

**Chapter 181-82A WAC**  
**PERFORMANCE-BASED TEACHER CERTIFICATE ENDORSEMENTS**

Last Update: 9/28/21

**WAC**

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**DISPOSITION OF SECTIONS FORMERLY CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER**

181-82A-207	Specialty endorsement criteria. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.210. WSR 09-12-087, § 181-82A-207, filed 6/1/09, effective 7/2/09; WSR 07-23-050, § 181-82A-207, filed 11/15/07, effective 12/16/07; WSR 06-20-063, § 181-82A-207, filed 9/29/06, effective 10/30/06.] Repealed by WSR 21-20-047, filed 9/28/21, effective 10/29/21. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.410 RCW.
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**WAC 181-82A-002 Purposes and authority.** (1) The purposes of this chapter are to:

(a) Establish policies and conditions for obtaining performance-based endorsements on teaching certificates.

(b) Establish policies for college/university approval to offer performance-based endorsement programs.

(2) The authority for this chapter is chapter 28A.410 RCW which authorizes the professional educator standards board to establish, publish, and enforce rules and regulations determining eligibility for the certification of personnel employed in the common schools of this state. This authority is supplemented by RCW 28A.410.210(6) which authorizes the professional educator standards board to specify the types and kinds of certificates necessary for the several departments within the common schools and by RCW 28A.150.220(4) which authorizes the professional educator standards board to adopt rules that implement and insure compliance with the basic program of education requirements of RCW 28A.150.220, 28A.150.250, and 28A.150.260, and such related basic program of education requirements as may be established by the professional educator standards board.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.210. WSR 06-14-010, § 181-82A-002, filed 6/22/06, effective 7/23/06. WSR 06-02-051, recodified as § 181-82A-002, filed 12/29/05, effective 1/1/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.410 RCW and RCW 28A.305.130 (1) through (4). WSR 02-04-013, § 180-82A-002, filed 1/24/02, effective 2/24/02.]

**WAC 181-82A-200 Purposes of endorsement competencies referenced in this chapter.** (1) To align requirements for endorsements with the state's learning goals and essential academic learning requirements;

(2) To align requirements for endorsements with the specialty organization standards where appropriate;

(3) To maintain rigorous standards for obtaining endorsements;

(4) To provide school districts with teachers who are able to demonstrate a positive impact on student learning; and

(5) To complement a performance-based teacher certification system.

[WSR 06-02-051, recodified as § 181-82A-200, filed 12/29/05, effective 1/1/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.410 RCW and RCW 28A.305.130 (1) through (4). WSR 02-04-013, § 180-82A-200, filed 1/24/02, effective 2/24/02.]

**WAC 181-82A-202 Certificate endorsements.** Teacher certificates shall be endorsed as follows:

- (1) **All levels:**
  - (a) Bilingual education.
  - (b) Computer science.
  - (c) Deaf education.
  - (d) Deaf education with American sign language (ASL) proficiency.
  - (e) Designated arts: Dance.
  - (f) Designated arts: Theatre arts.
  - (g) Designated arts: Music: Choral, instrumental or general.
  - (h) Designated arts, visual arts.
  - (i) Designated world languages.
  - (j) English language learner.
  - (k) Health/fitness.
  - (l) Library media.
  - (m) Reading.
  - (n) Special education.
  - (o) Teacher of the visually impaired. Upon adoption of a content knowledge assessment by the professional educator standards board, teacher of the visually impaired will be available as an endorsement. Until adoption, teacher of the visually impaired will be available as a specialty endorsement.
- (2) **Early childhood:**
  - (a) Early childhood education.
  - (b) Early childhood special education.
- (3) **Elementary education.**
- (4) **Middle level:**
  - (a) Middle level—Humanities.
  - (b) Middle level—Mathematics.
  - (c) Middle level—Science.
- (5) **Secondary level:**
  - (a) Designated science: Biology.
  - (b) Designated science: Chemistry.
  - (c) Designated science: Earth and space science.
  - (d) Designated science: Physics.
  - (e) Designated career and technical education: Agriculture education, business and marketing education, family and consumer sciences education, and technology education.
  - (f) English language arts.
  - (g) History.
  - (h) Mathematics.
  - (i) Science.
  - (j) Social studies.
  - (k) Traffic safety.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.410 RCW. WSR 21-08-024, § 181-82A-202, filed 3/29/21, effective 4/29/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.210. WSR 16-19-018, § 181-82A-202, filed 9/9/16, effective 10/10/16; WSR 08-08-027, § 181-82A-202, filed 3/24/08, effective

4/24/08; WSR 07-19-058, § 181-82A-202, filed 9/14/07, effective 10/15/07; WSR 07-08-030, § 181-82A-202, filed 3/27/07, effective 4/27/07. WSR 06-02-051, recodified as § 181-82A-202, filed 12/29/05, effective 1/1/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.410 RCW and RCW 28A.305.130 (1) through (4). WSR 02-04-013, § 180-82A-202, filed 1/24/02, effective 2/24/02.]

