

# Administrative Procedures – Final Proposed Rule Filing

## Instructions:

In accordance with Title 3 Chapter 25 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated and the “Rule on Rulemaking” adopted by the Office of the Secretary of State, this filing will be considered complete upon filing and acceptance of these forms with the Office of the Secretary of State, and the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules.

All forms requiring a signature shall be original signatures of the appropriate adopting authority or authorized person, and all filings are to be submitted at the Office of the Secretary of State, no later than 3:30 pm on the last scheduled day of the work week.

The data provided in text areas of these forms will be used to generate a notice of rulemaking in the portal of “Proposed Rule Postings” online, and the newspapers of record if the rule is marked for publication. Publication of notices will be charged back to the promulgating agency.

**PLEASE REMOVE ANY COVERSHEET OR FORM NOT REQUIRED WITH THE CURRENT FILING BEFORE DELIVERY!**

**Certification Statement:** As the adopting Authority of this rule (see 3 V.S.A. § 801 (b) (11) for a definition), I approve the contents of this filing entitled:

### **Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Relationship with Other Entities**

\_\_\_\_\_/s/ Oliver Olsen\_\_\_\_\_, on 1/19/2022  
(signature) (date)

Printed Name and Title:  
Oliver Olsen, Chair  
State Board of Education

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

- Coversheet
- Adopting Page
- Economic Impact Analysis
- Environmental Impact Analysis
- Strategy for Maximizing Public Input
- Scientific Information Statement (if applicable)
- Incorporated by Reference Statement (if applicable)
- Clean text of the rule (Amended text without annotation)
- Annotated text (Clearly marking changes from previous rule)
- ICAR Minutes
- Copy of Comments
- Responsiveness Summary

1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:

**Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Relationship with Other Entities**

2. PROPOSED NUMBER ASSIGNED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

21P-035

3. ADOPTING AGENCY:

State Board of Education

4. PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON:

*(A PERSON WHO IS ABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CONTENT OF THE RULE).*

Name: Donna Russo-Savage

Agency: Education

Mailing Address: 1 National Life Drive, Davis 5,  
Montpelier, VT 05620

Telephone: 802 828 - 0110 Fax: 802 828 - 6430

E-Mail: Donna.RussoSavage@vermont.gov

Web URL *(WHERE THE RULE WILL BE POSTED)*:

education.vermont.gov/state-board-councils/state-board/rulemaking

5. SECONDARY CONTACT PERSON:

*(A SPECIFIC PERSON FROM WHOM COPIES OF FILINGS MAY BE REQUESTED OR WHO MAY ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT FORMS SUBMITTED FOR FILING IF DIFFERENT FROM THE PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON).*

Name: Emily Simmons

Agency: Education

Mailing Address: 1 National Life Drive, Davis 5,  
Montpelier, VT 05620

Telephone: 802 828 - 1518 Fax: 802 828 - 6430

E-Mail: Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov

6. RECORDS EXEMPTION INCLUDED WITHIN RULE:

*(DOES THE RULE CONTAIN ANY PROVISION DESIGNATING INFORMATION AS CONFIDENTIAL; LIMITING ITS PUBLIC RELEASE; OR OTHERWISE EXEMPTING IT FROM INSPECTION AND COPYING?)* No

IF YES, CITE THE STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THE EXEMPTION:

PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE REASON FOR THE EXEMPTION:

7. LEGAL AUTHORITY / ENABLING LEGISLATION:

*(THE SPECIFIC STATUTORY OR LEGAL CITATION FROM SESSION LAW INDICATING WHO THE ADOPTING ENTITY IS AND THUS WHO THE SIGNATORY SHOULD BE. THIS SHOULD BE A SPECIFIC CITATION NOT A CHAPTER CITATION).*

16 V.S.A. § 164(7) and (14).

8. EXPLANATION OF HOW THE RULE IS WITHIN THE AUTHORITY OF THE AGENCY:

Vermont law requires the State Board of Education to approve independent schools offering elementary or secondary education if the Board finds both that the school "provides a minimum course of study pursuant to section 906 of [Title 16] and that it substantially complies with the Board's rules for approved independent schools." State Board Rule 2223 permits the Board to grant approval to an independent school that is accredited by an entity listed in Rule 7320, without the need for additional evaluation or process.

9. THE FILING HAS CHANGED SINCE THE FILING OF THE PROPOSED RULE.

10. THE AGENCY HAS INCLUDED WITH THIS FILING A LETTER EXPLAINING IN DETAIL WHAT CHANGES WERE MADE, CITING CHAPTER AND SECTION WHERE APPLICABLE.

11. SUBSTANTIAL ARGUMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS WERE NOT RAISED FOR OR AGAINST THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL.

12. THE AGENCY HAS INCLUDED COPIES OF ALL WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS AND SYNOPSES OF ORAL COMMENTS RECEIVED.

13. THE AGENCY HAS INCLUDED A LETTER EXPLAINING IN DETAIL THE REASONS FOR THE AGENCY'S DECISION TO REJECT OR ADOPT THEM.

14. CONCISE SUMMARY (150 WORDS OR LESS):

In this filing, the State Board first proposes to repeal Rule 7320 effective July 1, 2024. This proposed amendment is an initial step in a larger plan to incorporate all discussion of accrediting agencies directly within the Rule 2200 Series. The Board intends to initiate a separate rulemaking process to amend the 2200 Series, and anticipates that the 2200 amendments will be effective on or before July 1, 2024 -- thus

## Final Proposed Coversheet

rendering Rule 7320 both obsolete and unnecessary at that time.

Second, the Board proposes to repeal all other rules within the Rule 7000 Series effective 15 days after the amendment's adoption per 3 V.S.A. § 845 in order to eliminate rules that provide no independent information, but instead cite other statutes and rules.

### 15. EXPLANATION OF WHY THE RULE IS NECESSARY:

By establishing the repeal of Rule 7320 on a date three years in the future, the State Board will take the first step forward in its plan (i) to review the names and continued existence of agencies currently listed in Rule 7320 and (ii) to either identify all relevant accrediting entities within the 2200 Series or amend that Series to include substantive requirements and a process to recognize accrediting agencies.

The State Board intends to recognize the Association of Independent Schools in New England ("AISNE") as an accrediting agency as part of the current Rule 2200 Series amendments so that the Board's long-term plans explained above do not delay the Board's recognition of AISNE.

The more immediate repeal of all other rules in the 7000 series will allow the Board to remove rules from its Manual that serve no discernable purpose.

