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HOUSE BILL NO. 1383

Offered January 21, 2026

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-298.1, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia, relating to teacher licensure; technical professional license; curriculum and instruction coursework; comprehensive community colleges.*

Patrons—Oates, Wiley, Callsen, Cohen, Cousins and Reaser

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 22.1-298.1, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 22.1-298.1. (Effective until July 1, 2030) Regulations governing licensure.

A. As used in this section:

"Alternate route to licensure" means a nontraditional route to teacher licensure available to individuals who meet the criteria specified in the guidelines developed pursuant to subsection P or regulations issued by the Board.

"Industry certification credential" means an active career and technical education credential that is earned by successfully completing a Board-approved industry certification examination, being issued a professional license in the Commonwealth, or successfully completing an occupational competency examination.

"Licensure by reciprocity" means the issuance of a license as a teacher in the Commonwealth to an individual coming into the Commonwealth from another state when that individual meets certain conditions specified in the Board's regulations.

"Local eligibility license" means a nonrenewable license issued in accordance with subsection N, not to exceed one year, to an individual who needs to take additional coursework but otherwise meets certain conditions for licensure set forth in the Board's regulations and subsection N, and who may be employed by a school division in the Commonwealth with the intention of such individual, upon satisfaction of the applicable requirements set forth in Board regulations, receiving full licensure with a renewable license.

"Professional teacher's assessment" means those tests mandated for licensure as prescribed by the Board.

"Provisional license" means a nonrenewable license issued by the Board or by a division superintendent as permitted pursuant to subdivision D 5 for a specified period of time, not to exceed three years, to an individual who may be employed by a school division in the Commonwealth and who generally meets the requirements specified in the Board's regulations for licensure, but who may need to take additional coursework, pass additional assessments, or meet alternative evaluation standards to be fully licensed with a renewable license.

"Renewable license" means a license issued by the Board for 10 years to an individual who meets the requirements specified in the Board's regulations.

"Universal licensure by reciprocity" means the issuance of a license as a teacher in the Commonwealth to any individual who holds a valid out-of-state teaching license with full credentials and without deficiencies that has been in force and in use by the individual as an employed teacher in a non-virtual classroom setting at a public or private elementary or secondary school for at least three years prior to and is in force at the time the Department receives such individual's application for a license as a teacher in the Commonwealth.

B. The Board shall prescribe, by regulation, the requirements for the licensure of teachers and other school personnel required to hold a license. Such regulations shall include procedures for (i) the denial, suspension, cancellation, revocation, and reinstatement of licensure; (ii) written reprimand of license holders on grounds established by the Board, in accordance with law, notice of which shall be made by the Superintendent to division superintendents or their designated representatives; and (iii) the immediate and thorough investigation by the division superintendent or his designee of any complaint alleging that a license holder has engaged in conduct that may form the basis for the revocation of his license. At a minimum, such procedures for investigations contained in such regulations shall require (a) the division superintendent to petition for the revocation of the license upon completing such investigation and finding that there is reasonable cause to believe that the license holder has engaged in conduct that forms the basis for revocation of a license; (b) the school board to proceed to a hearing on such petition for revocation within 90 days of the mailing of a copy of the petition to the license holder, unless the license holder requests the cancellation of his license in accordance with Board regulations; and (c) the school board to provide a copy of the investigative file and such petition for revocation to the Superintendent at the time that the hearing is scheduled. The Board shall revoke the license of any person for whom it has received a notice of dismissal or resignation pursuant to subsection F of § 22.1-313 and, in the case of a person who is the subject of a founded

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59 complaint of child abuse or neglect, after all rights to any administrative appeal provided by § 63.2-1526 have
 60 been exhausted. In the case of a teacher who is the subject of a founded complaint of child abuse or neglect
 61 and whose license has been revoked pursuant to this subsection, in the event that a court reverses such finding
 62 of abuse or neglect and the individual submits to the Department an application for the reinstatement of his
 63 license as a teacher, the Board shall consider and act upon such application no later than 90 days after the
 64 date of submission. Regardless of the authority of any other agency of the Commonwealth to approve
 65 educational programs, only the Board shall have the authority to license teachers to be regularly employed by
 66 school boards, including those teachers employed to provide nursing education.