**WAC 181-82A-204 Endorsement requirements. (1) Completing an endorsement with a residency certificate.** Candidates completing endorsements required to obtain a residency certificate shall complete teacher preparation programs approved by the professional educator standards board under chapter 181-78A WAC, which include methodology, field experience, and endorsement program approval requirements in this chapter.

(2) **Adding additional endorsements.** In order to add an additional endorsement, the candidate shall meet one or more of the following:

(a) Have completed a state-approved endorsement program which includes methodology and addresses all endorsement-specific competencies adopted and published by the professional educator standards board. The requirement for field experience shall be at the discretion of the program provider. In cases where providers require field experience the provider should make every attempt to allow the individual to complete field-based requirements for the endorsement within the confines of the individual's teaching schedule. The candidate shall also meet the content knowledge assessment requirement under chapter 181-02 WAC; or

(b) Achieve National Board certification in a Washington teaching endorsement area and hold a valid National Board certificate; or

(c) Pass the content knowledge test approved by the professional educator standards board for the certificate endorsement being sought per the list of test only endorsements adopted and published by the professional educator standards board.

(3) **Out-of-state.** Candidates from out-of-state shall be required to present verification that they completed a state-approved program (equivalent to a major) in a Washington endorsement area.

(4) **Deaf education.** Obtaining the deaf education endorsement requires one or more of the following:

(a) Completion of a state-approved program in deaf education, and meeting the content knowledge assessment requirement under chapter 181-02 WAC; or

(b) Completion of a program in deaf education approved by the council on education of the deaf, and meeting the content knowledge assessment requirement under chapter 181-02 WAC; or

(c) Baccalaureate degree or higher in deaf education from a program approved by the council on education of the deaf under RCW 28A.410.225, and the content knowledge assessment requirement under chapter 181-02 WAC.

(5) **Deaf education with American sign language (ASL) proficiency endorsement.** Obtaining the deaf education with ASL proficiency endorsement requires meeting the criteria in subsection (4) of this section, and in addition, meeting the ASL proficiency requirements for the endorsement as published by the professional educator standards board.

(6) **Program specific requirements.** Nothing within this chapter precludes a program provider from adopting additional requirements as

conditions for recommendation for an endorsement by such provider to the superintendent of public instruction.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.410 RCW. WSR 21-08-024, § 181-82A-204, filed 3/29/21, effective 4/29/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.210. WSR 17-11-123, § 181-82A-204, filed 5/23/17, effective 6/23/17; WSR 15-23-015, § 181-82A-204, filed 11/6/15, effective 12/7/15; WSR 15-12-097, § 181-82A-204, filed 6/2/15, effective 7/3/15; WSR 10-23-076, § 181-82A-204, filed 11/15/10, effective 12/16/10; WSR 10-16-016, § 181-82A-204, filed 7/22/10, effective 8/22/10; WSR 09-12-057 and 09-22-052, § 181-82A-204, filed 5/28/09 and 10/29/09, effective 6/28/09 and 11/29/09; WSR 06-14-010, § 181-82A-204, filed 6/22/06, effective 7/23/06. WSR 06-02-051, recodified as § 181-82A-204, filed 12/29/05, effective 1/1/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.010 and 28A.305.130. WSR 04-23-007, § 180-82A-204, filed 11/4/04, effective 12/5/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.010. WSR 03-14-114, § 180-82A-204, filed 6/30/03, effective 7/31/03. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.410 RCW and RCW 28A.305.130 (1) through (4). WSR 02-04-013, § 180-82A-204, filed 1/24/02, effective 2/24/02.]

**WAC 181-82A-206 Endorsement program approval, reapproval, and review.**

(1) The professional educator standards board shall approve, reapprove, and review endorsement programs at professional educator standards board-approved residency certificate teacher programs. Only institutions with professional educator standards board-approved residency certificate teacher preparation programs are eligible to apply for approval to offer endorsement programs.