### 16. EXPLANATION OF HOW THE RULE IS NOT ARBITRARY:

All independent schools are eligible to seek "approved" status from the State Board of Education either through the Board's own evaluation process or, as a matter of reciprocity, through accreditation by an entity recognized by the State Board in Rule 7320. The State Board intends to initiate a second phase of amendments to the Rule 2200 series in 2022 or 2023 that will, in part, incorporate recognition of accrediting agencies into the 2200 Series or provide a process for recognition.

By establishing the repeal of Rule 7320 on a date three years in the future, all affected entities and other interested parties have ample time to justify an entity's continued status as a recognized accrediting agency under State Board rules, and to provide updates

**Final Proposed Coversheet**

as to the entity's name or location, before the second phase of amendments to the 2200 Series are final.

**17. LIST OF PEOPLE, ENTERPRISES AND GOVERNMENT ENTITIES AFFECTED BY THIS RULE:**

School districts; independent schools; parents; advocacy groups; accrediting agencies; the Agency of Education

**18. BRIEF SUMMARY OF ECONOMIC IMPACT (150 WORDS OR LESS):**

The State Board does not anticipate that the proposed changes to the Rule 7000 Series outlined in this filing will have an economic impact on any individual or entity.

If potential economic impacts arise in later phases of the Board's long-term plans regarding accrediting entities (see Paragraph 8 above), then those impacts will arise in the context of amendments to the 2200 Series and will be addressed in the rule filings associated with those later proposed amendments.

**19. A HEARING WAS HELD.**

**20. HEARING INFORMATION**

(THE FIRST HEARING SHALL BE NO SOONER THAN 30 DAYS FOLLOWING THE POSTING OF NOTICES ONLINE).

IF THIS FORM IS INSUFFICIENT TO LIST THE INFORMATION FOR EACH HEARING PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET TO COMPLETE THE HEARING INFORMATION.

**Date:** 12/1/2021

**Time:** 04:00 PM

**Street Address:** The hearing will be held virtually. A staffed physical location will be provided at:

Agency of Education

1 National Life Drive

Davis 5 (Fifth Floor)

Montpelier, VT

**Zip Code:** 05620-2501

**Date:**

**Time:** AM

**Street Address:**

**Zip Code:**

Final Proposed Coversheet

Date:

Time: AM

Street Address:

Zip Code:

Date:

Time: AM

Street Address:

Zip Code:

21. DEADLINE FOR COMMENT (NO EARLIER THAN 7 DAYS FOLLOWING LAST HEARING):

12/10/2021

**KEYWORDS** (PLEASE PROVIDE AT LEAST 3 KEYWORDS OR PHRASES TO AID IN THE SEARCHABILITY OF THE RULE NOTICE ONLINE).

independent school

accreditation

tuition



State of Vermont  
1 National Life Drive, Davis 5  
Montpelier, VT 05620  
[education.vermont.gov](http://education.vermont.gov)

[phone] 802-828-1130  
[fax] 802-828-6430

State Board of Education

January 19, 2022

Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules  
c/o Charlene Dindo

Re: Final Proposed Rule 7000 Series - #21P035

Dear Members of the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules:

One individual – Michale McComis, the Executive Director of the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC) – offered public comments to the proposed rule at the December 1, 2021 public hearing. The State Board did not receive any written public comments.

Current Rule 7320 lists the National Association of Trade and Technical Schools (NATTS) as a State Board-recognized accrediting agency. Mr McComis stated that ACCSC is the successor to NATTS. The US Secretary of Education recognizes ACCSC as an agency that accredits both non-degree and degree programs. Mr. McComis explained that the term “regional accrediting agencies” is no longer an accurate description and that it would be more appropriate to refer to them as “institutional accrediting agencies.”

Mr McComis suggested the following amendments to Rule 7320:

1. Strike the word “regional” and replace it with the word “institutional.”
2. Strike “National Association of Trade and Technical Schools, Washington, DC (for non-degree granting purposes only)” and replace the name with “Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC), Arlington, VA.”

The State Board of Education incorporated both suggested changes.

We look forward to presenting the State Board of Education's final proposed Rule Series 7000 to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, and will be available to address any questions or concerns you may have about the Board's process or the substance of the Rules.

Sincerely

/s/ Oliver Olsen

Oliver Olsen  
Chair, State Board of Education



# Administrative Procedures – Adopting Page

## Instructions:

This form must accompany each filing made during the rulemaking process:

Note: To satisfy the requirement for an annotated text, an agency must submit the entire rule in annotated form with proposed and final proposed filings. Filing an annotated paragraph or page of a larger rule is not sufficient. Annotation must clearly show the changes to the rule.

When possible, the agency shall file the annotated text, using the appropriate page or pages from the Code of Vermont Rules as a basis for the annotated version. New rules need not be accompanied by an annotated text.

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### 1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:

**Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Relationship with Other Entities**

### 2. ADOPTING AGENCY:

State Board of Education

### 3. TYPE OF FILING (*PLEASE CHOOSE THE TYPE OF FILING FROM THE DROPDOWN MENU BASED ON THE DEFINITIONS PROVIDED BELOW*):

- **AMENDMENT** - Any change to an already existing rule, even if it is a complete rewrite of the rule, it is considered an amendment as long as the rule is replaced with other text.
- **NEW RULE** - A rule that did not previously exist even under a different name.
- **REPEAL** - The removal of a rule in its entirety, without replacing it with other text.

This filing is **AN AMENDMENT OF AN EXISTING RULE** .

### 4. LAST ADOPTED (*PLEASE PROVIDE THE SOS LOG#, TITLE AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE LAST ADOPTION FOR THE EXISTING RULE*):

State Board of Education Manual circa 1981; SOS Log# & last adoption effective date unknown; CVR 22 000 016





## INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (ICAR) MINUTES

**Meeting Date/Location:** October 11, 2021, Physical Location: Pavilion Building, 109 State Street, 5th Floor, Montpelier, VT 05609; Virtual Option: Via Microsoft Teams

**Members Present:** Chair Kristin Clouser, Diane Bothfeld, Jen Mojo, John Kessler, Diane Sherman, Clare O'Shaughnessy and Mike Obuchowski