67 The Board shall prescribe by regulation the licensure requirements for teachers who teach only online
 68 courses, as defined in § 22.1-212.23. Such license shall be valid only for teaching online courses. Teachers
 69 who hold a 10-year renewable license issued by the Board may teach online courses for which they are
 70 properly endorsed.

71 C. The Board's regulations shall include requirements that a person seeking initial licensure:

72 1. Demonstrate proficiency in the relevant content area and other core skills for educators by achieving a
 73 qualifying score on professional assessments or meeting alternative evaluation standards as prescribed by the
 74 Board. Such assessments for any individual seeking initial licensure with an endorsement in early/primary
 75 education preschool through grade three, elementary education preschool through grade six, special education
 76 general curriculum kindergarten through grade 12, special education deaf and hard of hearing preschool
 77 through grade 12, or special education blindness/visual impairments preschool through grade 12 or as a
 78 reading specialist shall include a rigorous test of science-based reading research and evidence-based literacy
 79 instruction;

80 2. Complete study in attention deficit disorder;

81 3. Complete study in gifted education, including the use of multiple criteria to identify gifted students; and

82 4. Complete study in methods of improving communication between schools and families and ways of
 83 increasing family involvement in student learning at home and at school.

84 D. In addition, such regulations shall include requirements that:

85 1. Every person seeking initial licensure and persons seeking licensure renewal as teachers who have not
 86 completed such study shall complete study in child abuse recognition and intervention in accordance with
 87 curriculum guidelines developed by the Board in consultation with the Department of Social Services that are
 88 relevant to the specific teacher licensure routes;

89 2. Every person seeking renewal of a license shall complete all renewal requirements, including
 90 professional development in a manner prescribed by the Board, except that no person seeking renewal of a
 91 license shall be required to satisfy any such requirement by completing coursework and earning credit at an
 92 institution of higher education;

93 3. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license shall provide evidence of completion of
 94 certification or training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated
 95 external defibrillators. The certification or training program shall (i) be based on the current national
 96 evidence-based emergency cardiovascular care guidelines for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an
 97 automated external defibrillator, such as a program developed by the American Heart Association or the
 98 American Red Cross, and (ii) include hands-on practice of the skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary
 99 resuscitation. The Board shall provide a waiver for this requirement for any person with a disability whose
 100 disability prohibits such person from completing the certification or training;

101 4. Every person seeking licensure with an endorsement as a teacher of the blind and visually impaired
 102 shall demonstrate proficiency in reading and writing Braille;

103 5. Every teacher seeking an initial license in the Commonwealth with an endorsement in the area of career
 104 and technical education shall have an industry certification credential in the area in which the teacher seeks
 105 endorsement. If a teacher seeking an initial license in the Commonwealth with an endorsement in the area of
 106 career and technical education has (i) not attained an industry certification credential in the area in which the
 107 teacher seeks endorsement, the division superintendent may issue the teacher a provisional license to allow
 108 time for the teacher to attain such credential or (ii) a high school diploma or a high school equivalency
 109 certificate and an industry-recognized credential, certification, or license in the area in which such person
 110 seeks an endorsement but has not completed all requirements specified in the Board's regulations for
 111 licensure, the Board shall issue the person a provisional license to allow time for such person to complete, in
 112 lieu of the outstanding requirements specified in the Board's regulations for licensure, coursework in
 113 classroom management, curriculum and instruction in career and technical education, and human growth and
 114 development or educational technology;

115 6. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license shall complete awareness training,
 116 provided by the Department, on the indicators of dyslexia, as that term is defined by the Board pursuant to
 117 regulations, and the evidence-based interventions and accommodations for dyslexia;

118 7. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license with an endorsement as a school
 119 counselor shall complete training in the recognition of mental health disorder and behavioral distress,
 120 including depression, trauma, violence, youth suicide, and substance abuse;

121 8. Every person seeking initial licensure as a teacher who has not received the instruction described in
 122 subsection D of § 23.1-902 shall receive instruction or training on positive behavior interventions and
 123 supports; crisis prevention and de-escalation; the use of physical restraint and seclusion, consistent with
 124 regulations of the Board; and appropriate alternative methods to reduce and prevent the need for the use of
 125 physical restraint and seclusion;