(2) The professional educator standards board will publish competencies for all endorsement areas identified in chapter 181-82A WAC.

(3) The professional educator standards board shall determine and publish the schedule and process for endorsement program approval, reapproval, and review.

(a) Initial approval of a new endorsement program may be granted for a period of up to two years.

(b) Endorsement reapproval is required according to the posted schedule for when the endorsement competencies are updated. Reapproval of an endorsement program may be granted until the next endorsement program review, or for a period of up to one year with a written report. Once the program submits the written report, approval options are full approval until the next endorsement program review, or disapproval.

(c) Each institution shall submit endorsement programs for review when requested by the professional educator standards board to ensure that each endorsement program meets the competencies and to provide assessment data relative to candidate performance. Approval options are approval until the next endorsement review or at-risk of losing approval. The professional educator standards board has the option to disapprove endorsement programs that have been at-risk for two consecutive years.

(d) Disapproved endorsements programs may reapply for approval by following the endorsement approval process.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.210. WSR 14-24-059, § 181-82A-206, filed 11/25/14, effective 12/26/14; WSR 07-19-057, § 181-82A-206, filed 9/14/07, effective 10/15/07; WSR 06-24-083, § 181-82A-206, filed 12/5/06, effective 1/5/07; WSR 06-14-010, § 181-82A-206, filed

6/22/06, effective 7/23/06. WSR 06-02-051, recodified as § 181-82A-206, filed 12/29/05, effective 1/1/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.010. WSR 03-14-122, § 180-82A-206, filed 6/30/03, effective 7/31/03. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.410 RCW and RCW 28A.305.130 (1) through (4). WSR 02-04-013, § 180-82A-206, filed 1/24/02, effective 2/24/02.]

**WAC 181-82A-208 Specialty endorsements and educator certificates.** (1) The following specialty endorsements may only be added to an existing endorsed teacher certificate:

(a) Environmental and sustainability education.

(b) Teacher of the visually impaired. Upon adoption of a content knowledge assessment by the professional educator standards board, teacher of the visually impaired will be available as an endorsement. Until adoption, teacher of the visually impaired will be available as a specialty endorsement.

(c) Gifted education.

(d) Elementary mathematics specialist.

(e) Other specialty endorsements as approved by the professional educator standards board.

(2) The following specialty endorsements may be added to an existing administrator certificate, educational staff associate certificate, or endorsed teacher certificate:

(a) Elementary computer science.

(b) Secondary computer science.

(c) Other specialty endorsements as approved by the professional educator standards board.

(3) Providers approved by the professional educator standards board may recommend a candidate for a specialty endorsement to the superintendent of public instruction.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.410 RCW. WSR 21-20-047, § 181-82A-208, filed 9/28/21, effective 10/29/21; WSR 21-08-024, § 181-82A-208, filed 3/29/21, effective 4/29/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.210. WSR 13-05-071, § 181-82A-208, filed 2/19/13, effective 3/22/13; WSR 13-04-098, § 181-82A-208, filed 2/6/13, effective 3/9/13; WSR 11-12-079, § 181-82A-208, filed 5/31/11, effective 7/1/11; WSR 10-17-015, § 181-82A-208, filed 8/5/10, effective 9/5/10; WSR 09-12-087, § 181-82A-208, filed 6/1/09, effective 7/2/09; WSR 06-20-063, § 181-82A-208, filed 9/29/06, effective 10/30/06.]

**WAC 181-82A-210 Proposal process for a new specialty endorsement in Washington state.** Organizations seeking the creation of a new specialty endorsement in Washington state follow a two-phase process including a preproposal and a proposal.

(1) **Preproposal.** The applicants must submit a preproposal declaring an intent to submit a proposal for the creation of a new specialty endorsement in Washington state. The preproposal will address all requirements published by the board including, but not limited to, the following. The preproposal will:

(a) Provide the name of the specialty endorsement;

(b) Identify at least two organizations submitting the proposal for the new specialty endorsement. These organizations must be eligible to serve as in-service education agencies under WAC 181-85-045;

(c) Identify the proposed essential learnings for the specialty endorsement, or describe the plan to develop the essential learnings;

(d) Describe how the specialty endorsement is aligned and responsive to the cultural competency, diversity, equity, and inclusion (CCDEI) standards under RCW 28A.410.260. Until the CCDEI standards are adopted by the board, the proposers will describe how the specialty endorsement is aligned and responsive to the cultural competency standards published by the board; and

(e) Describe the need for the specialty endorsement, demonstrating response to educator, student, and community needs.

