~~
2 ~~association. Successful completion shall be determined by a majority vote of the~~
3 ~~beginning teacher committee. The internship period shall be counted as experience~~
4 ~~for the purpose of continuing contract status, retirement eligibility, and benefits for~~
5 ~~single salary experience increments. Upon successful completion of the beginning~~
6 ~~teacher program, the one (1) year initial teaching certificate shall be extended for~~
7 ~~the remainder of the usual duration period established for that particular certificate~~
8 ~~by Education Professional Standards Board administrative regulations.~~

9 ~~(6) The beginning teacher committee shall be composed of three (3) persons who have~~
10 ~~successfully completed special training in the supervision and assessment of the~~
11 ~~performance of beginning teachers as provided in subsection (8) of this section,~~
12 ~~except as provided in paragraph (g) of this subsection. The committee shall consist~~
13 ~~of a resource teacher, the school principal of the school where the internship is~~
14 ~~served, and a teacher educator appointed by a state approved teacher training~~
15 ~~institution.~~

16 ~~(a) If more than two (2) teacher interns are employed in the same school, the principal's~~
17 ~~responsibility may be shared with an assistant principal who holds certification as a~~
18 ~~principal.~~

19 ~~(b) In unusual situations, the Education Professional Standards Board may permit the~~
20 ~~assistant principal to serve in lieu of the principal on a beginning teacher~~
21 ~~committee.~~

22 ~~(c) If the teacher training institution is unable to provide a member, the district~~
23 ~~superintendent shall appoint an instructional supervisor from the school district.~~

24 ~~(d) If the intern is teaching in a regionally or nationally accredited nonpublic school~~
25 ~~without a principal, the person filling the principal member position may have other~~
26 ~~appropriate qualifications as required by administrative regulations promulgated by~~
27 ~~the Education Professional Standards Board.~~

1 ~~(e) If the teacher training institution is unable to provide a member to serve on the~~
2 ~~beginning teacher committee in a nonpublic school, the chief officer of the school~~
3 ~~shall appoint an instructional supervisor or a teacher with like qualifications and~~
4 ~~responsibilities to serve on the beginning teacher committee in lieu of the teacher~~
5 ~~educator.~~

6 ~~(f) The resource teacher shall be appointed by the Education Professional Standards~~
7 ~~Board with recommendations from the local school district from a pool of qualified~~
8 ~~resource teachers, and, any statutes to the contrary notwithstanding and to the extent~~
9 ~~of available appropriations, shall be entitled to be paid a reasonable stipend by the~~
10 ~~Education Professional Standards Board for work done outside normal working~~
11 ~~hours. In the case of a resource teacher in a nonpublic school, payment shall be~~
12 ~~made directly to the resource teacher by the Education Professional Standards~~
13 ~~Board. Priority shall be given to resource teachers in the following order, except as~~
14 ~~provided in paragraph (g) of this subsection:~~

- 15 ~~1. Teachers with the same certification in the same school;~~
- 16 ~~2. Teachers with the same certification in the same district;~~
- 17 ~~3. Teachers in the same school;~~
- 18 ~~4. Teachers in the same district; and~~
- 19 ~~5. Teachers in an adjacent school district.~~

20 ~~(g) 1. The resource teacher for an individual pursuing initial certification as a~~
21 ~~baccalaureate level teacher of exceptional children/communication disorders shall~~
22 ~~be a master's level teacher of exceptional children/communication disorders, if one~~
23 ~~is available.~~

24 ~~2. If a master's level teacher of exceptional children/communication disorders is not~~
25 ~~available, the Education Professional Standards Board may allow a licensed speech-~~
26 ~~language pathologist to serve on the beginning teacher committee in lieu of a~~
27 ~~resource teacher.~~

- 1 ~~(h) The committee shall meet with the beginning teacher a minimum of three (3) times~~
2 ~~per year for evaluation and recommendation with all committee members present.~~
3 ~~In addition, each member of the committee shall observe the beginning teacher in~~
4 ~~the classroom a minimum of three (3) times per year. If the teacher's first year~~
5 ~~performance is judged by the committee to be less than satisfactory, the teacher~~
6 ~~shall be provided with an opportunity to repeat the internship one (1) time if the~~
7 ~~teacher is employed by a school district.~~
- 8 ~~(7) The resource teacher shall spend a minimum of seventy (70) hours working with~~
9 ~~the beginning teacher. Twenty (20) of these hours shall be in the classroom setting,~~
10 ~~and fifty (50) of these hours shall be in consultation other than class time or~~
11 ~~attending assessment meetings. The resource teacher shall have completed at least~~
12 ~~four (4) years of successful teaching experience as attested to by his or her~~
13 ~~immediate supervisor or by having achieved tenure and be able to show evidence of~~
14 ~~continuing professional development by having achieved a master's degree or its~~
15 ~~equivalent or the accumulation of two thousand (2,000) hours of continuing~~
16 ~~professional activities.~~
- 17 ~~(8) By contract with teacher education institutions in the Commonwealth, the~~
18 ~~Education Professional Standards Board shall provide special training for persons~~
19 ~~who will be serving on the beginning teacher committees. Completion of special~~
20 ~~training shall be evidenced by successfully passing the assessments as prescribed by~~
21 ~~the Education Professional Standards Board. A principal hired after July 15, 1996,~~
22 ~~shall be required to complete the beginning teacher committee training program~~
23 ~~within one (1) year after his or her appointment.~~
- 24 ~~(9) If an applicant establishes eligibility for a five (5)~~one (1)~~ year professional~~
25 ~~certificate under the provisions of subsection (3)(a) of this section~~, but does not~~~~
26 ~~become employed on the basis needed to satisfy the one (1) year internship~~
27 ~~requirement], the applicant shall also be eligible for the issuance of a certificate for~~