126 9. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license shall complete instruction or training in
 127 cultural competency;

128 10. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license with an endorsement in history and
 129 social sciences shall complete instruction in African American history, as prescribed by the Board;

130 11. Every person seeking renewal of a license as a teacher shall complete training in the instruction of
 131 students with disabilities that includes (i) differentiating instruction for students depending on their needs; (ii)
 132 understanding the role of general education teachers on the individualized education program team; (iii)
 133 implementing effective models of collaborative instruction, including co-teaching; and (iv) understanding the
 134 goals and benefits of inclusive education for all students; and

135 12. Every person seeking initial licensure with an endorsement in early/primary education preschool
 136 through grade three, elementary education preschool through grade six, special education general curriculum
 137 kindergarten through grade 12, special education deaf and hard of hearing preschool through grade 12, or
 138 special education blindness/visual impairments preschool through grade 12 or as a reading specialist shall
 139 complete study in science-based reading research and evidence-based literacy instruction.

140 E. No teacher who seeks a provisional license shall be required to meet any requirement set forth in
 141 subdivision D 1, 3, 6, or 8 as a condition of such licensure, but each such teacher shall complete each such
 142 requirement during the first year of provisional licensure.

143 F. The Board shall issue a license to an individual seeking initial licensure who has not completed
 144 professional assessments as prescribed by the Board, if such individual (i) holds a provisional license that will
 145 expire within three months or, at the discretion of the school board and division superintendent, within six
 146 months if the individual has received a satisfactory mid-year performance review in the current school year;
 147 (ii) is employed by a school board; (iii) is recommended for licensure by the division superintendent; (iv) has
 148 attempted, unsuccessfully, to obtain a qualifying score on the professional assessments as prescribed by the
 149 Board; (v) has received an evaluation rating of proficient or above on the performance standards for each year
 150 of the provisional license, and such evaluation was conducted in a manner consistent with the Guidelines for
 151 Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Teachers, Principals, and Superintendents; and
 152 (vi) meets all other requirements for initial licensure.

153 G. Each division superintendent may waive for any individual whom he seeks to employ as a career and
 154 technical education teacher and who is also seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license with an
 155 endorsement in the area of career and technical education any applicable requirement set forth in subsection
 156 C or subdivision D 2, 4, or 6.

157 H. The Board's regulations shall require that initial licensure for principals and assistant principals be
 158 contingent upon passage of an assessment as prescribed by the Board.

159 I. The Board shall establish criteria in its regulations to effectuate the substitution of experiential learning
 160 for coursework for those persons seeking initial licensure through an alternate route as defined in Board
 161 regulations. Such alternate routes shall include eligibility for any individual to receive, notwithstanding any
 162 provision of law to the contrary, a renewable one-year license to teach in public high schools in the
 163 Commonwealth if he has:

164 1. Received a graduate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education;

165 2. Completed at least 30 credit hours of teaching experience as an instructor at a regionally accredited
 166 institution of higher education;

167 3. Received qualifying scores on the professional teacher's assessments prescribed by the Board, including
 168 the content-area assessment for the endorsement sought. Such assessments for any individual seeking initial
 169 licensure through an alternate route with an endorsement in early/primary education preschool through grade
 170 three, elementary education preschool through grade six, special education general curriculum kindergarten
 171 through grade 12, special education deaf and hard of hearing preschool through grade 12, or special education
 172 blindness/visual impairments preschool through grade 12 or as a reading specialist shall include a rigorous
 173 test of science-based reading research and evidence-based literacy instruction; and

174 4. Met the requirements set forth in subdivisions D 1 and 3.

175 J. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Board (i) may provide for the issuance of a
 176 provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years, pursuant to clause (i) of subdivision D 5 or to
 177 any person who does not meet the requirements of this section or any other requirement for licensure imposed
 178 by law; (ii) shall provide for the issuance of a provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years,
 179 pursuant to clause (ii) of subdivision D 5; (iii) shall provide for the issuance of a provisional license, valid for
 180 a period not to exceed three years, to any former member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the
 181 Virginia National Guard who has received an honorable discharge and has the appropriate level of experience

182 or training but does not meet the requirements for a renewable license; and (iv) may provide for the issuance
183 of a provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years, to any individual who has held within the
184 last five years a valid and officially issued and recognized license or certification to teach issued by an entity
185 outside of the United States but does not meet the requirements for a renewable license if the individual's
186 license or certification to teach has been evaluated and verified by an entity approved by the Department.

