

Infographic on Nevada's Parental Involvement and Family Engagement (PIFE) Course Requirement

According to [Nevada Law](#), initial licensees in Nevada need at least three semester credit hours or 45 hours of professional development on parental involvement and family engagement. The course must align with the Nevada State Board of Education's [policy on family engagement](#) and include an emphasis on building relationships, outreach, and an appreciation and understanding of families from diverse backgrounds.



1

Identifying the Challenge

In 2005, the [MetLife Survey of the American Teacher](#) found engaging and working with parents as the greatest challenge new teachers face. In a different [survey by Nevada's colleges of education](#), pre-service teachers felt unprepared for the classroom experience when it came to working with parents and family members and student discipline.



2

Addressing the Challenge

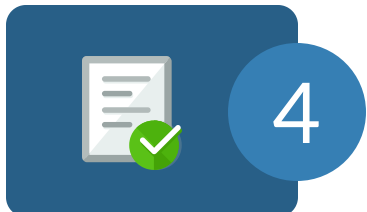
In 2011, [Assembly Bill 224](#) was signed into law. Part of the bill required the Commission on Professional Standards in Education (COPS) to work with the Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement to outline required coursework for licensure on parental involvement and family engagement.



3

Creation and Recommendation of the Task Force

COPS created a task force of internal and external stakeholders to give a recommendation for the required coursework. The task force based its recommendation on the National PTA's [National Standards for Family-School Partnerships](#) and the need to emphasize developing an appreciation and understanding of families from diverse backgrounds. The task force believed that three semester hours of credit would better prepare future teachers to engage families and advance student achievement.



4

Course Approval and Implementation

COPS adopted the course recommendation from the task force on June 13, 2012. The Legislative Commission then approved the recommendation on September 14, 2012 ([Legislative Commission, 2012, p. 15](#)). The course requirement went into effect in July 2015 to give providers time to create courses that met the new course requirement.



5

List of Approved Courses

A [list of approved courses](#) can be found on the Nevada Department of Education's [website](#). Each course on the list is reviewed and approved by the Department to make sure it satisfies the licensure requirement.



6

Removing the Licensure Provision After Taking the Course

To remove the licensure provision from a license, initial licensees should visit the Department [webpage for full details](#) after they have completed the course requirement. Initial licensees will need to log into their Online Portal for Applications and Licensure (OPAL) account to start the process.