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GUIDANCE MEMORANDUM 26-04

TO: All Local Education Agencies

FROM: Dr. Victor Wakefield, Superintendent of Public Instruction 

DATE: February 5, 2026

SUBJECT: Clarifications Regarding Senate Bill 400

BACKGROUND

[Senate Bill \(SB\) 400 \(2025\)](#) requires that the Commission on Professional Standards in Education (COPS) adopt regulations establishing the requirements for obtaining an endorsement to teach music or art, which must include requirements for both coursework and successfully completing a competency test, or Praxis exam, in the subject matter. SB400 further requires that COPS adopt regulations requiring a teacher to obtain such an endorsement to teach music or art if in a public school with greater than 500 enrolled pupils, or if located in a school district with more than 200,000 students, currently the Clark County School District. This provision does include an exemption under Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 391.125, which permits boards of trustees to request a waiver for endorsement requirements should there be a shortage of educators. Per SB400, COPS must adopt such regulations no later than July 1, 2026.

COMPLIANCE WITH SB400 PROVISIONS

COPS introduced Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) File [R069-25](#) to Public Workshop on November 19, 2025. The regulation draft has since been revised and was most recently issued by LCB on January 26, 2026; COPS intends to bring the regulation through a Public Hearing in the Spring and subsequently moving it through the Legislative Commission for adoption in time for the July 1, 2026, deadline.

R069-25 revises Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 391.215 and NAC 391.270, clarifying the [education requirements](#) for holding an endorsement in art or music and requiring that applicants for such an endorsement pass the applicable [Praxis exams](#) (i.e., K-12 Art, Praxis Exam 5135 and K-12 Music, Praxis Exam 5114). R069-25 further regulates that educators must demonstrate compliance with these requirements by July 1, 2029, in order to teach music or art in the 2029-2030 school year. Current license holders who have an elementary art or music endorsement will see their endorsement automatically change to a K-12 endorsement upon passage of this regulation. Please note that due to the extent of regulations passed by COPS each year, R069-25 not only addresses provisions related to SB400, but further includes similar and related provisions to adjoining NAC.

CONCLUSION

If you have any questions regarding this guidance, please reach out to Jeff Briske, Director of Licensure, at jjbriske@doe.nv.gov.