187 K. The Board's licensure regulations shall also provide for licensure by reciprocity:

188 1. With comparable endorsement areas for those individuals holding a valid out-of-state teaching license
189 and national certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or a nationally
190 recognized certification program approved by the Board. The application for such individuals shall require
191 evidence of such valid licensure and national certification and shall not require official student transcripts;
192 and

193 2. For any spouse of an active duty or reserve member of the Armed Forces of the United States or a
194 member of the Virginia National Guard who has obtained a valid out-of-state license, with full credentials
195 and without deficiencies, that is in force at the time the application for a Virginia license is received by the
196 Department. Each such individual shall establish a file in the Department by submitting a complete
197 application packet, which shall include official student transcripts and an official copy of the military
198 permanent assignment orders of the individual's spouse. No service requirements or licensing assessments
199 shall be required for any such individual. The Department shall determine and communicate such individual's
200 eligibility for licensure by reciprocity within 15 business days of receipt of the complete application packet.

201 L. The Board's licensure regulations shall also provide for universal licensure by reciprocity for any
202 individual who holds a valid out-of-state teaching license with full credentials and without deficiencies that
203 has been in force for at least three years prior to and is in force at the time of application. No service
204 requirements or licensing assessments shall be required for any individual who applies for universal licensure
205 by reciprocity. Any individual who applies for universal licensure by reciprocity shall provide a copy of the
206 individual's out-of-state teaching license that meets the criteria set forth in this subsection. Any such
207 individual shall be subject to the provisions of §§ 22.1-296.2 and 22.1-296.4. The Department shall prioritize
208 applications for universal licensure by reciprocity.

209 M. The Board shall include in its regulations an alternate route to licensure for elementary education
210 preschool through grade six and an alternate route to licensure for special education general curriculum
211 kindergarten through grade 12. Each such alternate route to licensure shall require individuals to (i) meet the
212 qualifying scores on the content area assessment prescribed by the Board for the endorsements sought and (ii)
213 complete an alternative certification program that provides training in the pedagogy and methodology of the
214 respective content or special education areas prescribed by the Board. The curriculum of any such alternative
215 certification program shall be approved by the Board. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude the Board
216 from establishing other alternate routes to licensure.

217 N. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Board, upon recommendation of the division
218 superintendent or school board, may provide for the issuance of a valid one-year nonrenewable local
219 eligibility license to any individual who (i) received a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited
220 institution of higher education and (ii) has experience or training in a subject or content area as the local
221 school board and division superintendent may deem appropriate for the applicable teaching position or
222 endorsement area. Any such one-year nonrenewable local eligibility license shall be issued in accordance
223 with the following criteria:

224 1. Each school board shall ensure that the number of teachers employed by the school board under such
225 local eligibility license does not exceed five percent of the teachers employed by such school board during
226 the preceding school year;

227 2. No school board shall issue such local eligibility license to any individual who is (i) seeking to provide
228 instruction in special education or (ii) eligible for a collegiate professional license or postgraduate
229 professional license;

230 3. Any individual who is issued a local eligibility license pursuant to this subsection shall be required to
231 complete within such one-year period the requirements set forth in subsection C and subdivisions D 1, 3, 6, 8,
232 and 9 as well as any additional training requirements that may be prescribed by the school board and division
233 superintendent;

234 4. Such local eligibility license shall only be valid within the issuing school division;

235 5. Each school board may, upon an individual's completion of a local eligibility license, issue a
236 provisional license to such individual upon receiving from the division superintendent (i) a recommendation
237 for such license and (ii) a satisfactory performance evaluation for such individual for the local eligibility
238 licensure period;

239 6. Any individual issued a one-year local eligibility license shall be considered a probationary teacher and
240 shall be subject to the probationary terms of employment pursuant to § 22.1-303;

241 7. Any teacher employed under a one-year local eligibility license shall be issued a collegiate professional
242 or postgraduate professional license upon the expiration of the local eligibility license if such teacher, before
243 or by the expiration of such local eligibility license, (i) receives a recommendation from the division

244 superintendent and the school board, (ii) satisfies all requirements for the applicable license pursuant to
 245 relevant law and regulations, and (iii) satisfies any other criteria as may be prescribed by the Board; and

246 8. The Department's Office of Licensure shall review each local eligibility license within a month of
 247 issuance to any individual to ensure compliance with all Board regulations.