**Members Absent:** Ashley Berliner and Dirk Anderson

**Minutes By:** Melissa Mazza-Paquette

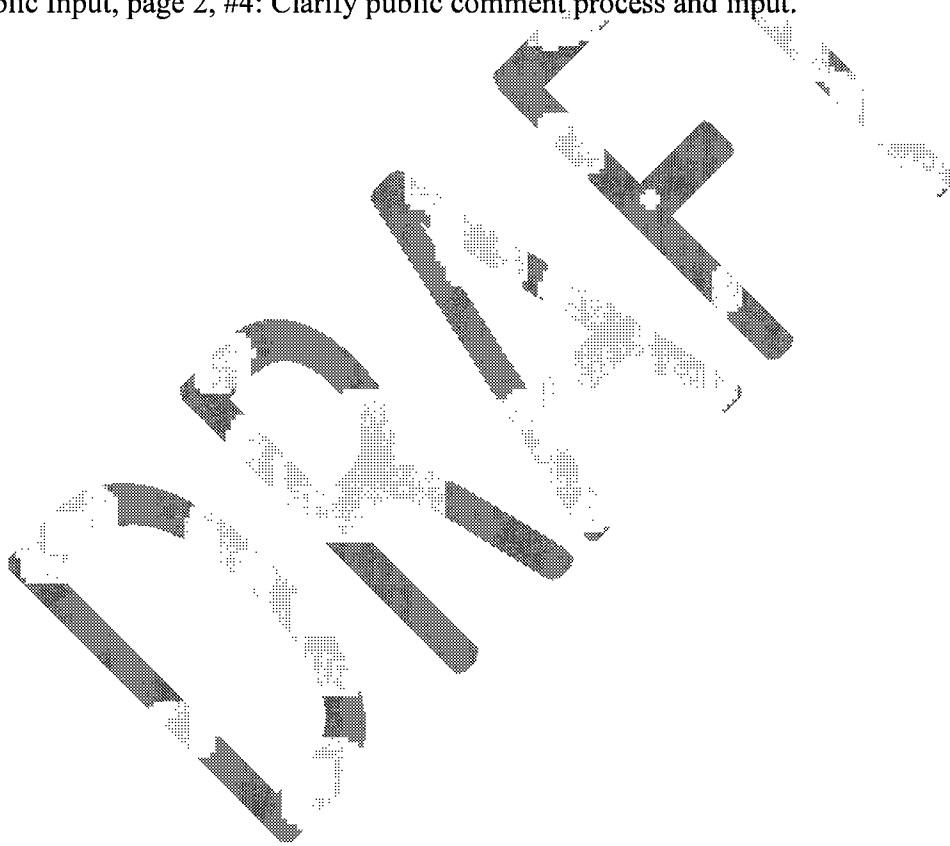
- 2:02 p.m. meeting called to order, welcome and introductions.
- Review and approval of minutes from the September 8, 2021 meeting.
- No additions/deletions to agenda. Agenda approved as drafted.
- Approval of draft changes to updated pre-filing ICAR forms discussed at the 9/7/21 and 9/8/21 meetings.
  - 1) Motion made by John Kessler, seconded by Diane Bothfeld and approved unanimously.
- Note: The following emergency rules were supported by ICAR Chair Clouser:
  - 1) 'Rule on Rulemaking' by the Office of the Secretary of State' on September 23, 2021
    - a) This emergency filing will allow the continuation of electronic submission of APA filings by email with a "conformed signature" until the permanent rule can be adopted and implemented. The benefits of electronic submission and continued reduction of in-person contact continue to be desirable as the COVID-19 pandemic persists. This amendment will also remove a requirement to notify ICAR and LCAR 30 days before the SOS makes changes to the filing forms and make some minor formatting and housekeeping changes which will also be present in the permanent rule.
  - 2) 'PUC Emergency Rule 2.500 COVID-19 Emergency Procedures' by the Public Utility Commission on October 7, 2021
    - a) This emergency rule amends various filing and procedural requirements and provides alternative procedures to reduce or eliminate in-person contact between members of the public and Commission staff or other members of the public to reduce the risk of exposure to the COVID-19 virus. This serves as a third extension of the emergency rule filed in April 2020. Because the office will reopen and we will resume typical mail processing while this rule is in place, we have made a change to Rule 2.503 to permit electronic or paper filing rather than requiring electronic only.
  - 3) 'Child Care Licensing Regulations: Center Based Child Care and Preschool Programs' by the Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families on October 7, 2021
    - a) Rule 2.7 (Rule Variance) is amended to exempt rules 3.5 (Nondiscriminatory Enrollment), 4.7 (Communicating CBCCPP Policies and Procedures), 6.1.4.3 (Respect for Diversity), and 6.2.5.1 (Quality of Interactions).

**Proposed Rule: Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Relationship with Other Entities, State Board of Education**

**Presented By: Jennifer Samuelson and Donna Russo-Savage**

Motion made to accept the rule by Diane Bothfeld, seconded by John Kessler, and passed unanimously except for Clare O'Shaughnessy who abstained, with the following recommendations:

1. Proposed Rule Coversheet, page 3, #8: Clarify what is being done by this rule and tie into the Economic Impact Analysis.
2. Proposed Rule Coversheet, page 4, #12: Include any known costs and who is responsible. Clarify the economic impact and carry that over to the Economic Impact Analysis.
3. Economic Impact Analysis, page 2, #5 and #8: Include reasoning.
4. Economic Impact Analysis: Clarify the full impact of the rule and tie into the Proposed Rule Coversheet, including language where the reapplication may be necessary if changes are made.
5. Public Input, page 1, #3: Include outreach, those involved, and communication avenues taken.
6. Public Input, page 2, #4: Clarify public comment process and input.



# Administrative Procedures – Economic Impact Analysis

## **Instructions:**

In completing the economic impact analysis, an agency analyzes and evaluates the anticipated costs and benefits to be expected from adoption of the rule; estimates the costs and benefits for each category of people enterprises and government entities affected by the rule; compares alternatives to adopting the rule; and explains their analysis concluding that rulemaking is the most appropriate method of achieving the regulatory purpose.

Rules affecting or regulating schools or school districts must include cost implications to local school districts and taxpayers in the impact statement, a clear statement of associated costs, and consideration of alternatives to the rule to reduce or ameliorate costs to local school districts while still achieving the objectives of the rule (see 3 V.S.A. § 832b for details).

Rules affecting small businesses (excluding impacts incidental to the purchase and payment of goods and services by the State or an agency thereof), must include ways that a business can reduce the cost or burden of compliance or an explanation of why the agency determines that such evaluation isn't appropriate, and an evaluation of creative, innovative or flexible methods of compliance that would not significantly impair the effectiveness of the rule or increase the risk to the health, safety, or welfare of the public or those affected by the rule.

