

*2024 Annual Report
December 2024*

NRS 391.028 – Annual report concerning status of Commission’s regulations and work plan.

*This report was
completed by NDE
staff on behalf of
the Commission*

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION
MISSION AND FACTS

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Commission on Professional Standards in Education is to create rigorous regulations governing the licensing of educational personnel in the State of Nevada, with the overall goal of fostering professionalism among educators and facilitating a quality education for all students.

Facts about the Commission:

The Commission on Professional Standards in Education is the only regulatory body charged with developing licensure standards for educational personnel. Its membership makeup reflects key areas within the educational profession. Licensure regulations are developed based on accepted standards for professional staff in schools, as well as the needs of Nevada's students. The Commission also establishes regulations governing competency and subject matter examinations for teachers and other licensed educational personnel. The Commission takes great care in its decisions to ensure that Nevada's educators are both highly qualified and highly effective when teaching Nevada's students.

Authority: The Commission was created by the 1987 Legislature in NRS 391.011.

Membership: The thirteen Commission members are appointed by the Governor. Pursuant to NRS 391.011, the current membership makeup is as follows:

- Five members of the Commission must be educators who teach in Nevada schools:
 - (a) One who holds a license to teach secondary education and teaches in a secondary school;
 - (b) One who holds a license to teach middle school or junior high school education and teaches in a middle school or junior high school;
 - (c) One who holds a license to teach elementary school and teaches in an elementary school;
 - (d) One who holds a license to teach special education and teaches special education;
 - (e) One who holds a license to teach pupils in a program of early childhood education and teaches in a program of early childhood education.
- The remaining members of the Commission must include:
 - (a) One school counselor, psychologist, speech-language pathologist, audiologist, or social worker who is licensed pursuant to Chapter 391 of NRS and is employed by a school district or charter school;
 - (b) One administrator of a school who is employed by a school district or charter school to provide administrative service at an individual school and not at the district level;
 - (c) The dean of the College of Education at one of the universities (UNLV or UNR) in the Nevada System of Higher Education, or a representative of one of the Colleges of Education nominated by such a dean for appointment by the Governor;
 - (d) The dean of the School of Education at Nevada State University, or a representative of the dean, or a representative of the Teacher Education Program at Great Basin College.
 - (e) The chief human resources officer or a representative of the department of human resources of a school district in which more than 40,000 pupils are enrolled.
 - (f) The chief human resources officer or a representative of the department of human resources of a school district in which 40,000 or fewer pupils are enrolled.
 - (g) One member who is the parent or legal guardian of a pupil enrolled in a public school;
 - (h) One member who is the superintendent of schools of a school district.

- The Governor must appoint three of the five teachers from a list of names of at least three persons for each position that is submitted by an employee organization representing the majority of teachers in the State of Nevada who teach at the educational level from which the appointment is being made.
- The Governor must appoint the school counselor, psychologist, speech-language pathologist, audiologist, or social worker from a list of names of at least three persons that is submitted by an employee organization representing the majority of school counselors, psychologists, speech-language pathologists, audiologists or social workers in the State of Nevada who are not administrators.
- The Governor must appoint one school administrators from a list of names of at least three persons for each position that is submitted by an organization of administrators for schools in which the majority of administrators of schools in the State of Nevada have membership.
- The Governor must appoint one dean or designee nominated by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas or University of Nevada, Reno.
- The Governor must appoint one dean or designee nominated by Nevada State University or Great Basin College.
- The Governor must appoint two chief human resource officers or their designees and one district superintendent from a list of names of persons submitted by the Nevada Association of School Superintendents.
- The Governor must appoint the parent or legal guardian of a pupil enrolled in a public school from a list of names of persons submitted by the Nevada Parent Teacher Association or its successor organization.

Membership Terms: No member of the Commission may serve more than two terms per NRS 391.013.

Officers: The Commission shall elect one of its members as President and one of its members as Vice President, to serve at the pleasure of the Commission. The Superintendent of Public Instruction or the Superintendent's designee shall serve as the nonvoting Secretary to the Commission and shall coordinate the activities of the Commission per NRS 391.015.

Meetings: The Commission may meet at least once each month. A majority of the Commission members constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business. While attending meetings of the Commission, the members are entitled to the travel expenses and subsistence allowances provided by law for state officers and employees per NRS 391.017.

Support: The Nevada Department of Education provides the necessary personnel and administrative support to allow the Commission to carry out its duties per NRS 391.029.

General Duties: Pursuant to NRS 391.019, the Commission shall:

- Adopt regulations prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other educational personnel, and the procedures for the issuance and renewal of those licenses.
- Identify fields of specialization in teaching which require the specialized training of educators.
- Adopt regulations requiring educators to obtain an endorsement in each field of specialization in which they wish to teach and set forth the requirements necessary to obtain an endorsement in each field of specialization.
- Adopt regulations governing required examinations for initial licensure.
- Adopt other regulations it deems necessary for its own government or to carry out its duties.