248 O. The Board, in its regulations providing for licensure by reciprocity established pursuant to subsections
 249 K and L, shall (i) permit applicants to submit third-party employment verification forms and (ii) grant special
 250 consideration to individuals who have successfully completed a program offered by a provider that is
 251 accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation.

252 P. The Board shall develop guidelines that establish a process to permit a school board or any organization
 253 sponsored by a school board to petition the Board for approval of an alternate route to licensure that may be
 254 used to meet the requirements for a provisional or renewable license or any endorsement. Any such alternate
 255 route may include alternatives to the regulatory requirements for teacher preparation, including alternative
 256 professional assessments and coursework. The petitioner may proffer or the Board may impose conditions in
 257 conjunction with the approval of such petition.

258 *Q. Any individual seeking a technical professional license may complete any required coursework in*
 259 *curriculum and instruction at any comprehensive community college, as such term is defined in § 23.1-100,*
 260 *that offers such coursework, regardless of whether such coursework is offered on a for-credit basis or as part*
 261 *of a noncredit workforce credential.*

262 **§ 22.1-298.1. (Effective July 1, 2030) Regulations governing licensure.**

263 A. As used in this section:

264 "Alternate route to licensure" means a nontraditional route to teacher licensure available to individuals
 265 who meet the criteria specified in the guidelines developed pursuant to subsection O or regulations issued by
 266 the Board.

267 "Industry certification credential" means an active career and technical education credential that is earned
 268 by successfully completing a Board-approved industry certification examination, being issued a professional
 269 license in the Commonwealth, or successfully completing an occupational competency examination.

270 "Licensure by reciprocity" means the issuance of a license as a teacher in the Commonwealth to an
 271 individual coming into the Commonwealth from another state when that individual meets certain conditions
 272 specified in the Board's regulations.

273 "Professional teacher's assessment" means those tests mandated for licensure as prescribed by the Board.

274 "Provisional license" means a nonrenewable license issued by the Board or by a division superintendent
 275 as permitted pursuant to subdivision D 5 for a specified period of time, not to exceed three years, to an
 276 individual who may be employed by a school division in the Commonwealth and who generally meets the
 277 requirements specified in the Board's regulations for licensure, but who may need to take additional
 278 coursework, pass additional assessments, or meet alternative evaluation standards to be fully licensed with a
 279 renewable license.

280 "Renewable license" means a license issued by the Board for 10 years to an individual who meets the
 281 requirements specified in the Board's regulations.

282 "Universal licensure by reciprocity" means the issuance of a license as a teacher in the Commonwealth to
 283 any individual who holds a valid out-of-state teaching license with full credentials and without deficiencies
 284 that has been in force and in use by the individual as an employed teacher in a non-virtual classroom setting
 285 at a public or private elementary or secondary school for at least three years prior to and is in force at the time
 286 the Department receives such individual's application for a license as a teacher in the Commonwealth.

287 B. The Board shall prescribe, by regulation, the requirements for the licensure of teachers and other
 288 school personnel required to hold a license. Such regulations shall include procedures for (i) the denial,
 289 suspension, cancellation, revocation, and reinstatement of licensure; (ii) written reprimand of license holders
 290 on grounds established by the Board, in accordance with law, notice of which shall be made by the
 291 Superintendent to division superintendents or their designated representatives; and (iii) the immediate and
 292 thorough investigation by the division superintendent or his designee of any complaint alleging that a license
 293 holder has engaged in conduct that may form the basis for the revocation of his license. At a minimum, such
 294 procedures for investigations contained in such regulations shall require (a) the division superintendent to
 295 petition for the revocation of the license upon completing such investigation and finding that there is
 296 reasonable cause to believe that the license holder has engaged in conduct that forms the basis for revocation
 297 of a license; (b) the school board to proceed to a hearing on such petition for revocation within 90 days of the
 298 mailing of a copy of the petition to the license holder, unless the license holder requests the cancellation of
 299 his license in accordance with Board regulations; and (c) the school board to provide a copy of the
 300 investigative file and such petition for revocation to the Superintendent at the time that the hearing is
 301 scheduled. The Board shall revoke the license of any person for whom it has received a notice of dismissal or
 302 resignation pursuant to subsection F of § 22.1-313 and, in the case of a person who is the subject of a founded
 303 complaint of child abuse or neglect, after all rights to any administrative appeal provided by § 63.2-1526 have
 304 been exhausted. In the case of a teacher who is the subject of a founded complaint of child abuse or neglect
 305 and whose license has been revoked pursuant to this subsection, in the event that a court reverses such finding