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### 1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:

**Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Relationship with Other Entities**

### 2. ADOPTING AGENCY:

State Board of Education

### 3. CATEGORY OF AFFECTED PARTIES:

*LIST CATEGORIES OF PEOPLE, ENTERPRISES, AND GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES POTENTIALLY AFFECTED BY THE ADOPTION OF THIS RULE AND THE ESTIMATED COSTS AND BENEFITS ANTICIPATED:*

School districts; independent schools; parents; advocacy groups; accrediting agencies; the Agency of Education

### 4. IMPACT ON SCHOOLS:

## Economic Impact Analysis

*INDICATE ANY IMPACT THAT THE RULE WILL HAVE ON PUBLIC EDUCATION, PUBLIC SCHOOLS, LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND/OR TAXPAYERS CLEARLY STATING ANY ASSOCIATED COSTS:*

The State Board does not anticipate that the proposed changes to the Rule 7000 Series outlined in this filing will have an economic impact on "public education, public schools, local school districts and/or taxpayers."

If potential economic impacts arise in later phases of the Board's long-term plans regarding accrediting entities, then those impacts will arise in the context of amendments to the 2200 Series and will be addressed in the rule filings associated with those later proposed amendments.

**5. ALTERNATIVES: *CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES TO THE RULE TO REDUCE OR AMELIORATE COSTS TO LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHILE STILL ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVE OF THE RULE.***

As there are no anticipated costs to local school districts arising from the proposed changes outlined in this filing, no alternatives were considered.

**6. IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES:**

*INDICATE ANY IMPACT THAT THE RULE WILL HAVE ON SMALL BUSINESSES (EXCLUDING IMPACTS INCIDENTAL TO THE PURCHASE AND PAYMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES BY THE STATE OR AN AGENCY THEREOF):*

No impact is anticipated for small businesses.

**7. SMALL BUSINESS COMPLIANCE: *EXPLAIN WAYS A BUSINESS CAN REDUCE THE COST/BURDEN OF COMPLIANCE OR AN EXPLANATION OF WHY THE AGENCY DETERMINES THAT SUCH EVALUATION ISN'T APPROPRIATE.***

No cost/burden of compliance is anticipated for small businesses.

**8. COMPARISON:**

*COMPARE THE IMPACT OF THE RULE WITH THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF OTHER ALTERNATIVES TO THE RULE, INCLUDING NO RULE ON THE SUBJECT OR A RULE HAVING SEPARATE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL BUSINESS:*

As there are no anticipated costs arising from the proposed changes outlined in this filing, no alternatives were considered. As no alternatives were considered, no comparisons were made.

## Economic Impact Analysis

### 9. SUFFICIENCY: *EXPLAIN THE SUFFICIENCY OF THIS ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS.*

Because the proposed amendments would not currently alter the list of accrediting agencies recognized in Rule 7320 and would repeal other rules in the 7000 Series that provide no independent information, the amendments would have no economic impact. Organizations representing some of the entities listed in Rule 7320 were involved both in discussions leading to the proposed amendment to Rule 2223 (in a separate, ongoing rule filing) that recognizes AISNE as an accrediting entity and also in discussions regarding the State Board's desire to update the list of recognized accrediting agencies and clarify the process by which an accrediting agency will be recognized. Although not all of the accrediting agencies currently listed in Rule 7320 have been involved in the instant filing, the Board will attempt to notify each regarding the scheduled public hearing. In addition, input from each of them will be sought in connection with the State Board's second round of rulemaking in connection with the Rule 2200 Series, which is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2022. It is solely in connection with those future, potential, proposed amendments to the Rule 2200 Series that economic impacts might arise.

# Administrative Procedures – Environmental Impact Analysis

## **Instructions:**

In completing the environmental impact analysis, an agency analyzes and evaluates the anticipated environmental impacts (positive or negative) to be expected from adoption of the rule; compares alternatives to adopting the rule; explains the sufficiency of the environmental impact analysis.

Examples of Environmental Impacts include but are not limited to:

- Impacts on the emission of greenhouse gases
- Impacts on the discharge of pollutants to water
- Impacts on the arability of land
- Impacts on the climate
- Impacts on the flow of water
- Impacts on recreation
- Or other environmental impacts

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### 1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:

**Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Relationship with Other Entities**

### 2. ADOPTING AGENCY:

State Board of Education

### 3. GREENHOUSE GAS: *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE IMPACTS THE EMISSION OF GREENHOUSE GASES (E.G. TRANSPORTATION OF PEOPLE OR GOODS; BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE; LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT, WASTE GENERATION, ETC.):*

None .

### 4. WATER: *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE IMPACTS WATER (E.G. DISCHARGE / ELIMINATION OF POLLUTION INTO VERMONT WATERS, THE FLOW OF WATER IN THE STATE, WATER QUALITY ETC.):*

None .

### 5. LAND: *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE IMPACTS LAND (E.G. IMPACTS ON FORESTRY, AGRICULTURE ETC.):*

None .

### 6. RECREATION: *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE IMPACT RECREATION IN THE STATE:*

None .

Environmental Impact Analysis

7. **CLIMATE:** *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE IMPACTS THE CLIMATE IN THE STATE:*  
None .
8. **OTHER:** *EXPLAIN HOW THE RULE IMPACT OTHER ASPECTS OF VERMONT'S ENVIRONMENT:*  
None .
9. **SUFFICIENCY:** *EXPLAIN THE SUFFICIENCY OF THIS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS.*  
None .

# Administrative Procedures – Public Input

## Instructions:

In completing the public input statement, an agency describes the strategy prescribed by ICAR to maximize public input, what it did do, or will do to comply with that plan to maximize the involvement of the public in the development of the rule.

This form must accompany each filing made during the rulemaking process:

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### 1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:

**Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Relationship with Other Entities**

### 2. ADOPTING AGENCY:

State Board of Education

### 3. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE STRATEGY PRESCRIBED BY ICAR TO MAXIMIZE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED RULE:

In order to maximize public involvement in the development of the proposed amendments to the Rule 7000 Series, the State Board of Education and the Agency of Education notified each of the accrediting agencies listed in Rule 7320, as well as associations representing school districts and independent schools and other stakeholders, of the proposed rule filing and related public hearing.

### 4. PLEASE LIST THE STEPS THAT HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE TAKEN TO COMPLY WITH THAT STRATEGY:

In March 2021, the Executive Director of AISNE asked the State Board to include the organization on the list of recognized accrediting entities in Rule 7320. AISNE representatives subsequently attended a meeting of the State Board's Rule 2200 (independent school rules) Subcommittee where they presented an overview of the organization and responded to questions. The headmaster of Burr and Burton Academy sent an email of support for AISNE's recognition.