1 substitute teaching as provided by the administrative regulations of the Education
2 Professional Standards Board. ~~The applicant shall remain eligible for the one (1)
3 year certificate, as provided in subsection (3)(a) of this section, and for the
4 opportunity to serve the internship for a period of five (5) years after establishing
5 eligibility. If the internship is not completed within the five (5) year period, the
6 applicant must reestablish eligibility by repeating and passing the assessment
7 program in effect for new teachers at that time or by completing a minimum of six
8 (6) graduate hours toward completion of a graduate program required by
9 administrative regulations promulgated by the Education Professional Standards
10 Board. The option for renewal through completion of graduate hours shall be
11 available only for the first reestablishment of eligibility.]~~

12 ~~(6)~~⁽¹⁰⁾ (a) The Education Professional Standards Board shall issue a ten (10) year
13 emeritus certificate to an applicant who has:

- 14 1. Retired or will retire not more than one (1) year prior to the expiration
15 date of the certificate;
- 16 2. Met the requirements to receive an emeritus certificate as set forth in
17 administrative regulation promulgated by the Education Professional
18 Standards Board; and
- 19 3. Completed the required application unless the provisions of KRS
20 161.120 apply.

21 (b) The Education Professional Standards Board shall issue a one (1) time five (5)
22 year exception certificate to an individual:

- 23 1. Whose certificate has expired;
- 24 2. Whose rank upon expiration was Rank I or Rank II;
- 25 3. Who has met the requirements to receive an exception certificate as set
26 forth in administrative regulation promulgated by the Education
27 Professional Standards Board;

- 1 4. Who completed three (3) years of classroom instruction prior to the
2 certificate's expiration; and
- 3 5. Who has completed the required application unless the provisions of
4 KRS 161.120 apply.

5 ~~(Z)~~~~(11)~~ The Education Professional Standards Board shall approve the curricula of
6 any college or university, or of any department thereof, for the training of teachers,
7 and any nontraditional or alternative teacher preparation program offered in a
8 public or private postsecondary education institution, private contractor, or state
9 agency, and shall also approve the curricula of any local district alternative
10 certification program, when the curricula comply with the administrative
11 regulations of the Education Professional Standards Board for the issuance of
12 certificates and when the institution has met the terms and conditions provided in
13 KRS 161.010 to 161.120. Any student who has completed any of these curricula, as
14 approved by the Education Professional Standards Board, and who has completed
15 the prescribed requirements for the issuance of certificates shall be granted a
16 certificate corresponding to the curricula completed.

17 **(8) The issuance of any certificate by the Education Professional Standards Board**
18 **shall not be dependent upon an offer of employment. The certification process is**
19 **independent of any job prospects and certification shall be awarded on the basis**
20 **of completing a teacher preparation program or an alternative certification**
21 **pathway and passing required assessments.**

22 ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 161 IS CREATED TO
23 READ AS FOLLOWS:

24 **(1) As used in this section:**

25 **(a) "Mentor" means an educator who has at least three (3) full years of**
26 **experience under a professional certificate and who has been trained to**
27 **assist a beginning educator in the same professional role with his or her**

- 1 professional responsibilities and general school and district procedures; and
2 (b) "New teacher induction and mentor program" means a multiyear,
3 structured program of mentorship and professional development in which
4 trained mentors provide constructive feedback to new teachers.
- 5 (2) The Education Professional Standards Board shall develop standards and
6 guidance for local districts to implement new teacher induction and mentor
7 programs. All school districts shall provide an induction program for teachers in
8 their first year of teaching.
- 9 (3) Standards for new teacher induction and mentor programs shall include but not
10 be limited to the following:
- 11 (a) An orientation program for new teachers and other incoming teachers to be
12 provided at the beginning of and throughout the first year of employment;
- 13 (b) Assignment of a mentor teacher to a new teacher within the first two (2)
14 weeks of teaching and remaining with the new teacher for the first year of
15 the new teacher's employment in the school. The mentoring relationship
16 shall be composed of activities that the beginning teacher and mentor
17 participate in together, including but not limited to coteaching, lesson
18 planning, and observation;
- 19 (c) The creation of a support team to provide assistance for new teachers,
20 including focus on each new teacher's individual professional growth and
21 development plan;
- 22 (d) Workshops and training, including professional development opportunities
23 specifically designed for the beginning teacher that provides vital
24 information on topics relevant during the first year in the classroom;
- 25 (e) Workshops and training for mentors prior to assignment to a beginning
26 teacher on the skills necessary for effective mentoring;
- 27 (f) Opportunities for the new teacher to meet with the assigned mentor to share