306 of abuse or neglect and the individual submits to the Department an application for the reinstatement of his
307 license as a teacher, the Board shall consider and act upon such application no later than 90 days after the
308 date of submission. Regardless of the authority of any other agency of the Commonwealth to approve
309 educational programs, only the Board shall have the authority to license teachers to be regularly employed by
310 school boards, including those teachers employed to provide nursing education.

311 The Board shall prescribe by regulation the licensure requirements for teachers who teach only online
312 courses, as defined in § 22.1-212.23. Such license shall be valid only for teaching online courses. Teachers
313 who hold a 10-year renewable license issued by the Board may teach online courses for which they are
314 properly endorsed.

315 C. The Board's regulations shall include requirements that a person seeking initial licensure:

316 1. Demonstrate proficiency in the relevant content area and other core skills for educators by achieving a
317 qualifying score on professional assessments or meeting alternative evaluation standards as prescribed by the
318 Board. Such assessments for any individual seeking initial licensure with an endorsement in early/primary
319 education preschool through grade three, elementary education preschool through grade six, special education
320 general curriculum kindergarten through grade 12, special education deaf and hard of hearing preschool
321 through grade 12, or special education blindness/visual impairments preschool through grade 12 or as a
322 reading specialist shall include a rigorous test of science-based reading research and evidence-based literacy
323 instruction;

324 2. Complete study in attention deficit disorder;

325 3. Complete study in gifted education, including the use of multiple criteria to identify gifted students; and

326 4. Complete study in methods of improving communication between schools and families and ways of
327 increasing family involvement in student learning at home and at school.

328 D. In addition, such regulations shall include requirements that:

329 1. Every person seeking initial licensure and persons seeking licensure renewal as teachers who have not
330 completed such study shall complete study in child abuse recognition and intervention in accordance with
331 curriculum guidelines developed by the Board in consultation with the Department of Social Services that are
332 relevant to the specific teacher licensure routes;

333 2. Every person seeking renewal of a license shall complete all renewal requirements, including
334 professional development in a manner prescribed by the Board, except that no person seeking renewal of a
335 license shall be required to satisfy any such requirement by completing coursework and earning credit at an
336 institution of higher education;

337 3. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license shall provide evidence of completion of
338 certification or training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated
339 external defibrillators. The certification or training program shall (i) be based on the current national
340 evidence-based emergency cardiovascular care guidelines for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an
341 automated external defibrillator, such as a program developed by the American Heart Association or the
342 American Red Cross, and (ii) include hands-on practice of the skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary
343 resuscitation. The Board shall provide a waiver for this requirement for any person with a disability whose
344 disability prohibits such person from completing the certification or training;

345 4. Every person seeking licensure with an endorsement as a teacher of the blind and visually impaired
346 shall demonstrate proficiency in reading and writing Braille;

347 5. Every teacher seeking an initial license in the Commonwealth with an endorsement in the area of career
348 and technical education shall have an industry certification credential in the area in which the teacher seeks
349 endorsement. If a teacher seeking an initial license in the Commonwealth with an endorsement in the area of
350 career and technical education has (i) not attained an industry certification credential in the area in which the
351 teacher seeks endorsement, the division superintendent may issue the teacher a provisional license to allow
352 time for the teacher to attain such credential or (ii) a high school diploma or a high school equivalency
353 certificate and an industry-recognized credential, certification, or license in the area in which such person
354 seeks an endorsement but has not completed all requirements specified in the Board's regulations for
355 licensure, the Board shall issue the person a provisional license to allow time for such person to complete, in
356 lieu of the outstanding requirements specified in the Board's regulations for licensure, coursework in
357 classroom management, curriculum and instruction in career and technical education, and human growth and
358 development or educational technology;