(2) **Proposal.** If the preproposal receives approval from the professional educator standards board, the proposers shall submit a proposal. The proposal will address all requirements published by the board including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Identify any changes to the preproposal information since the preproposal was submitted;

(b) Letter of commitment from at least two organizations interested in seeking approval to offer the specialty endorsement. If the organizations submitting letters of commitment are the same organizations who are submitting the proposal, the proposal must include at least one letter of support from an additional organization;

(c) Pilot. The proposal will include a description of the pilot of essential learnings for the specialty endorsement including, but not limited to:

(i) Report on the diversity of pilot participants;

(ii) Description of how the pilot was aligned and responsive to the cultural competency, diversity, equity, and inclusion (CCDEI) standards under RCW 28A.410.260. Until the CCDEI standards are adopted by the board, the proposers will describe how the pilot was aligned and responsive to the cultural competency standards published by the board;

(iii) Approved specialty endorsement providers may consider work completed by an individual in a specialty endorsement pilot towards meeting the requirements for recommendation for a specialty endorsement.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.410 RCW. WSR 21-20-047, § 181-82A-210, filed 9/28/21, effective 10/29/21.]

**WAC 181-82A-212 Proposal process for an organization to be approved to offer a specialty endorsement.** Organizations seeking approval to offer a specialty endorsement follow a one-phase proposal process.

(1) **Organizational eligibility:**

(a) Organizations eligible to apply for approval as a specialty endorsement program provider include those eligible to serve as an in-service education agency under WAC 181-85-045.

(b) In order to offer a specialty endorsement, providers must maintain status as an approved in-service education agency or professional educator standards board approved educator preparation program provider.

(2) **Proposal process.** The prospective provider will submit a proposal that addresses all requirements published by the board including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Description of how the organization will determine that a participant has met the requirements for the specialty endorsement, including the essential learnings;

(b) Statement of need for the provider offering the specialty endorsement, demonstrating response to educator, student, and community needs;

(c) Description of strategies and practices the organization will use to recruit and retain participants from historically excluded groups, including participants of color;

(d) Description of how the provider will implement the specialty endorsement offering in a manner aligned and responsive to the cultural competency, diversity, equity, and inclusion (CCDEI) standards under RCW 28A.410.260. Until the CCDEI standards are adopted by the board, the proposer will describe how the provider will implement the specialty endorsement offering in a manner aligned and responsive to the cultural competency standards published by the board;

(e) At least two letters of support from education or community-related organizations; and

(f) Organizational capacity to support participants in completing a specialty endorsement.

**(3) Reapproval, rescindment, and disapproval.**

(a) Specialty endorsement program providers approved under this section must complete a reapproval process every five years per a schedule posted by the professional educator standards board.

(b) The board, upon receipt of a serious complaint from any source, or upon its own initiative prompted by indications of the need for response, may require a provider to complete the reapproval process.

(c) Approved providers that voluntarily rescind their approval shall be permitted to continue to prepare and recommend for a specialty endorsement. Candidates who have been previously admitted to the program, provided that no recommendations for credentials will be accepted later than twelve months following receipt of the formal letter to rescind provider approval. The provider will notify all currently enrolled candidates of the provider's change in status and notify candidates of the twelve-month timeline to complete requirements for recommendation.

(d) Disapproved specialty endorsement programs may reapply for approval by following the specialty endorsement approval process.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.410 RCW. WSR 21-20-047, § 181-82A-212, filed 9/28/21, effective 10/29/21.]

**WAC 181-82A-215 Implementation policies.** Teachers shall be required to obtain a minimum of one endorsement.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.210. WSR 14-24-059, § 181-82A-215, filed 11/25/14, effective 12/26/14; WSR 07-19-057, § 181-82A-215, filed 9/14/07, effective 10/15/07; WSR 06-14-010, § 181-82A-215, filed 6/22/06, effective 7/23/06. WSR 06-02-051, recodified as § 181-82A-215, filed 12/29/05, effective 1/1/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.010. WSR 03-14-122, § 180-82A-215, filed 6/30/03, effective 7/31/03. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.410 RCW and RCW 28A.305.130 (1) through (4). WSR 02-04-013, § 180-82A-215, filed 1/24/02, effective 2/24/02.]