- 1 successes and troubleshooting strategies;
- 2 (g) Support teams to link the beginning teacher with a network of teachers in
- 3 the school or district, in addition to their mentor, that the beginning teacher
- 4 can rely on for assistance and guidance, especially for content
- 5 specialization; and
- 6 (h) Formal and summative evaluations to provide feedback for a beginning
- 7 teacher to gain an understanding of his or her strengths and weaknesses
- 8 and to grow professionally.
- 9 (4) The Education Professional Standards Board shall develop evaluations and
- 10 rubrics aligned to state academic standards and state and local procedures that
- 11 shall be based on the following standards of effective teaching:
- 12 (a) Curriculum, content mastery, planning, and assessment;
- 13 (b) Teaching all students; and
- 14 (c) Family engagement.
- 15 (5) Rubrics shall describe practice in detail at different levels of performance.
- 16 (6) Categories of evidence shall be included to assess educator performance,
- 17 including multiple measures of student learning, observations, and additional
- 18 relevant evidence.
- 19 (7) Evaluations shall include new teacher self-assessment, individual goal setting
- 20 and plan development, implementation of the plan, formative assessment, and a
- 21 summative evaluation.
- 22 (8) Beginning October 1, 2024, and by October 1 each year thereafter, the Education
- 23 Professional Standards Board shall provide a report to the Legislative Research
- 24 Commission for referral to the Interim Joint Committee on Education. The report
- 25 shall include but not be limited to:
- 26 (a) The number of mentor teachers and the educator preparation programs that
- 27 were attended by the mentor teachers;

- 1 **(b) The number of new teachers and the educator preparation programs that**
2 **were attended by the new teachers;**
- 3 **(c) An analysis of how prepared new teachers are upon entering the profession;**
- 4 **(d) The types of training utilized by districts to train new teachers, mentors, and**
5 **support teams;**
- 6 **(e) The types of remediation or supports needed by districts for new teachers**
7 **that were not covered in the educator preparation programs;**
- 8 **(f) The major components of each new teacher induction and mentor program;**
- 9 **(g) How new teacher induction and mentor programs are operated and funded;**
- 10 **(h) How long new teachers receive mentor support;**
- 11 **(i) The estimated annual amount spent per new teacher;**
- 12 **(j) Measures being utilized to gauge the new teacher induction and mentor**
13 **program's effectiveness; and**
- 14 **(k) Impact on teacher retention.**
- 15 **(9) The Education Professional Standards Board shall accumulate long-term data**
16 **for analysis of the impact of teacher induction and mentor programs on new**
17 **teacher retention.**

18 ➔Section 3. KRS 156.101 is amended to read as follows:

- 19 (1) The purpose of this section is to encourage and require the maintenance and
20 development of effective instructional leadership in the public schools of the
21 Commonwealth and to recognize that principals, with the assistance of assistant
22 principals, supervisors of instruction, guidance counselors, and directors of special
23 education, have the primary responsibility for instructional leadership in the schools
24 to which they are assigned.
- 25 (2) For the purpose of this section, "instructional leader" shall be defined as an
26 employee of the public schools of the Commonwealth employed as a principal,
27 assistant principal, supervisor of instruction, guidance counselor, director of special

1 education, or other administrative position deemed by the Education Professional
2 Standards Board to require an administrative certificate.

3 (3) In order to carry out the purpose of this section, the Kentucky Board of Education
4 shall establish a statewide program to improve and maintain the quality and
5 effectiveness of instructional leadership in the public schools of the
6 Commonwealth.

7 (4) The instructional leader improvement program shall contain the following
8 provisions:

9 (a) Each instructional leader employed by the public schools of the
10 Commonwealth shall participate in a continuing intensive training program
11 designed especially for instructional leaders;

12 (b) 1. Effective until June 30, 2006, every two (2) years each instructional
13 leader shall complete an intensive training program approved by the
14 Kentucky Board of Education to include no fewer than forty-two (42)
15 participant hours of instruction;

16 2. Effective July 1, 2006, each instructional leader shall annually complete
17 an intensive training program approved by the Kentucky Board of
18 Education to include no fewer than twenty-one (21) participant hours of
19 instruction;

20 (c) The Kentucky Board of Education shall prescribe specific criteria for the
21 training program~~], which shall include a provision to allow an instructional~~
22 ~~leader to annually receive three (3) participant hours credit for duties~~
23 ~~performed as part of a beginning teacher committee pursuant to KRS~~
24 ~~161.030(6). A maximum of six (6) participant hours credit shall be awarded~~
25 ~~annually for serving on multiple beginning teacher committees].~~ The
26 Kentucky Department of Education may contract for specific training with
27 qualified agencies or institutions or approve programs offered by training

1 providers, including local district training programs, except that the
2 department shall ensure the requirements of paragraph (d) of this subsection
3 are met; and

4 (d) Annually, each local district superintendent shall report to the Kentucky
5 Department of Education any instructional leader who fails to complete the
6 training requirements of paragraph (b) of this subsection and shall place the
7 leader on probation for one (1) year. The Department of Education shall
8 verify completion of the required training. If the required training for the prior
9 year and the current year is not completed during the probationary period, the
10 Department of Education shall forward the information to the Education
11 Professional Standards Board, which shall revoke the instructional leader's
12 certificate.

13 (5) The Kentucky Department of Education shall ensure that training options in human
14 resource management and conflict resolution techniques are available to education
15 leaders throughout the state.

16 (6) This section shall be known as the "Effective Instructional Leadership Act."