359 6. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license shall complete awareness training,
360 provided by the Department, on the indicators of dyslexia, as that term is defined by the Board pursuant to
361 regulations, and the evidence-based interventions and accommodations for dyslexia;

362 7. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license with an endorsement as a school
363 counselor shall complete training in the recognition of mental health disorder and behavioral distress,
364 including depression, trauma, violence, youth suicide, and substance abuse;

365 8. Every person seeking initial licensure as a teacher who has not received the instruction described in
366 subsection D of § 23.1-902 shall receive instruction or training on positive behavior interventions and
367 supports; crisis prevention and de-escalation; the use of physical restraint and seclusion, consistent with

368 regulations of the Board; and appropriate alternative methods to reduce and prevent the need for the use of
369 physical restraint and seclusion;

370 9. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license shall complete instruction or training in
371 cultural competency;

372 10. Every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license with an endorsement in history and
373 social sciences shall complete instruction in African American history, as prescribed by the Board;

374 11. Every person seeking renewal of a license as a teacher shall complete training in the instruction of
375 students with disabilities that includes (i) differentiating instruction for students depending on their needs; (ii)
376 understanding the role of general education teachers on the individualized education program team; (iii)
377 implementing effective models of collaborative instruction, including co-teaching; and (iv) understanding the
378 goals and benefits of inclusive education for all students; and

379 12. Every person seeking initial licensure with an endorsement in early/primary education preschool
380 through grade three, elementary education preschool through grade six, special education general curriculum
381 kindergarten through grade 12, special education deaf and hard of hearing preschool through grade 12, or
382 special education blindness/visual impairments preschool through grade 12 or as a reading specialist shall
383 complete study in science-based reading research and evidence-based literacy instruction.

384 E. No teacher who seeks a provisional license shall be required to meet any requirement set forth in
385 subdivision D 1, 3, 6, or 8 as a condition of such licensure, but each such teacher shall complete each such
386 requirement during the first year of provisional licensure.

387 F. The Board shall issue a license to an individual seeking initial licensure who has not completed
388 professional assessments as prescribed by the Board, if such individual (i) holds a provisional license that will
389 expire within three months or, at the discretion of the school board and division superintendent, within six
390 months if the individual has received a satisfactory mid-year performance review in the current school year;
391 (ii) is employed by a school board; (iii) is recommended for licensure by the division superintendent; (iv) has
392 attempted, unsuccessfully, to obtain a qualifying score on the professional assessments as prescribed by the
393 Board; (v) has received an evaluation rating of proficient or above on the performance standards for each year
394 of the provisional license, and such evaluation was conducted in a manner consistent with the Guidelines for
395 Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Teachers, Principals, and Superintendents; and
396 (vi) meets all other requirements for initial licensure.

397 G. Each division superintendent may waive for any individual whom he seeks to employ as a career and
398 technical education teacher and who is also seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license with an
399 endorsement in the area of career and technical education any applicable requirement set forth in subsection
400 C or subdivision D 2, 4, or 6.

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402 contingent upon passage of an assessment as prescribed by the Board.

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404 for coursework for those persons seeking initial licensure through an alternate route as defined in Board
405 regulations. Such alternate routes shall include eligibility for any individual to receive, notwithstanding any
406 provision of law to the contrary, a renewable one-year license to teach in public high schools in the
407 Commonwealth if he has:

408 1. Received a graduate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education;

409 2. Completed at least 30 credit hours of teaching experience as an instructor at a regionally accredited
410 institution of higher education;

411 3. Received qualifying scores on the professional teacher's assessments prescribed by the Board, including
412 the content-area assessment for the endorsement sought. Such assessments for any individual seeking initial
413 licensure through an alternate route with an endorsement in early/primary education preschool through grade
414 three, elementary education preschool through grade six, special education general curriculum kindergarten
415 through grade 12, special education deaf and hard of hearing preschool through grade 12, or special education
416 blindness/visual impairments preschool through grade 12 or as a reading specialist shall include a rigorous
417 test of science-based reading research and evidence-based literacy instruction; and

418 4. Met the requirements set forth in subdivisions D 1 and 3.

