

4 AAC 12.305(b)(4) is amended to read:

(4) completed a teacher education program, or an alternate teacher preparation program accepted by [THE BOARD OR] the commissioner **under 4 AAC 12.307 or (e) of this section**, and from which the applicant has obtained a recommendation for certification [; THE BOARD OR COMMISSIONER WILL ONLY ACCEPT A PROGRAM IF THE PROGRAM IS

(A) OFFERED BY A REGIONALLY ACCREDITED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION;

(B) APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OR CHIEF SCHOOL OFFICER OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE PROGRAM WAS OFFERED AS SUBSTANTIALLY MEETING THE UNIT STANDARDS SET OUT IN STANDARDS PROCEDURES & POLICIES FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNITS, 1997 REVISION AND THE PROGRAM STANDARDS SET OUT IN NCATE CURRICULUM GUIDELINES, SPRING 1998, PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ACCREDITATION OF TEACHER EDUCATION;

(C) APPROVED BY THE CHIEF SCHOOL OFFICER OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE PROGRAM WAS OFFERED AS MEETING THE STATE'S STANDARDS FOR TEACHER PREPARATION; OR

(D) AN ALTERNATE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER UNDER (e) OF THIS SECTION];

4 AAC 12.305(e) is amended to read:

(e) In addition to programs accepted under (b)(4) [(b)(4)(A)] of this section, the commissioner will approve an alternate teacher preparation program if the program [(1) COMPLIES WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF AS 14.20.022; OR (2)] meets standards that are substantially equivalent to the standards met by programs accepted under (b)(4) [(b)(4)(A)] of this section.

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 9/30/2005, Register 175; am 8/15/2008, Register 187; am 10/31/2008, Register 188; am 9/17/2011, Register 199; am 9/7/2012, Register 203)

**Authority:**                    AS 14.07.060                    AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12 is amended by adding a new section to read:

**4 AAC 12.307. Acceptance of educator preparation programs.** (a) For purposes of issuing a certificate under this chapter, the commissioner will accept the educator preparation program completed by an applicant for a professional teacher certificate under 4 AAC 12.305(b), special education endorsement certificate under 4 AAC 12.330, school administrator or special education administrator certificate under 4 AAC 12.345, and a special education administrator certificate under 4 AAC 12.347, if the preparation program

(1) is approved by the board under 4 AAC 12.308; or

(2) for a program offered in another state, is

(A) offered by a regionally accredited institution of higher education or was an alternate program approved by the board of education or chief school officer in the state in which the program is offered as meeting the state's standards for comparable certificates; and

(B) approved by the board of education or chief school officer of the state in which the program is offered as substantially meeting the unit standards set out in *Professional Standards for the Accreditation of Teacher Preparation Institutions*, adopted by reference in 4 AAC 12.308.

(b) For purposes of this section, the commissioner may consider a program that substantially meets the unit standards set out in *Professional Standards for the Accreditation of Teacher Preparation Institutions*, adopted by reference in 4 AAC 12.308, to have been approved by the state in which the program was offered if that state awards comparable certificates based on the preparation program in question. (Eff. 9/7/2012, Register 203)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060            AS 14.20.020            AS 14.20.022  
AS 14.20.010

4 AAC 12 is amended by adding a new section to read:

**4 AAC 12.308. Approval of in-state educator preparation programs.** (a) A regionally accredited institution of higher education in this state may apply to the board for approval of the following educator preparation programs:

- (1) a teacher preparation program;
- (2) a special education teacher preparation program;
- (3) an education administrator preparation program; the program may include a specialization for principal or superintendent;
- (4) a special education administrator preparation program;

(5) a special services preparation program in school psychology, speech/language pathology, speech pathology, audiology, speech and hearing, speech therapy, school counseling, school social work, or school library science.

(b) For educator preparation programs for which the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education sets standards, the board will approve an application under (a) of this section if the program offered by the applicant substantially meets the *Professional Standards for the Accreditation of Teacher Preparation Institutions*, published by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, revised as of February 2008, and adopted by reference.

(c) An institution may apply for approval under (a) of this section only if the institution's headquarters are located in this state and the institution is not eligible to have its educator training program reviewed for approval by a state board of education located in a different state.