17 ➔Section 4. KRS 161.010 is amended to read as follows:

18 As used in KRS 161.020 to 161.134:

19 (1) "College or university work of graduate grade" means academic preparation which
20 extends beyond the usual four (4) year program of undergraduate studies leading to
21 a bachelor's degree and which is completed at a college or university accredited for
22 the graduate level;

23 (2) "Continuing education" means study or other activities to provide professional
24 improvement and personal growth for certified teachers throughout their career. It
25 may include, but shall not be limited to, university courses, an advanced degree, or
26 a combination of field-based experience, individual research, and approved
27 professional development activities, pursuant to KRS 156.095;

- 1 (3) "Professional certificate" means the document issued to an applicant upon
2 completion of an approved program of preparation~~[, recommendation by the~~
3 ~~educator preparation provider,]~~ and successful completion of the assessments in the
4 area in which certification is being sought~~[, and if applicable, successful completion~~
5 ~~of any internship requirements, unless otherwise waived under KRS 161.030 based~~
6 ~~on preparation and experience completed outside of Kentucky];~~
- 7 (4) "Provisional certificate" means the document issued to an individual prior to the
8 issuance of a professional certificate;
- 9 (5) "Standard college or university" means an institution accredited by the Southern
10 Association of Colleges and Schools or by one of the other recognized regional
11 accrediting agencies or by the Education Professional Standards Board;
- 12 (6) "Student teacher" means an adult who has completed the prerequisite teacher
13 preparation as prescribed by the accredited teacher education institution in which he
14 or she is enrolled, and who is jointly assigned by the institution and a local school
15 district to engage in a period of practice teaching under the direction and
16 supervision of the administrative and teaching staff of the school district and the
17 institution; and
- 18 (7) "Teacher's aide" means an adult school employee who works under the direction of
19 the professional administrative and teaching staff in performing, within the
20 limitations of his or her training and competency, certain instructional and
21 noninstructional functions in the school program including, but not limited to,
22 clerical duties, tutoring individual pupils, leading pupils in recreational activities,
23 conducting pupils from place to place, assisting with classroom instruction as
24 directed by the teacher, aiding the school librarian, and preparing and organizing
25 instructional materials and equipment.

26 ➔Section 5. KRS 161.032 is amended to read as follows:

- 27 (1) (a) There is hereby created a certification incentive fund in the State Treasury to

1 be administered by the Education Professional Standards Board. The fund
2 shall provide grants to eligible recipients for conducting institutes as described
3 in KRS 161.048(8), including the costs of salaries of institute instructors,
4 consultants, materials, stipends and loans to participants, other costs
5 associated with the institutes, and costs of assistance to teachers throughout
6 their first year of teaching.

7 (b) Eligible recipients of grant funds may be nonprofit organizations, institutions,
8 and agencies, including but not limited to postsecondary education
9 institutions, school districts, education cooperatives, and consortia of school
10 districts.

11 (c) The Education Professional Standards Board shall promulgate administrative
12 regulations establishing standards and procedures for the grant program,
13 including minimal participation levels and maximum grant awards.

14 (2) (a) Priority for the institutes funded under this section for academic years 2008-
15 2009 through 2011-2012 shall be for the purpose of certifying teachers in high
16 school mathematics, chemistry, integrated science, and physics, and middle
17 school mathematics and earth science under the provisions of KRS 161.048
18 (8), Option 7: Certification of a person in a field other than education to teach
19 in elementary, middle, or secondary programs. At the completion of academic
20 year 2011-2012, the Education Professional Standards Board shall determine
21 priority for specific institutes.

22 (b) The board shall request proposals and approve at least one (1) summer
23 institute for the purpose described in paragraph (a) of this subsection each
24 academic year. The institute shall be a minimum of ninety (90) clock hours,
25 based on six (6) hour days for a three (3) week period.

26 (c) Each individual who completes a summer institute shall have additional hours
27 of formal instruction or assistance during the first year of teaching to reach the

1 minimum number of clock hours as required in KRS 161.048(8)(b)2.

2 (d) ~~[Notwithstanding KRS 161.030, an alternative teacher certification candidate~~
3 ~~participating in the institute described in the provisions of this subsection shall~~
4 ~~not be required to participate in the teacher internship program until the~~
5 ~~second year of teaching.]~~The candidate shall be assigned a teacher mentor by
6 the grant recipient the first year of teaching. Payment of the teacher mentor
7 shall be from the grant provided under subsection (1) of this section.

8 (3) (a) Individuals who are accepted into an institute shall be provided a forgivable
9 loan incentive at the beginning of the institute to encourage their participation.
10 The amount of the forgivable loan shall be determined by the Education
11 Professional Standards Board. The loan shall be forgiven if the participant
12 teaches in a Kentucky public or Kentucky Board of Education certified
13 nonpublic school for one (1) year within the three (3) years following the
14 awarding of the loan.

15 (b) If an individual does not successfully complete the institute or teach
16 mathematics or science in a qualifying Kentucky school, the loan must be
17 repaid according to procedures promulgated in administrative regulation by
18 the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority.

19 (c) The Education Professional Standards Board shall enter into a memorandum
20 of understanding with the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority to
21 administer the forgivable loan incentive under this section. Based on the
22 memorandum of understanding, the authority may retain a portion of the
23 funds for administering the forgivable loan incentive. Funds recovered under
24 provisions of this section, minus the administrative costs, shall be returned to
25 the State Treasury.

26 (4) Each individual who successfully completes a summer institute shall be awarded a
27 stipend equal to the amount of the forgivable loan as described in subsection (3) of

1 this section. The stipend shall be awarded at the end of the institute without
2 restrictions.

3 (5) Grant recipients and local school districts may offer financial incentives to potential
4 participants and individuals who complete an institute from fund sources other than
5 the grant funds.