419 J. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Board (i) may provide for the issuance of a
420 provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years, pursuant to clause (i) of subdivision D 5 or to
421 any person who does not meet the requirements of this section or any other requirement for licensure imposed
422 by law; (ii) shall provide for the issuance of a provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years,
423 pursuant to clause (ii) of subdivision D 5; (iii) shall provide for the issuance of a provisional license, valid for
424 a period not to exceed three years, to any former member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the
425 Virginia National Guard who has received an honorable discharge and has the appropriate level of experience
426 or training but does not meet the requirements for a renewable license; and (iv) may provide for the issuance
427 of a provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years, to any individual who has held within the
428 last five years a valid and officially issued and recognized license or certification to teach issued by an entity

429 outside of the United States but does not meet the requirements for a renewable license if the individual's
430 license or certification to teach has been evaluated and verified by an entity approved by the Department.

431 K. The Board's licensure regulations shall also provide for licensure by reciprocity:

432 1. With comparable endorsement areas for those individuals holding a valid out-of-state teaching license
433 and national certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or a nationally
434 recognized certification program approved by the Board. The application for such individuals shall require
435 evidence of such valid licensure and national certification and shall not require official student transcripts;
436 and

437 2. For any spouse of an active duty or reserve member of the Armed Forces of the United States or a
438 member of the Virginia National Guard who has obtained a valid out-of-state license, with full credentials
439 and without deficiencies, that is in force at the time the application for a Virginia license is received by the
440 Department. Each such individual shall establish a file in the Department by submitting a complete
441 application packet, which shall include official student transcripts and an official copy of the military
442 permanent assignment orders of the individual's spouse. No service requirements or licensing assessments
443 shall be required for any such individual. The Department shall determine and communicate such individual's
444 eligibility for licensure by reciprocity within 15 business days of receipt of the complete application packet.

445 L. The Board's licensure regulations shall also provide for universal licensure by reciprocity for any
446 individual who holds a valid out-of-state teaching license with full credentials and without deficiencies that
447 has been in force for at least three years prior to and is in force at the time of applications. No service
448 requirements or licensing assessments shall be required for any individual who applies for universal licensure
449 by reciprocity. Any individual who applies for universal licensure by reciprocity shall provide a copy of the
450 individual's out-of-state teaching license that meets the criteria set forth in this subsection. Any such
451 individual shall be subject to the provisions of §§ 22.1-296.2 and 22.1-296.4. The Department shall prioritize
452 applications for universal licensure by reciprocity.

453 M. The Board shall include in its regulations an alternate route to licensure for elementary education
454 preschool through grade six and an alternate route to licensure for special education general curriculum
455 kindergarten through grade 12. Each such alternate route to licensure shall require individuals to (i) meet the
456 qualifying scores on the content area assessment prescribed by the Board for the endorsements sought and (ii)
457 complete an alternative certification program that provides training in the pedagogy and methodology of the
458 respective content or special education areas prescribed by the Board. The curriculum of any such alternative
459 certification program shall be approved by the Board. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude the Board
460 from establishing other alternate routes to licensure.

461 N. The Board, in its regulations providing for licensure by reciprocity established pursuant to subsections
462 K and L, shall (i) permit applicants to submit third-party employment verification forms and (ii) grant special
463 consideration to individuals who have successfully completed a program offered by a provider that is
464 accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation.

465 O. The Board shall develop guidelines that establish a process to permit a school board or any
466 organization sponsored by a school board to petition the Board for approval of an alternate route to licensure
467 that may be used to meet the requirements for a provisional or renewable license or any endorsement. Any
468 such alternate route may include alternatives to the regulatory requirements for teacher preparation, including
469 alternative professional assessments and coursework. The petitioner may proffer or the Board may impose
470 conditions in conjunction with the approval of such petition.

471 *P. Any individual seeking a technical professional license may complete any required coursework in*
472 *curriculum and instruction at any comprehensive community college, as such term is defined in § 23.1-100,*
473 *that offers such coursework, regardless of whether such coursework is offered on a for-credit basis or as part*
474 *of a noncredit workforce credential.*