## Public Input

The Rule 2200 Subcommittee had further discussion of the proposed amendments at its meeting on August 2, 2021, including the need to update the other names currently on the Rule 7320 list, the intent to shift the topic of recognized accrediting agencies out of Rule 7320 and into the Rule 2200 Series, and the desire not to delay the recognition of AISNE. The Executive Director of the VT Independent Schools Association was present and indicated the Association's support for recognizing AISNE as soon as possible.

At its August 18, 2021 meeting, the State Board reviewed a proposed, multi-step process to incorporate recognition of accrediting agencies into the 2200 Series, including the Agency's suggested language (to be proposed during the public comment period for the 2200 Series) to amend Rule 2223 to explicitly identify AISNE as a recognized accrediting agency and give notice in Rule 2223 of the State Board's intent to repeal Rule 7320 in 2024. The State Board's August 2021 agenda included the opportunity for public comment.

At its September 15, 2021 meeting, the State Board reviewed the proposed amendments to the Rule 7000 Series and provided the opportunity for public comment.

The Board posted the proposed amendments to the Rule 7000 Series on the Agency's website with notice of the opportunity for public comment, held one (1) public hearing, and considered all written and oral comments submitted.

The public hearing was advertised through various communication methods, including (i) postings on the Agency's website and in its weekly field memo sent to a broad array of public and private entities involved with education in Vermont, (ii) direct communications with the accrediting entities listed in Rule 7320 and related professional associations (e.g., the Vermont School Boards Association), and (iii) announcements at monthly State Board meetings.

The State Board continued to accept written public comments for nine days following the scheduled public hearing.

Public Input

5. BEYOND GENERAL ADVERTISEMENTS, PLEASE LIST THE PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED RULE:

State Board of Education

Agency of Education

Council of Independent Schools

Vermont Independent Schools Association

Vermont National Education Association

Vermont School Boards Association

Vermont Superintendents Association

Recognized accrediting agencies listed in Rule 7320

## Vermont State Board of Education Manual of Rules and Practices

### 7000 RELATIONSHIP WITH PUBLIC, OTHER AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS

#### 7100 INTERSTATE AGREEMENTS

~~7110 Personnel Qualifications Interstate Agreement on Qualification of Educational Personnel 16 VSA § 2041-2062. (See also Series 5000 of this manual, titled School Personnel.)~~

~~7120 Vermont—New Hampshire Interstate Compact 16 VSA § 771-784.~~

~~7130 Vermont—New York Interstate Compact 16 VSA Chapter 16.~~

#### 7200 RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER VERMONT STATE AGENCIES

~~7210 Department of Motor Vehicles, statutes related to school buses and drivers: 23 VSA § 1242.~~

~~7220 The Departments of Highways, Public Safety, Labor And Industry, and Health have regulations pertaining to public schools. Some discussion of these appears in the Vermont Department of Education booklet, Planning Educational Environments (see 6104 above). The complete regulations may be obtained from the respective agencies. The Agency of Environmental Conservation enforces Health Department regulations and the Department of Labor and Industry enforces safety regulations.~~

~~7230 University of Vermont, Educational Television 16 VSA § 2801-2805.~~

~~7240 Vermont State Colleges—Nursing Education 16 VSA § 2635.~~

~~7250 State Board of Nursing—Practical Nursing Education 16 VSA § 2651-2654.~~

~~7260 Education Building Finance Agency 16 VSA § 3851-3862.~~

~~7270 The Higher Education Planning Commission is established by executive order of the governor to plan and coordinate higher education in the state. The commissioner of education serves on the commission.~~

~~7280 Advisory Councils See the index of this manual for references to specific advisory councils.~~

#### 7300 RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES

~~7310 Post-Secondary Educational Institutions~~

~~7311 Approval: 16 VSA § 174. See also 2240 of this manual.~~

~~7312 Records: 16 VSA § 175. See al. 244 of this manual.~~

~~7320 Recognized Accrediting Agencies~~

Certain ~~regional~~ institutional agencies have been recognized by the State Board of Education for accrediting purposes:

- New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Burlington, Massachusetts.

- Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools/Commission on Higher Education, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, Seattle, Washington.
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools - Commission on Colleges, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges - Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges, Oakland, California.
- North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Chicago, Illinois.
- Office of Overseas Schools, Department of State, Washington, D.C.
- Department of Education, Northern New England Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, Portland, Maine.
- Diocesan School Board, Burlington, Vermont.
- ~~National Association of Trade and Technical Schools, Washington, D.C. (for non-degree granting purposes only)~~ Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC), Arlington, VA.

~~7330 Private Schools Designated as Public Schools 16 VSA § 827.~~

#### **7400 Effective Dates and Expiration of Rules**

Unless otherwise amended by statute or rule:

- 1) This Rule 7400:
  - A. Shall take effect 15 days after adoption of the amendments to this rule series is complete.
  - B. Shall expire and be of no force and effect on July 1, 2024.
- 2) The following rules shall expire and be of no force and effect 15 days after adoption of the amendments to this rule series is complete:
  - A. Rule 7100 Interstate Agreements (including Rules 7110 – 7130).
  - B. Rule 7200 Relationship with Other Vermont State Agencies (including Rules 7210 – 7280).
  - C. Rule 7310 Post-Secondary Educational Institutions (including Rules 7311 and 7312).
  - D. Rule 7330 Private Schools Designated as Public Schools.
- 3) The following rules shall expire and be of no force and effect on July 1, 2024:
  - A. Rule 7300 Relationship with Other Educational Institutions and Agencies.
  - B. Rule 7320 Recognized Accrediting Agencies.
- 4) Effective July 1, 2024, Rule 7000 shall read:  
7000 RELATIONSHIP WITH PUBLIC, OTHER AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS [repealed]

Clean  
Copy

## Clean Text of Rule 15 days after Adoption

### Vermont State Board of Education Manual of Rules and Practices

#### 7000 RELATIONSHIP WITH PUBLIC, OTHER AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS

#### 7300 RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES

##### 7320 Recognized Accrediting Agencies

Certain institutional agencies have been recognized by the State Board of Education for accrediting purposes:

- New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Burlington, Massachusetts.
- Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools/Commission on Higher Education, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, Seattle, Washington.
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools - Commission on Colleges, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges - Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges, Oakland, California.
- North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Chicago, Illinois.
- Office of Overseas Schools, Department of State, Washington, D.C.
- Department of Education, Northern New England Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, Portland, Maine.
- Diocesan School Board, Burlington, Vermont.
- Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC), Arlington, VA.

