

License Renewal Update

April 7, 2015

Dr. Amy Fowler,

Deputy Secretary Agency of Education

Overview

- Review of Legislative Session 2014
- VSBPE and AOE steps to address concerns
- Questions and discussion

Review of Legislative Session 2014

- Concerns raised over the renewal process for educator licensing: [VT Legislative Testimony on Re-Licensure](#) for 2014
- Legislature asked the VSBPE and AOE to revisit their practices and determine if alternatives could be pursued in response to public comment

VSBPE Steps

| Dates | Event |
|--|---|
| Legislative Session 2014 | Legislature requests AOE and VSBPE work to resolve concerns |
| February - May 2014 (2/10,3/19,4/11,5/22) | VSBPE meetings to discuss revisions to re-licensure |
| August 11, 2014 | ICAR Hearing |
| August 15-October 15, 2014 | 3 Public Input Sessions for proposed rules and open survey for commentary |
| October 22, 2014 | VSBPE Meeting to review and apply findings from public comment. |
| December 4, 2014 | LCAR Hearing |
| December 26, 2014 | Rules go into effect |

How has renewal changed?

| Item | Previous | Current |
|------------|--|--|
| Term | Renew license at intervals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level I=every 3 years • Level II= every 7 years | Renew license at intervals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level I=every 3 years • Level II= every 5 years |
| Submission | Public educators submit materials to Local/Regional Standards Board if employed in VT; otherwise AOE | Public educators submit materials to Local/Regional Standards Board if employed in VT; otherwise AOE |
| Reflection | Reflection on professional growth in closing renewal cycle and creation of an Individualized Professional Learning Plan (IPLP) for future growth | Reduced Requirement Complete a self-assessment of professional practice and affirm completion to L/RSB |
| Portfolio | Create portfolio to document professional work to L/RSB | Eliminated Requirement |
| PD | Document Professional Development efforts/credits | Document Professional Development effort/credits |

Critical Decision

| Question | VSBPE Options | Positives | Negatives |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| When should the rules go into effect? | 14-15 renewal cycle | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately moves to the preferred system for educators • Accelerates ability to meet legislative intent sooner | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delays the launch of renewal cycle for 14-15 for tech re-build • Could result in paper license process |
| | 15-16 renewal cycle | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate time to roll out process for all boards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaves prior system in place; educators are frustrated • Delays meeting legislative intent |

AOE Steps

| Dates | Event |
|-----------------------|--|
| November 2014-present | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly updates to L/RSBs on progress towards rule adoption and steps educators could take while renewal decisions were being made |
| December 2014 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requested scope of work estimates and business rules from Aithent (platform vendor) Each L/RSB given the option to complete renewals by paper or online |
| February 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared and submitted amendment for platform vendor to Agency of Administration (AOA) Continued to work on specifications with vendor to accelerate build process. |
| March 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract approved by AOA Platform adjustments are underway |

Lessons Learned

- Process changes, especially when there is a technology component, are expensive in time and resources.
- Even small changes can have dramatic impact on delivery models.
- Public accountability (contract review, public input, etc.) are necessary to assure public faith but impede rapid implementation.
- In the public sphere, changes can engender supporters and detractors for the same idea- we still need to progress.