6 ➔Section 6. KRS 161.048 is amended to read as follows:

7 (1) The General Assembly hereby finds that:

- 8 (a) 1. There are persons who have distinguished themselves through a variety
9 of work and educational experiences that could enrich teaching in
10 Kentucky schools;
- 11 2. There are distinguished scholars who wish to become teachers in
12 Kentucky's public schools, but who did not pursue a teacher preparation
13 program;
- 14 3. There are persons who should be recruited to teach in Kentucky's public
15 schools as they have academic majors, strong verbal skills as shown by
16 a verbal ability test, and deep knowledge of content, characteristics that
17 empirical research identifies as important attributes of quality teachers;
- 18 4. There are persons who need to be recruited to teach in Kentucky schools
19 to meet the diverse cultural and educational needs of students; and
- 20 5. There should be alternative procedures to the traditional teacher
21 preparation programs that qualify persons as teachers;
- 22 (b) There are hereby established alternative certification program options as
23 described in subsections (2) to (10) of this section;
- 24 (c) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Education Professional
25 Standards Board inform scholars, persons with exceptional work experience,
26 and persons with diverse backgrounds who have potential as teachers of these
27 options and assist local boards of education in implementing these options and

1 recruitment of individuals who can enhance the education system in
2 Kentucky;

3 (d) The Education Professional Standards Board may reject the application of any
4 candidate who is judged as not meeting academic requirements comparable to
5 those for students enrolled in Kentucky teacher preparation programs; and

6 (e) The Education Professional Standards Board shall promulgate administrative
7 regulations establishing standards and procedures for the alternative
8 certification options described in this section. If the certification option
9 requires employment prior to certification, the procedures shall establish a
10 process for candidates to obtain an eligible for hire letter from the Education
11 Professional Standards Board.

12 (2) Option 1: Certification of a person with exceptional work experience. An individual
13 who has exceptional work experience and has been offered employment in a local
14 school district shall receive a one (1) year provisional certificate with approval by
15 the Education Professional Standards Board of a joint application by the individual
16 and the employing school district under the following conditions:

17 (a) The application contains documentation of all education and work experience;

18 (b) The candidate has documented exceptional work experience in the area in
19 which certification is being sought; and

20 (c) The candidate possesses:

21 1. A bachelor's degree or a graduate degree;

22 2. A minimum cumulative grade point average of two and seventy-five
23 hundredths (2.75) on a four (4) point scale or a minimum grade point
24 average of three (3.0) on a four (4) point scale on the last thirty (30)
25 hours of credit completed, including undergraduate and graduate
26 coursework from a nationally or regionally accredited postsecondary
27 institution; and

1 3. An academic major or a passing score on the academic content
2 assessment in the area in which certification is being sought by the
3 applicant as designated by the Education Professional Standards Board.

4 The candidate shall ~~participate in the teacher internship program under KRS~~
5 ~~161.030. After successful completion of the internship program, the candidate shall~~
6 ~~receive a professional certificate and shall be subject to certificate renewal~~
7 ~~requirements the same as other teachers with a professional certificate.~~

8 (3) Option 2: Certification through a local school district training program. A local
9 school district or group of school districts may seek approval for a training
10 program. The state-approved local school district training program is an alternative
11 to the college teacher preparation program as a means of acquiring teacher
12 certification for a teacher at any grade level. The training program may be offered
13 for all teaching certificates approved by the Education Professional Standards
14 Board, including interdisciplinary early childhood education, except for specific
15 certificates for teachers of exceptional children. To participate in a state-approved
16 local school district alternative training program, the candidate shall possess:

17 (a) A bachelor's degree or a graduate degree;
18 (b) A minimum cumulative grade point average of two and seventy-five
19 hundredths (2.75) on a four (4) point scale or a minimum grade point average
20 of three (3) on a four (4) point scale on the last thirty (30) hours of credit
21 completed, including undergraduate and graduate coursework from a
22 nationally or regionally accredited postsecondary institution;

23 (c) A passing score on the academic content assessment in the area in which
24 certification is being sought by the applicant as designated by the Education
25 Professional Standards Board. To be eligible to take an academic content
26 assessment, the applicant shall have completed a thirty (30) hour major in the
27 academic content area or five (5) years of experience in the academic content

- 1 area as approved by the Education Professional Standards Board; and
- 2 (d) An offer of employment in a school district which has a training program
- 3 approved by the Education Professional Standards Board.

4 Upon meeting the participation requirements as established in this subsection, the

5 candidate shall ~~be issued a one (1) year provisional certificate by the Education~~

6 ~~Professional Standards Board. The candidate shall participate in the teacher~~

7 ~~internship program under KRS 161.030. After successful completion of the~~

8 ~~internship program, the candidate shall~~ receive a professional certificate and shall

9 be subject to certificate renewal requirements the same as other teachers with a

10 professional certificate.

11 (4) Option 3: Certification of a professional from a postsecondary institution: A

12 candidate who possesses the following qualifications may receive a one (1) year

13 provisional certificate for teaching at any level:

- 14 (a) A master's degree or doctoral degree in the academic content area for which
- 15 certification is sought;
- 16 (b) A minimum of five (5) years of full-time teaching experience, or its
- 17 equivalent, in the academic content area for which certification is sought in a
- 18 regionally or nationally accredited institution of higher education; and
- 19 (c) An offer of employment in a school district which has been approved by the
- 20 Education Professional Standards Board.

21 The candidate shall ~~participate in the teacher internship program under KRS~~

22 ~~161.030. After successful completion of the internship program, the candidate shall~~

23 ~~receive a professional certificate and shall be subject to certificate renewal~~

24 requirements the same as other teachers with professional certificates.