#### 7400 Effective Dates and Expiration of Rules

Unless otherwise amended by statute or rule:

- 1) This Rule 7400:
  - A. Shall take effect 15 days after adoption of the amendments to this rule series is complete.
  - B. Shall expire and be of no force and effect on July 1, 2024.
- 2) The following rules shall expire and be of no force and effect 15 days after adoption of the amendments to this rule series is complete:
  - A. Rule 7100 Interstate Agreements (including Rules 7110 – 7130).

- B. Rule 7200 Relationship with Other Vermont State Agencies (including Rules 7210 – 7280).
  - C. Rule 7310 Post-Secondary Educational Institutions (including Rules 7311 and 7312).
  - D. Rule 7330 Private Schools Designated as Public Schools.
- 3) The following rules shall expire and be of no force and effect on July 1, 2024:
- A. Rule 7300 Relationship with Other Educational Institutions and Agencies.
  - B. Rule 7320 Recognized Accrediting Agencies.
- 4) Effective July 1, 2024, Rule 7000 shall read:
- 7000 RELATIONSHIP WITH PUBLIC, OTHER AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS [repealed]

## **Clean Text of Rule on July 1, 2024**

**7000 RELATIONSHIP WITH PUBLIC, OTHER AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS [repealed]**

# The Vermont Statutes Online

## Title 16 : Education

### Chapter 003 : State Board Of Education

#### Subchapter 001 : General Provisions

(Cite as: 16 V.S.A. § 164)

#### § 164. State Board; general powers and duties

The State Board shall engage local school board members and the broader education community and, consistent with the provisions of this title, its own rules, and rules adopted by the Secretary, establish and regularly update a long-term strategic vision for the delivery of educational services in Vermont; advise the General Assembly, the Governor, and the Secretary of Education on high-priority educational policies and issues as they arise; and act in accordance with legislative mandates, including the adoption of rules and executing special assignments. In addition to other specified duties, the Board shall:

(1) Establish such advisory commissions as in the judgment of the Board will be of assistance to it in carrying out its duties. Advisory commission members shall serve with or without compensation at the discretion of the Board but shall receive actual expenses incurred in pursuance of their duties.

(2) Have the authority to enter into agreements with school districts, municipalities, states, the United States, foundations, agencies, or individuals for service, educational programs, or research projects.

(3) Examine and determine all appeals that by law are made to it and prescribe rules of practice in respect thereto, not inconsistent with law.

(4) [Repealed.]

(5) [Repealed.]

(6) Make regulations governing the attendance and records of attendance of all students and the department of students attending public schools.

(7) Adopt rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to carry out the powers and duties of the Board as directed by the General Assembly, within the limitations of legislative intent.

(8) [Repealed.]

(9) Implement and continually update standards for student performance in

appropriate content areas and at appropriate intervals in the continuum from kindergarten to grade 12 and methods of assessment to determine attainment of the standards for student performance. The standards shall be rigorous, challenging, and designed to prepare students to participate in and contribute to the democratic process and to compete in the global marketplace. The standards shall include a standard for reading level proficiency for students completing grade three.

(10) [Repealed.]

(11) If deemed advisable, determine educational standards for admission to and graduation from the public schools.

(12) [Repealed.]

(13) Be the State Board for the program of adult education and literacy and perform all the duties and powers prescribed by law pertaining to adult education and literacy and to act as the State approval agency for educational institutions conducting programs of adult education and literacy.

(14) Adopt rules for approval of independent schools.

(15) Establish criteria governing the establishment of a system for the receipt, deposit, accounting, and disbursement of all funds by supervisory unions and school districts.

(16) In cooperation with the Secretary, ensure that the Agency develops information, plans, and assistance to aid in making technology and telecommunications available and coordinated in all school districts. The State Board shall develop guidelines for distribution of federal, State, or private funds designated for the development or expansion of distance learning technologies. The guidelines shall encourage, consistent with any terms or conditions established by the funding source, collaboration between schools and school districts to realize economic and educational efficiencies.

(17) Report annually on the condition of education statewide and on a supervisory union and school district basis. The report shall include information on attainment of standards for student performance adopted under subdivision (9) of this section, number and types of complaints of hazing, harassment, or bullying made pursuant to chapter 9, subchapter 5 of this title and responses to the complaints, financial resources and expenditures, and community social indicators. The report shall be organized and presented in a way that is easily understandable by the general public and that enables each school, school district, and supervisory union to determine its strengths and weaknesses. To the extent consistent with State and federal privacy laws and regulations, data on hazing, harassment, or bullying incidents shall be disaggregated by incident type, including disaggregation by ethnic groups, racial groups, religious groups, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability status, and English language learner status. The Secretary shall use the information in the report to determine



whether students in each school, school district, and supervisory union are provided educational opportunities substantially equal to those provided in other schools, school districts, and supervisory unions pursuant to subsection 165(b) of this title.

(18) Ensure that Vermont's students, including students enrolled in secondary career technical education, have access to a substantially equal educational opportunity by developing a system to evaluate the equalizing effects of Vermont's education finance system and education quality standards under section 165 of this title.

(19) [Repealed.]

(20) Pursuant to section 806g of this title, constitute the State Council for the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and appoint to the Council a Compact Commissioner and Military Family Education Liaison, who may be the same person. The Board may appoint additional members.

(21) Report annually to the Governor and the General Assembly on the progress the Board has made on the development of education policy for the State. (Added 1969, No. 298 (Adj. Sess.), § 15; amended 1971, No. 14, § 5, eff. March 11, 1971; 1975, No. 48, §§ 3, 14, eff. April 15, 1975; 1975, No. 147 (Adj. Sess.), § 3; 1981, No. 151 (Adj. Sess.), § 5; 1983, No. 247 (Adj. Sess.), § 4(1); 1983, No. 248 (Adj. Sess.), § 4; 1987, No. 97, § 4, eff. June 23, 1987; 1987, No. 228 (Adj. Sess.), § 6; 1989, No. 118, § 3; 1991, No. 24, § 11; 1991, No. 204 (Adj. Sess.), § 7; 1997, No. 60, § 3, eff. June 26, 1997; 1997, No. 138 (Adj. Sess.), § 3, eff. April 27, 1998; 1999, No. 113 (Adj. Sess.), § 1a; 1999, No. 120 (Adj. Sess.), § 3; 2001, No. 151 (Adj. Sess.), § 50, eff. July 1, 2003; 2005, No. 214 (Adj. Sess.), § 12; 2007, No. 154 (Adj. Sess.), § 6; 2011, No. 43, § 2, eff. July 1, 2011; 2011, No. 45, § 7a, eff. May 24, 2011; 2011, No. 98 (Adj. Sess.), § 4, eff. April 1, 2013; 2013, No. 56, § 22, eff. May 30, 2013; 2013, No. 92 (Adj. Sess.), §§ 8, 9, 302, eff. Feb. 14, 2014; 2013, No. 142 (Adj. Sess.), § 26; 2015, No. 23, § 18; 2015, No. 131 (Adj. Sess.), § 23; 2019, No. 1, § 2, eff. Mar. 29, 2019; 2019, No. 131 (Adj. Sess.), § 53; 2021, No. 66, § 20, eff. June 7, 2021.)