(d) An approval of an educator preparation program under (a) of this section expires seven years after granted. An institution may reapply for approval of a program at any time during the seven years, and must reapply if the institution makes changes to the program that would trigger a new accreditation evaluation. The board may withdraw approval of a program at any time if the board receives substantial evidence that the program no longer meets the standards in (b) of this section. (Eff. 9/7/2012, Register 203)

**Authority:**    AS 14.07.060                    AS 14.20.020                    AS 14.20.620  
                  AS 14.20.010                    AS 14.20.022                    AS 14.20.630

**Editor's note:** Copies of *Professional Standards for the Accreditation of Teacher Preparation Institutions*, adopted by reference in 4 AAC 12.308 may be obtained by writing to

the Department of Education and Early Development, 801 West 10th Street, Suite 200, P.O. Box 110500, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500 or at <http://www.ncate.org>

4 AAC 12.330(a) is amended to read:

(a) A person employed by or on behalf of a school district to teach special education to a child with a disability must possess a teacher certificate issued under 4 AAC 12.305 and must obtain a special education endorsement under this section, based upon completion of a teacher training program in special education **accepted by the commissioner under 4 AAC 12.307**, or an alternate program accepted by the [BOARD OR THE] commissioner **under 4 AAC 12.307** [; THE BOARD OR COMMISSIONER WILL ONLY ACCEPT A PROGRAM IF THE PROGRAM IS

(1) OFFERED BY A REGIONALLY ACCREDITED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION;

(2) APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OR CHIEF SCHOOL OFFICER OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE PROGRAM WAS OFFERED AS SUBSTANTIALLY MEETING THE UNIT STANDARDS SET OUT IN *STANDARDS PROCEDURES & POLICIES FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNITS, 1997 REVISION* AND THE PROGRAM STANDARDS SET OUT IN *NCATE CURRICULUM GUIDELINES, SPRING 1998*, PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ACCREDITATION OF TEACHER EDUCATION; OR

(3) APPROVED BY THE CHIEF SCHOOL OFFICER OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE PROGRAM WAS OFFERED AS MEETING THE STATE'S STANDARDS FOR TEACHER PREPARATION].

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 9/7/2012, Register \_\_)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.017 AS 14.20.025  
AS 14.20.015 AS 14.20.020

4 AAC 12.345(a)(2) is amended to read:

(2) has completed a school administration program accepted by [THE BOARD OR] the commissioner **under 4 AAC 12.307**, or for the special education administrator endorsement a special education administration program accepted by [THE BOARD OR] the commissioner **under 4 AAC 12.307** [; THE BOARD OR COMMISSIONER WILL ONLY ACCEPT A PROGRAM IF THE PROGRAM IS

(A) OFFERED BY A REGIONALLY ACCREDITED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OR A PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE CHIEF SCHOOL OFFICER IN THE STATE IN WHICH THE PROGRAM WAS OFFERED AS MEETING THE STATE'S STANDARDS FOR COMPARABLE CERTIFICATES;  
AND

(B) APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OR CHIEF SCHOOL OFFICER OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE PROGRAM IS OFFERED AS SUBSTANTIALLY MEETING THE UNIT STANDARDS SET OUT IN STANDARDS PROCEDURES & POLICIES FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNITS, 1997 REVISION AND THE PROGRAM STANDARDS SET OUT IN NCATE CURRICULUM GUIDELINES, SPRING 1998, PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ACCREDITATION OF TEACHER EDUCATION].

(Eff. 9/29/2005, Register 175; am 8/31/2008, Register 187; am 9/17/2011, Register 199; am 9/7/2012, Register 203)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020 AS 14.30.255

4 AAC 12.347(a)(2) is amended to read:

(2) has completed a special education administration program accepted by the [BOARD OR THE] commissioner under 4 AAC 12.307 [; THE BOARD OR COMMISSIONER WILL ONLY ACCEPT A PROGRAM IF THE PROGRAM IS

(A) OFFERED BY A REGIONALLY ACCREDITED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OR A PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE CHIEF SCHOOL OFFICER IN THE STATE IN WHICH THE PROGRAM WAS OFFERED AS MEETING THE STATE'S STANDARDS FOR COMPARABLE CERTIFICATES; AND

(B) APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OR CHIEF SCHOOL OFFICER OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE PROGRAM IS OFFERED AS SUBSTANTIALLY MEETING THE UNIT STANDARDS SET OUT IN STANDARDS PROCEDURES & POLICIES FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNITS, 1997 REVISION AND THE PROGRAM STANDARDS SET OUT IN NCATE CURRICULUM GUIDELINES, SPRING 1998, PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ACCREDITATION OF TEACHER EDUCATION].

(Eff. 8/31/2008, Register 187; am 9/17/2011, Register 199; am 9/7/2012, Register 203)

**Authority:** AS 14.07.060 AS 14.20.020 AS 14.30.255