25 (5) Option 4: Certification of an adjunct instructor. A person who has expertise in areas

26 such as art, music, foreign language, drama, science, computer science, and other

27 specialty areas may be employed as an adjunct instructor in a part-time position by

1 a local board of education under KRS 161.046.

2 (6) Option 5: Certification of a veteran of the Armed Forces. The Education
3 Professional Standards Board shall issue a statement of eligibility, valid for five (5)
4 years, for teaching at the elementary, secondary, and secondary career technical
5 education levels to a veteran of the Armed Forces who was honorably discharged
6 from active duty as evidenced by Defense Department Form 214 (DD 214) or
7 National Guard Bureau Form 22 or to a member of the Armed Services currently
8 serving with six (6) or more years of honorable service, including Reserves,
9 National Guard, or active duty. The candidate shall possess:

10 (a) A bachelor's degree or graduate degree;

11 (b) A minimum cumulative grade point average of two and seventy-five
12 hundredths (2.75) on a four (4) point scale or a minimum grade point average
13 of three (3) on a four (4) point scale on the last thirty (30) hours of credit
14 completed, including undergraduate and graduate coursework from a
15 nationally or regionally accredited postsecondary institution; and

16 (c) An academic major or a passing score on the academic content assessment in
17 the area in which certification is being sought by the applicant as designated
18 by the Education Professional Standards Board.

19 Upon an offer of employment by a school district, the eligible veteran shall ~~receive~~
20 ~~a one (1) year provisional certificate with approval by the Education Professional~~
21 ~~Standards Board of a joint application by the veteran and the employing school~~
22 ~~district. During this year, the veteran shall participate in the teacher internship~~
23 ~~program under KRS 161.030. After successful completion of the internship~~
24 ~~program, the veteran shall~~ receive a professional certificate.

25 (7) Option 6: University alternative program. With approval of the Education
26 Professional Standards Board, a university may provide an alternative program that
27 enrolls students in a postbaccalaureate teacher preparation program concurrently

1 with employment as a teacher in a local school district. A student in the alternative
2 program shall be granted a one (1) year provisional certificate ~~and shall participate~~
3 ~~in the Kentucky teacher internship program, notwithstanding provisions of KRS~~
4 ~~161.030. A student may not participate in the internship program until the student~~
5 ~~has successfully completed the assessments required by the board].~~ The one (1)
6 year provisional certificate may be renewed four (4) additional years, and shall be
7 contingent upon the candidate's continued enrollment in the preparation program
8 and compliance with all requirements established by the board. A professional
9 certificate shall be issued upon the teacher candidate's successful completion of the
10 program~~, the internship program requirements,~~ and all academic content
11 assessments in the specific teaching field of the applicant as designated by the
12 Education Professional Standards Board.

13 (8) Option 7: Certification of a person in a field other than education to teach in
14 elementary, middle, or secondary programs. This option shall not be limited to
15 teaching in shortage areas. An individual certified under provisions of this
16 subsection shall be issued a one (1) year provisional certificate, renewable for a
17 maximum of four (4) additional years with approval of the Education Professional
18 Standards Board.

19 (a) The candidate shall possess:

- 20 1. A bachelor's degree with a declared academic major in the area in which
21 certification is sought or a graduate degree in a field related to the area
22 in which certification is sought;
- 23 2. A minimum cumulative grade point average of two and seventy-five
24 hundredths (2.75) on a four (4) point scale or a minimum grade point
25 average of three (3) on a four (4) point scale on the last thirty (30) hours
26 of credit completed, including undergraduate and graduate coursework
27 from a nationally or regionally accredited postsecondary institution;

- 1 3. A passing score on the GRE or equivalent as designated by the
2 Education Professional Standards Board. A candidate who has a
3 terminal degree shall be exempt from the requirements of this
4 subparagraph; and
- 5 4. A passing score on the academic content assessment in the area in which
6 certification is being sought as designated by the Education Professional
7 Standards Board.
- 8 (b) Prior to receiving the one (1) year provisional certificate or during the first
9 year of the certificate, the teacher shall complete the following:
- 10 1. For elementary teaching, the individual shall successfully complete the
11 equivalent of a two hundred forty (240) hour institute, based on six (6)
12 hour days for eight (8) weeks. The providers and the content of the
13 institute shall be approved by the Education Professional Standards
14 Board. The content shall include research-based teaching strategies in
15 reading and math, research on child and adolescent growth, knowledge
16 of individual differences, including teaching exceptional children, and
17 methods of classroom management.
- 18 2. For middle and secondary teaching, the individual shall successfully
19 complete the equivalent of a one hundred eighty (180) hour institute,
20 based on six (6) hour days for six (6) weeks. The providers and the
21 content of the institute shall be approved by the Education Professional
22 Standards Board and shall include research-based teaching strategies,
23 research on child and adolescent growth, knowledge of individual
24 differences, including teaching exceptional children, and methods of
25 classroom management.
- 26 (c) The candidate shall ~~participate in the teacher internship program under KRS~~
27 ~~161.030. After successful completion of the internship program, the candidate~~

1 ~~shall~~ receive a professional certificate and shall be subject to certificate
2 renewal requirements the same as other teachers with a professional
3 certificate.

4 (9) Option 8: Certification of a Teach for America participant to teach in elementary,
5 middle, or high schools. Nothing in this subsection shall conflict with the
6 participation criteria of the Teach for America program. An individual certified
7 under this subsection shall be issued a one (1) year provisional certificate.

