

# Tiered Licensure Transition Update



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL  
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

Updated: December, 2018

The new Tiered licensing law took effect on July 1, 2018. Over the course of the 2018-2019 academic year, the transition to that new system will take place. Below are important details related to the transition to the new system.

- **Extensions**

- Early in 2018, the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) notified teachers that it extended five-year standard teaching licenses by one year. However, PELSB's email list for current license holders is not entirely up-to-date, so some of our members did not get and will not get the notice.

- **Extensions for different license/permission types**

- All five-year standard license holders have had their licenses extended by one year. Licenses that were going to expire in 2018 are now extended to 2019, and teachers CANNOT renew until their expiration year. Teachers whose licenses were set to expire in 2019 are now extended to 2020, and so on.
- On the license look-up tool on PELSB's website, there is a "license" tab and a "details" tab. Information about the extended deadline can be found under the "details" tab. The "license" tab shows a PDF of the original license, and the PELSB was not able to generate 50,000 of those and replace the image under that tab. If you have a member who needs an updated PDF copy of his or her license showing the new, extended expiration date, have them contact the PELSB at [pelsb@state.mn.us](mailto:pelsb@state.mn.us).
- Teachers who taught last year (2017-2018) on a standard one-year license with an expiration date of June 30, 2018, have had their licenses extended one year also.
- Teachers who had variances or non-licensed community expert permissions in place as of January 1, 2018 had those permissions extended by a year automatically. They will expire on June 30, 2019.

- **How current license and permission holders will transition**

- All standard five-year license holders will continue teaching with their standard five-year license this fall. Those who are up for renewal in 2019 will convert to Tier 4 at the time of renewal. All others, those set to renew in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023, will have their licenses converted to Tier 4 licenses on July 1, 2019. The new Tier 4 licenses will have the same, extended expiration dates they have now.

- All educators who had one-year limited licenses last year who did not apply for a standard five-year license before July 1, 2018 had their one-year limited licenses extended by one year. They may continue to teach on their limited licenses for the 2018-2019 academic year, and will be placed into the new Tiered system before the fall of 2019.
- All educators who had a non-licensed community expert permission that was in place as of January 1, 2018 had those permissions automatically extended by one year, and can teach on that same permission for the 2018-2019 academic year. They will need to be placed into the tiered system to teach in the fall of 2019 or beyond.

- **The gap between variances and out-of-field permissions**

At the start of the 2018-2019 school year, Minnesota school districts were in a difficult position because the old variance language was deleted from law, so new variances were no longer available, and the new rules that introduce the out-of-field permission were not yet in place. Because of this, Education Minnesota worked with the Minnesota School Board Association to come up with a model agreement that could be used to protect the rights of a teacher assigned to teach on multiple tiers. Since the rules have now been adopted, there should no longer be teachers working on multiple tiers at the same time. Any district that hired someone under the terms of the model agreement should now be seeking the appropriate out-of-field permission for that teacher. Tier 4 teachers teaching on out-of-field permissions will be considered Tier 4 teachers for the entirety of their assignments.

- **What the extended expiration dates mean for renewal and for the accumulation of CEUs:**

Teachers with standard full-professional five-year licenses that have been extended are wondering whether or not CEUs that will be six years old by the time they renew will still be valid. The answer is yes. **The system is set up to go 6 years back through the 2023 cycle and then revert back to 5 years.**

If your license was set to expire in 2018 but is extended to 2019, you can renew in 2019 with CEUs as old as January, 2013.

If your license was set to expire in 2019 but is extended to 2020, you can renew in 2020 with CEUs as old as January, 2014.

If your license was set to expire in 2020 but is extended to 2021, you can renew in 2021 with CEUs as old as January, 2015.

If your license was set to expire in 2021 but is extended to 2022, you can renew in 2022 with CEUs as old as January, 2016.

If your license was set to expire in 2022 but is extended to 2023, you can renew in 2023 with CEUs as old as January, 2017.

After that, everyone will have cycled through. So when applicants go to renew in 2024, they can only use CEUs as old as January, 2019. When applicants renew in 2025, they can only use CEUs as old as January, 2020, and so on.

- **How does Education Minnesota advise members to prepare for their renewal cycle?**

Our advice for all standard full-professional five-year license holders is to get your 125 hours ready before your extended expiration date, but don't get *additional* CEUs before your extended expiration date (unless you want them for reasons other than licensure renewal), as they won't be counted in the next cycle.

- **Changes to topics required by law for renewal, and prorated PD hour requirements by tier**

An addition: Cultural competency training has been added to the list of requirements for licensure renewal. The first five-year cohort that will have to show they have had cultural competency training is the cohort that will be renewing in 2020.

Two deletions: Technology and accommodations/modifications have both been deleted from the list of requirements for licensure renewal, but that change does not take effect immediately. The cohort that is renewing in 2019 will still have to demonstrate that they have had those trainings, but after 2019, teachers will no longer need technology or accommodations/modifications training for the purpose of license renewal.

<b>Cohort renewing in 2019</b>	<b>Cohorts renewing in 2020 and beyond</b>
Growth in best practice (reflective statement that is part of teacher development and evaluation)	Growth in best practice (reflective statement that is part of teacher development and evaluation)
Accommodations/modifications	Cultural competency
Technology	Practices to meet the needs of English language learners
Practices to meet the needs of English language learners	PBIS training
PBIS training	Reading preparation training
Reading preparation training	Mental illness training
Mental illness training	Suicide prevention training
Suicide prevention training	

Continuing education committees will only be working with Tier 3 and Tier 4 license holders for the purpose of license renewal. Tier 3 licenses are three-year licenses. Those members will have to show 75 hours of professional development at the time of renewal. Tier 4 licenses are five-year licenses. Those members will have to show 125 hours.