# Proposed Rules Postings

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### Search Rules

### Deadline For Public Comment

Deadline: Dec 10, 2021

Please submit comments to the agency or primary contact person listed below, before the deadline.

### Rule Details

Rule Number:	21P035
Title:	Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Relationship with Other Entities.
Type:	Standard
Status:	Proposed
Agency:	Board of Education
Legal Authority:	16 V.S.A. § 164(7) and (14).
Summary:	In this filing, the State Board first proposes to repeal Rule 7320 effective July 1, 2024. This proposed amendment is an initial step in a larger plan to incorporate all discussion of accrediting agencies directly within the Rule 2200 Series. The Board

intends to initiate a separate rulemaking process to amend the 2200 Series, and anticipates that the 2200 amendments will be effective on or before July 1, 2024 -- thus rendering Rule 7320 both obsolete and unnecessary at that time. Second, the Board proposes to repeal all other rules within the Rule 7000 Series effective 15 days after the amendment's adoption per 3 V.S.A. § 845 in order to eliminate rules that provide no independent information, but instead cite other statutes and rules.


Persons Affected: School districts; independent schools; parents; advocacy groups; accrediting agencies; the Agency of Education.

Economic Impact: The State Board does not anticipate that the proposed changes to the Rule 7000 Series outlined in this filing will have an economic impact on any individual or entity. If potential economic impacts arise in later phases of the Board's long-term plans regarding accrediting entities (see Paragraph 8 above), then those impacts will arise in the context of amendments to the 2200 Series and will be addressed in the rule filings associated with those later proposed amendments.

Posting date: Oct 20,2021

## Hearing Information

### Information for Hearing # 1

Hearing date: 12-01-2021 4:00 PM 

Location: Agency of Education

Address: 1 National Life Drive, Davis 5 (Fifth Floor)

City: Montpelier

State: VT

Zip: 05620-2501

Hearing Notes: Also held virtually via MS Teams Conference ID: 990 049 448# Call in at 8-8-  
[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/193ameeting\\_MTM2NTgyNzItODI3OC00MTVILThjNDAtNmM3MjVl/0?context7b22Tid223a2220b4933b-baad-433c-9c02-70edcc7559c6222c22043cf-4e1b-80e5-72db6ed391f5227d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/193ameeting_MTM2NTgyNzItODI3OC00MTVILThjNDAtNmM3MjVl/0?context7b22Tid223a2220b4933b-baad-433c-9c02-70edcc7559c6222c22043cf-4e1b-80e5-72db6ed391f5227d)

## Contact Information

### Information for Contact # 1

Level: Primary

Name: Donna Russo-Savage  
 Agency: Agency of Education  
 Address: 1 National Life Drive, Davis 5  
 City: Montpelier  
 State: VT  
 Zip: 05602-2501  
 Telephone: 802-828-0110  
 Fax: 802-828-6430  
 Email: Donna.RussoSavage@vermont.gov  
 Website Address: <https://education.vermont.gov/state-board-councils/state-board/rulemaking>

**Information for Contact # 2**

Level: Secondary  
 Name: Emily Simmons  
 Agency: Agency of Education  
 Address: 1 National Life Drive, Davis 5  
 City: Montpelier  
 State: VT  
 Zip: 05602-2501  
 Telephone: 802-828-1518  
 Fax: 802-828-6430  
 Email: emily.simmons@vermont.gov

**Keyword Information**

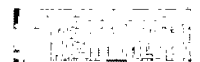
Keywords:

independent school  
 accreditation  
 tuition



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News & Citizen ( <a href="mailto:mike@stowereporter.com">mike@stowereporter.com</a> ) Irene Nuzzo ( <a href="mailto:irene@newsandcitizen.com">irene@newsandcitizen.com</a> and <a href="mailto:ads@stowereporter.com">ads@stowereporter.com</a> removed from distribution list per Lisa Stearns.	Tel: 888-2212 FAX: 888-2173 Attn: Bryan
St. Albans Messenger Ben Letourneau ( <a href="mailto:ben.letourneau@samessenger.com">ben.letourneau@samessenger.com</a> )	Tel: 524-9771 ext. 117 FAX: 527-1948 Attn: Ben Letourneau
The Islander ( <a href="mailto:islander@vermontislander.com">islander@vermontislander.com</a> )	Tel: 802-372-5600 FAX: 802-372-3025
Vermont Lawyer ( <a href="mailto:hunter.press.vermont@gmail.com">hunter.press.vermont@gmail.com</a> )	Attn: Will Hunter

**FROM:** APA Coordinator, VSARA

**Date of Fax:** January 21, 2022

**RE:** The "Proposed State Rules " ad copy to run on

**October 28, 2021**

**PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER MEMO:**

**2**

**\*NOTE\* 8-pt font in body. 12-pt font max. for headings - single space body. Please include dashed lines where they appear in ad copy. Otherwise minimize the use of white space. Exceptions require written approval.**

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## PROPOSED STATE RULES

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By law, public notice of proposed rules must be given by publication in newspapers of record. The purpose of these notices is to give the public a chance to respond to the proposals. The public notices for administrative rules are now also available online at <https://secure.vermont.gov/SOS/rules/> . The law requires an agency to hold a public hearing on a proposed rule, if requested to do so in writing by 25 persons or an association having at least 25 members.

To make special arrangements for individuals with disabilities or special needs please call or write the contact person listed below as soon as possible.

To obtain further information concerning any scheduled hearing(s), obtain copies of proposed rule(s) or submit comments regarding proposed rule(s), please call or write the contact person listed below. You may also submit comments in writing to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, State House, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 (802-828-2231).

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Licensing Regulations for Registered and Licensed Family Child Care Homes.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 21E17

AGENCY: Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families

CONCISE SUMMARY: Rule 2.7 (Rule Variance) is amended to exempt rules 3.4 (Nondiscriminatory Enrollment), 4.7 (Communicating CBCCPP Policies and Procedures), 6.1.4.3 (Respect for Diversity), and 6.2.3 (Quality of Interactions).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Heidi Moreau, Vermont Agency of Human Services, Department for Children & Families, HC 1 South, 280 State Drive, Waterbury, VT 05671- 1080 Tel: 802-595-9639 Email: [heidi.moreau@vermont.gov](mailto:heidi.moreau@vermont.gov) URL: <https://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/laws-regs>.