8 (a) The candidate shall possess:

- 9 1. An offer of employment from a local school district;
- 10 2. A bachelor's degree;
- 11 3. A successful completion of the summer training institute and ongoing
12 professional development required by Teach for America, including
13 instruction in goal-oriented, standards-based instruction, diagnosing and
14 assessing students, lesson planning and instructional delivery, classroom
15 management, maximizing learning for diverse students, and teaching
16 methodologies; and
- 17 4. A passing score on the academic content assessment in the area in which
18 certification is being sought as designated by the Education Professional
19 Standards Board.

20 (b) The provisional certificate granted under paragraph (a) of this subsection may
21 be renewed two (2) times with a recommendation of the superintendent and
22 approval of the Education Professional Standards Board.

23 (c) A Teach for America participant ~~[who is approved for a second renewal of his~~
24 ~~or her provisional certificate under paragraph (b) of this subsection may~~
25 ~~participate in the teacher internship program under KRS 161.030.~~

26 (d) ~~A Teach for America participant~~ shall be issued a professional certificate
27 upon the participant's successful completion of the ~~[internship program and~~

1 assessments relating to teaching of subject matter required by the Education
2 Professional Standards Board under KRS 161.030.

3 ~~(d)~~~~(e)~~ Notwithstanding any statute or administrative regulation to the contrary,
4 a teacher certified under this subsection shall have ten (10) years ~~from the~~
5 ~~date that the teacher successfully completed the internship program~~ to
6 complete a master's degree or fifth year program, or the equivalent as
7 specified by the Education Professional Standards Board in administrative
8 regulation.

9 (10) Option 9: Expedited certification of a person to teach at any grade level through a
10 cooperative program. With approval of the Education Professional Standards
11 Board, a college or university may partner with a school district to develop an
12 expedited certification program that results in a bachelor's degree and initial
13 certification within three (3) school years.

14 (a) The program shall:

- 15 1. Include a residency or paraprofessional component which employs the
16 person within the participating district for the duration of the program to
17 gain work experience to supplement the expedited program and reduced
18 coursework;
- 19 2. Utilize experienced teachers employed by the district to provide
20 coaching and to mentor the candidates; and
- 21 3. Be designed to meet the needs of the participating district and may
22 include an emphasis in developing a teacher pipeline for the district's
23 students, improving the numbers of underrepresented populations
24 among the district's workforce, or focusing on increasing the number of
25 teachers with certification areas that are in high demand.

26 (b) A school district entering into a cooperative partnership shall ensure the
27 availability of funding for each candidate employed within the district in the

1 residency or paraprofessional program for the duration of the candidate's
2 participation in the program. However, nothing in this subsection shall be
3 interpreted as requiring the district to continue employing the candidate
4 during the program or after the candidate has received initial certification.

5 (c) A person who has begun a traditional path or another option for certification
6 shall be eligible to transfer into this option if the person meets the program's
7 requirements.

8 (d) If a school district participating in a cooperative partnership determines to end
9 the partnership, the district shall no longer accept new candidates to the
10 program but shall continue the partnership until the district's employed
11 candidates for Option 9 certification complete the program or are no longer
12 employed by the district.

13 (11) A public school teacher certified under subsections (2) to (10) of this section shall
14 be placed on the local district salary schedule for the rank corresponding to the
15 degree held by the teacher.

16 (12) Subsections (1) to (3) of this section notwithstanding, a candidate who possesses
17 the following qualifications may receive certification for teaching programs for
18 exceptional students:

19 (a) An out-of-state license to teach exceptional students; ***and***

20 (b) A bachelor's or master's degree in the certification area or closely related area
21 for which certification is sought; ~~and~~

22 ~~(c) Successful completion of the teacher internship program requirement required~~
23 ~~under KRS 161.030].~~

24 ➔Section 7. KRS 161.049 is amended to read as follows:

25 (1) As used in this section, "professional support team" means a school principal, an
26 experienced teacher, a college or university faculty member, and an instructional
27 supervisor. If an instructional supervisor or college or university faculty member is

1 not available, the district shall assign a member with comparable experience. The
2 school principal shall serve as the chairman of the team.

3 (2) The Education Professional Standards Board shall establish a training program for
4 professional support teams which shall be implemented by the board or contracted
5 with another agency. The training shall include content and procedures for the
6 evaluation of teacher candidates. Completion of the training shall be evidenced by
7 successfully passing the examinations prescribed by the board.

8 (3) A local school district seeking to hire a teacher pursuant to KRS 161.048(3) shall
9 submit a plan for a local district alternative training program to the Education
10 Professional Standards Board and have it approved in accordance with
11 administrative regulations established by the Board. The district shall show
12 evidence that it has sought joint sponsorship of the program with a college or
13 university. No local school district shall employ a teacher seeking certification in a
14 state-approved local district training program unless it has submitted a plan and
15 received approval by the Education Professional Standards Board.

16 (4) Each state approved local district alternative training program shall provide the
17 teacher candidate with essential knowledge and skills and include, but not be
18 limited to, the following components:

19 (a) A full-time seminar and practicum of no less than eight (8) weeks' duration
20 prior to the time the candidate assumes responsibility for a classroom. The
21 content of the formal instruction shall be prescribed by the Education
22 Professional Standards Board and shall include an introduction to basic
23 teaching skills through supervised teaching experiences with students, as well
24 as an orientation on the policies, organization, and curriculum of the
25 employing district.

