

**ARTICLE 3
EDUCATION EXCELLENCE**

Sec. 33. TEACHER LICENSURE ADVISORY TASK FORCE.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment and duties.**

(a) A Teacher Licensure Advisory Task Force is established to make recommendations to the Board of Teaching, the education commissioner, and the education committees of the legislature on requirements for: teacher applicants to demonstrate mastery of reading, writing, and mathematics skills through nationally normed assessments, a professional skills portfolio, or accredited college coursework, among other methods of demonstrating skills mastery; and an alternative licensure pathway for nonnative English speakers seeking licensure to teach in a language immersion program.

- (a) Task force recommendations on how teacher candidates demonstrate skills mastery must encompass the following criteria:
- (1) assessment content must be relevant to the teacher's subject area licensure;
 - (2) the scope of assessment content must be documented in sufficient detail to correspond to a similarly detailed description of relevant public school curriculum;
 - (3) the scope of assessment content must be publicly available and readily accessible on the Web site of the Board of Teaching and all Minnesota board-approved teacher preparation programs and institutions;
 - (4) the Board of Teaching and all Minnesota board-approved teacher preparation programs and institutions, upon request, must make available to the public at cost a written review of the scope of assessment content;
 - (5) if applicable, and consistent with federal and state data practices laws including the definition of summary data under Minnesota Statutes, section 13.02, subdivision 19, the Board of Teaching and all Minnesota board-approved teacher preparation programs and institutions annually must post on their Web site up-to-date longitudinal summary data showing teacher candidates' overall passing rate and the passing rate for each demographic group of teacher candidates taking a skills assessment in that school year and in previous school years;
 - (6) reliable evidence showing assessment content is not culturally biased;
 - (7) the Board of Teaching and all Minnesota board-approved teacher preparation programs and institutions must appropriately accommodate teacher candidates with documented learning disabilities, including an appeals process if a request for accommodations is denied; and
 - (8) if applicable, give timely, detailed item analysis feedback to teacher candidates who do not pass the skills assessment sufficient for the candidate to target specific areas of deficiency for appropriate remediation.

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Subd. 2. **Membership.** The Teacher Licensure Advisory Task Force shall be composed of the following 20 members appointed by July 15, 2013:

- (1) two members of the Board of Teaching appointed by the board's chair;
- (2) two representatives from the Department of Education appointed by the commissioner of education;
- (3) two members of the house of representatives, one appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, and one appointed by the minority leader;
- (4) two senators, one appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration, and one appointed by the minority leader;
- (5) one elementary school principal from rural Minnesota appointed by the Minnesota Elementary School Principals Association and one secondary school principal from the seven-county metropolitan area appointed by the Minnesota Secondary School Principals Association;
- (6) one licensed and practicing public elementary school teacher and one licensed and practicing secondary school teacher appointed by Education Minnesota;
- (7) one teacher preparation faculty member each from the University of Minnesota system appointed by the system president, the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system appointed by the system chancellor, and the Minnesota Private Colleges and Universities system appointed by the Minnesota Private Colleges Council;
- (8) one member of the nonpublic education council appointed by the council;
- (9) one representative of Minnesota charter schools appointed by the Minnesota Charter Schools Association;
- (10) two representatives from the business community, appointed by the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce; and
- (11) one representative from the Minnesota School Boards Association.

Subd. 3. **First meeting; chair.** The executive director of the Board of Teaching and the commissioner of education jointly must convene the task force by August 1, 2013, and shall appoint a chair from the membership of the task force.

Subd. 4. **Report.** By February 1, 2014, task force members must submit to the Board of Teaching, the education commissioner, and to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives committees and divisions with primary jurisdiction over K-12 education their written recommendations on requirements for teacher applicants to demonstrate mastery of reading, writing, and mathematics skills and for an alternative licensure pathway for nonnative English speakers seeking licensure to teach in a language immersion program.

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Subd. 5. **Sunset.** The task force shall sunset the day after submitting the report under subdivision 6, or February 2, 2014, whichever is earlier.

Subd. 6. **Support.** The executive director of the board and the commissioner of education must provide technical assistance to task force members upon request.

Subd. 7. **Board of Teaching rules.** The Board of Teaching must consider the recommendations of the advisory task force and adopt revised rules by January 1, 2015, governing the skills portion of the teacher licensure exam.