FOR COPIES: Christel Michaud, Vermont Agency of Human Services, Department for Children & Families, Child Development Division, NOB1, 280 State Drive, Waterbury, VT 05671-1040 Tel: 802-224-6940 Email: [christel.michaud@vermont.gov](mailto:christel.michaud@vermont.gov).

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Licensing Regulations for Afterschool Child Care Programs.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 21E18

AGENCY: Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families

CONCISE SUMMARY: Rule 3.15 is amended to include non-discriminatory enrollment language found in both the Center Based Child Care and Preschool Program (CBCCPP) licensing regulations and Registered and Licensed Family Child Care Homes (FCCH) licensing regulations. Rule 4.7 is amended to include the non-discrimination assurance language found in both the CBCCPP and FCCH licensing regulations. Rule 8.6 is amended to include the respect for diversity language found in both the CBCCPP and FCCH licensing regulations. Rule 18.66 (Rule Variance) is amended to exempt rules 3.15, 4.7, and 8.6.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Heidi Moreau, Vermont Agency of Human Services, Department for Children & Families, HC 1 South, 280 State Drive, Waterbury, VT 05671- 1080 Tel: 802-595-9639 Email: [heidi.moreau@vermont.gov](mailto:heidi.moreau@vermont.gov) URL: <https://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/laws-regs> .

FOR COPIES: Christel Michaud, Vermont Agency of Human Services, Department for Children & Families, Child

Development Division, NOB1, 280 State Drive, Waterbury, VT 05671-1040 Tel: 802-224-6940 Email: [christel.michaud@vermont.gov](mailto:christel.michaud@vermont.gov)

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Child Care Licensing Regulations: Center Based Child Care and Preschool Programs.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 21E19

AGENCY: Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families

CONCISE SUMMARY: Rule 2.7 (Rule Variance) is amended to exempt rules 3.5 (Nondiscriminatory Enrollment), 4.7 (Communicating CBCCPP Policies and Procedures), 6.1.4.3 (Respect for Diversity), and 6.2.5.1 (Quality of Interactions).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Heidi Moreau, Vermont Agency of Human Services, Department for Children & Families, HC 1 South, 280 State Drive, Waterbury, VT 05671- 1080 Tel: 802-595-9639 Email: [heidi.moreau@vermont.gov](mailto:heidi.moreau@vermont.gov) URL: <https://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/laws-regs>.

FOR COPIES: Christel Michaud, Vermont Agency of Human Services, Department for Children & Families, Child Development Division, NOB1, 280 State Drive, Waterbury, VT 05671-1040 Tel: 802-224-6940 Email: [christel.michaud@vermont.gov](mailto:christel.michaud@vermont.gov).

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Reportable and Communicable Diseases Emergency Rule.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 21E20

AGENCY: Agency of Human Services, Department of Health

CONCISE SUMMARY: The purpose of this rule is to protect the public health through the reporting of communicable diseases and other diseases dangerous to public health. Through this rulemaking, the Department adds COVID-19 to the list of reportable diseases, clarifies how diseases are to be reported to the Department and by whom, and requires demographic information be reported to the Department. The Department anticipates initiating formal rulemaking soon, which will include the proposed changes to this emergency rule.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: David Englander, Vermont Department of Health, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington, VT 05401 Tel: 802-863-7280 Fax: 802-951-1275 Email: [ahs.vdhrules@vermont.gov](mailto:ahs.vdhrules@vermont.gov) URL: <http://www.healthvermont.gov/about-us/laws-regulations/public-comment>.

FOR COPIES: Natalie Weill, Vermont Department of Health, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington, VT 05401 Tel: 802-863-7280 Fax: 802-951-1275 Email: [ahs.vdhrules@vermont.gov](mailto:ahs.vdhrules@vermont.gov).

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Rules of the Board of Medical Practice.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 21P034

AGENCY: Agency of Human Services, Department of Health

CONCISE SUMMARY: The proposed changes update existing rules to reflect changes to statute enacted that modified: 1) the qualifications for physician licensure; 2) the Board's powers and duties, and the Board's complaint, investigation, and hearing processes; 3) the requirements for Physician Assistants; and, 4) the provision for reciprocity of licensure from any other state when in good standing. It also makes operational a new option in law for the Board to offer non-disciplinary penalties for administrative infractions in lieu of possible discipline. Last, it provides written procedures for the Board to conduct hearings remotely when needed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Brendan Atwood, Department of Health, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington, VT 05401 Tel: 802-863-7280 Fax: 802-951-1275 Email [ahs.vdhrules@vermont.gov](mailto:ahs.vdhrules@vermont.gov) URL:

<http://www.healthvermont.gov/about-us/laws-regulations/public-comment>.

FOR COPIES: David Englander, Department of Health, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington, VT 05401 Tel: 802-863-7280 Fax: 802-951- 1275 Email [ahs.vdhrules@vermont.gov](mailto:ahs.vdhrules@vermont.gov).

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Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Relationship with Other Entities.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 21P035

AGENCY: Agency of Education / Vermont Board of Education

CONCISE SUMMARY: In this filing, the State Board first proposes to repeal Rule 7320 effective July 1, 2024. This proposed amendment is an initial step in a larger plan to incorporate all discussion of accrediting agencies directly within the Rule 2200 Series. The Board intends to initiate a separate rulemaking process to amend the 2200 Series, and anticipates that the 2200 amendments will be effective on or before July 1, 2024 – thus rendering Rule 7320 both obsolete and unnecessary at that time. Second, the Board proposes to repeal all other rules within the Rule 7000 Series effective 15 days after the amendment's adoption per 3 V.S.A. § 845 in order to eliminate rules that provide no independent information, but instead cite other statutes and rules.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Donna Russo-Savage, Agency of Education 1 National Life, Davis 5, Montpelier, VT 05620 Tel: 802-828-0110 Fax: 802-828-6430 Email: [Donna.RussoSavage@vermont.gov](mailto:Donna.RussoSavage@vermont.gov) URL:

<https://education.vermont.gov/state-board-councils/state-board/rulemaking>.

FOR COPIES: Emily Simmons, Agency of Education 1 National Life, Davis 5, Montpelier, VT 05620 Tel: 802-828-1518 Fax: 802-828-6430 Email: [Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov](mailto:Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov).

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