26 (b) A period of classroom supervision while the candidate assumes responsibility
27 on a one-half (1/2) time basis for a classroom and continuing for eighteen (18)

1 weeks. During this period, the candidate shall be visited and critiqued no less
2 than one (1) time per week by one (1) or more members of a professional
3 support team appointed by the local district and assigned according to the
4 administrative regulations adopted by the Education Professional Standards
5 Board. The candidate shall be formally evaluated at the end of five (5) weeks,
6 at the end of the second five (5) weeks, and at the end of the last eight (8)
7 weeks by the members of the team. During this period, the candidate shall
8 continue formal instruction which emphasizes student assessment, child
9 development, learning, curriculum, instruction of exceptional children, and
10 school and classroom organization.

11 (c) An additional period of at least eighteen (18) weeks continued supervision of
12 the teacher candidate who may be assigned full-time classroom duties. During
13 this period the teacher candidate shall be critiqued at least once per month and
14 shall be observed formally and evaluated at least twice. No more than two (2)
15 months shall pass without a formal observation. Formal instruction shall also
16 continue during this period. In addition, opportunities shall be provided for
17 the teacher candidate to observe the teaching of experienced teachers.

18 (5) At least two hundred fifty (250) hours of formal instruction shall be provided in all
19 three (3) phases of the program combined.

20 (6) At the conclusion of the alternative training program, the chair of the support team
21 shall prepare a comprehensive evaluation report on the teacher candidate's
22 performance. This report shall be submitted to the Education Professional Standards
23 Board and shall contain a recommendation as to whether the teacher candidate shall
24 be issued a ***teaching certificate***~~[one (1) year certificate of eligibility to complete the~~
25 ~~internship pursuant to KRS 161.030]~~. The support team shall make one (1) of the
26 following recommendations:

27 (a) Approved: recommends issuance of ***the*** certificate~~[to complete the~~

1 internship];

2 (b) Insufficient: recommends the candidate be allowed to seek reentry into a
3 teacher preparation program; or

4 (c) Disapproved: recommends the candidate not be allowed to enter a teacher
5 preparation program.

6 ➔Section 8. KRS 161.053 is amended to read as follows:

7 (1) The Education Professional Standards Board shall have the authority and
8 responsibility to certify as a teacher of exceptional children/communication
9 disorders, an individual who has:

10 (a) Completed an approved program of preparation that corresponds to the
11 certificate;

12 (b) Achieved a passing score on an appropriate assessment as determined by the
13 Education Professional Standards Board;

14 (c) Fulfilled other requirements for teacher certification as determined by the
15 Education Professional Standards Board, in accordance with KRS Chapter
16 161 and administrative regulations promulgated thereunder; and

17 (d) Completed the requirements set forth in subsection (2) of this section.

18 (2) The Education Professional Standards Board shall issue two (2) levels of
19 certification for teachers of exceptional children/communication disorders:

20 (a) Baccalaureate level certification shall be issued to a person who has:

21 1. Completed an approved program of preparation leading to a bachelor's
22 degree in speech-language pathology;

23 2. Been granted licensure as a speech-language pathology assistant from
24 the Kentucky Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology,
25 under KRS Chapter 334A; and

26 3. Completed the other requirements set forth in subsection (1) of this
27 section; and

- 1 (b) Master's level certification shall be issued to a person who has:
- 2 1. Completed an approved program of preparation leading to a master's
- 3 degree in speech-language pathology; and
- 4 2. Completed the other requirements specified in subsection (1) of this
- 5 section.
- 6 (3) A person holding licensure through the Kentucky Board of Speech-Language
- 7 Pathology and Audiology as a speech-language pathology assistant, but not
- 8 certified as a teacher of exceptional children/communication disorders, may:
- 9 (a) Continue to work in the public schools as a classified employee under the
- 10 provisions of KRS Chapter 334A and administrative regulations promulgated
- 11 by the Kentucky Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology; or
- 12 (b) Pursue certification as a baccalaureate level teacher of exceptional
- 13 children/communication disorders while working as a speech-language
- 14 pathology assistant.
- 15 ~~(4) Candidates for certification as a teacher of exceptional children/communication~~
- 16 ~~disorders shall participate in the teacher internship program under KRS 161.030.~~
- 17 ~~(5)~~ A bachelor's level teacher of exceptional children/communication disorders shall
- 18 work under requirements for speech-language pathology assistants set forth in KRS
- 19 Chapter 334A.
- 20 ~~(5)~~~~(6)~~ The Education Professional Standards Board shall develop a policy through
- 21 the promulgation of administrative regulations by June 30, 2001, to permit a
- 22 speech-language pathology assistant with two (2) years or more of successful
- 23 professional experience pursuing certification as a baccalaureate level teacher of
- 24 exceptional children to:
- 25 (a) Substitute prior professional experience for student teaching requirements;
- 26 and
- 27 (b) Substitute prior professional experience for beginning teacher internship

1 requirements.

2 ~~(6)~~~~(7)~~ A teacher of exceptional children/communication disorders shall receive
3 salary and benefits, including membership in the Teachers' Retirement System,
4 commensurate with his or her education, certification, and experience as prescribed
5 by law. Years of experience as a speech-language pathology assistant shall be
6 included in the calculation of all benefits, including membership in the Teachers'
7 Retirement System, for individuals with baccalaureate level certification as a
8 teacher of exceptional children/communication disorders.

9 ➔Section 9. The following KRS section is repealed:

10 161.1222 Pilot teacher internship program -- Report to Interim Joint Committee on
11 Education -- Appropriated funds.