

Licensure Options for Educators Returning to Ohio Schools

Ohio continues to navigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, one of those effects is staffing shortages in schools and districts across our state, placing qualified educators in high demand. Educators who have considered re-entering the education field are encouraged to review the following licensure options.

Reinstatement License (NEW!) - This one-year license allows educators to complete renewal requirements while working in an Ohio school or district. Educators with associate or professional Ohio licenses or certificates that have lapsed for at least one year may apply for the reinstatement license at the request of an employing Ohio school district. The educator will be properly certified in the reinstatement licensure area while completing requirements to renew their expired associate or professional license. Please note that an applicant may only request a reinstatement license for the same subject(s) and grade level(s) as their expired associate or professional license. This license is nonrenewable. The cost of the one-year license is \$40.

Licensure Renewal (UPDATED) - Renewal requirements for expired professional and associate educator licenses have changed. Educators with expired teacher or administrator certificates or licenses are required to complete only **nine semester hours** of renewal coursework through an accredited college or university since the last issued date of their license (or 27 CEUs through the local professional development committee of an employing Ohio school or district).

Transition or Advance Provisional Licenses - Educators who held a two-year provisional license (issued prior to 2017) may apply to **transition** that license to a **Resident Educator license** without completing any coursework. Those who taught for three full school years under a standard out-of-state teaching license may be eligible to **advance** their expired two-year provisional licenses to a **professional educator license**.

Substitute Teaching License - Working as a substitute teacher is a great way to serve the community part time. The Department issues substitute teaching licenses with the General, Education Degree-Unlimited or subject area designations, depending on the applicant's postsecondary degree (bachelor's degree or higher required). Applicants may apply for a one-year or five-year substitute teaching licenses at the request of the employing Ohio school, district or educational service center. The cost of a substitute teaching license is \$25 for one year or \$125 for five years.

Background Checks

Please note that all educators must have current background checks on file with the Department. See the Department's [Background Check FAQs webpage](#) for information.

Candidates who live outside of Ohio may [email the Office of Educator Licensure](#) at the Ohio Department of Education to request fingerprint cards.