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION
LIST OF COMMISSIONERS**

As of November 20, 2024, the following are serving members of the Commission:

- **Kenny Belknap** – Holds a license to teach secondary education and teaches in a secondary school.
- **Hope Blinco** – Chief Human Resource Officer or designee of a school district in which 40,000 or fewer pupils are enrolled.
- **Shartriya Collier** – Dean of the school of education at Nevada State University or Great Basin College or their designee.
- **Meredith Freeman** – Parent or legal guardian of a student attending a public school.
- **Jason Ginoza** – Chief human resource officer or designee of a school district in which more than 40,000 pupils are enrolled.
- **Michele Haugen** – Holds a license to teach early childhood education and teaches early childhood education.
- **Jamie Hawkins** – Holds a license to teach middle or junior high education and teaches in a middle or junior high school.
- **Joseph Morgan** – Dean of the College of Education or designee at University of Nevada, Las Vegas or University of Nevada, Reno.
- **Derild Parsons** – Superintendent of schools of a school district.
- **Amy Rozar** – Administrator of a school employed by a district or charter and works at the school level.
- **Christina Tucker** – Holds a license to teach elementary education and teaches in an elementary school.
- **Jordan Wenger** – School counselor, psychologist, speech-language pathologist, audiologist, or social worker, licensed and employed by a district or charter.

As of November 20, 2024, the following positions on the Commission are vacant:

- A person who holds a license to teach special education and teaches special education.

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COMMISSION ON
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION
2025 WORK PLAN**

1. The Commission will continue to be responsive to statutory changes required as a result of the 2023 and 2025 Legislative sessions and will create, revise and amend NAC 391 accordingly.
2. The Commission will continue to review chapter 391 of NAC and make necessary revisions in response to national best practices, changing educator workforce trends, and other needs/requests from education stakeholders and other members of the community.
3. (a) The Commission will review and approve qualified Alternative Route to Licensure provider programs pursuant to NAC 391.461
(b) The Commission will review the evaluations of approved Alternative Route to Licensure providers pursuant to NAC 391.461 and NRS 391.039
4. The Commission will review existing and proposed competency testing models pursuant to NAC 391.036 for continued acceptance or new adoption.
5. The Commission will engage a variety of stakeholders in discussions regarding licensure requirements to ensure Nevada's licensure regulations are consistent and relevant.

**LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS REQUIRED OF THE COMMISSION ON
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION
82nd LEGISLATIVE SESSION (2023)**

- **Assembly Bill 428 Sec. 3.1** in the 2023 Legislative Session amended NRS 391.019 adding three members to the Commission and removing one member.
 - The Nevada Department of Education solicited nominations for the new members via required nominating bodies and the Governor appointed the new members to the Commission.
- **Assembly Bill 428 Sec. 3.3(g)** in the 2023 Legislative Session required the Commission to adopt regulations to establish standards for professional development training which may be used to satisfy any course work requirement for the Parental involvement and Family Engagement (PIFE) course.
 - The Commission did not need to take any action as the course work requirements are defined in **regulation 076-19** amending NAC 391.045 effective July 28, 2021. The PIFE course was moved out of NAC 391.045 to NAC 391.XXX by **regulation 008-24** (adopted by Legislative Commission on 9/13/2024) to conform with SB 442 (2023) amending NRS 391B.
- **Assembly Bill 428 Sec. 3.4(3)** in the 2023 Legislative Session required the Commission to adopt regulations governing examinations for the initial licensing of educators. Regulations adopted by the Commission must authorize an applicant to be exempt from passing the basic reading, writing, and math examinations if they complete a course of study with a grade of “B” or better after first attempting and failing an exam.
 - The Commission adopted **regulation 067-24** on 9/18/2024. It is currently pending Legislative Commission adoption.
- **Assembly Bill 428 Sec. 3.5(3)** requires the Commission to adopt regulations for a provisional license to teach if the applicant graduated with a bachelor’s degree or higher but is awaiting conferment of the degree.
 - The Commission adopted **regulation 066-24** on 9/18/2024. The language is currently pending a rewrite for another Public Hearing.
- **Assembly Bill 425 Sec. 3.6(2)** requires the Commission to adopt regulations to establish standards for professional development training which may be used to satisfy course work requirement for the required Multicultural Education course.
 - The Commission did not need to take any action as the course work requirements are defined in NAC 391.067. The Commission adopted **regulation 009-24** on 9/18/2024 to slightly amend NAC 391.067. It is currently pending Legislative Commission adoption.
- **Assembly Bill 428 Sec. 8** in the 2023 Legislative Session directed the Commission to Study concerning the Praxis II and pedagogy examinations.
 - The Nevada Department of Education has contracted with WestEd to conduct the study on behalf of the Commission with Nevada education partners. The report and recommendations will be ready by the 2025 Session.

**REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL
STANDARDS IN EDUCATION AND ADOPTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE
COMMISSION EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 16, 2024**

- **R118-22 – Changes to NAC 391.057; 391.0573; 391.0575; and 391.0577.**
 - Clarifies that NAC 391.057 refers to the Alternative Route to Licensure (ARL) pathway.
 - Revises competency exams are required when converting an ARL license to an initial license.
 - Allows a license holder whose license becomes invalid due to withdraw from a program to apply for reinstatement of the license once and within one (1) year of the issuance of the initial ARL license if the holder is accepted by the same program provider in another area or is accepted by another program provider in the same or another area.
 - NAC 391.0573, 391.0575, and 391.0577 are repealed.

- **R119-22 – Changes to NAC 391.XXX; 391.111; 391.120; and 391.125.**
 - Clarifies the competency exam pathway for a middle or secondary single subject endorsement.
 - Removes the one (1) year of verifiable work experience for a Career and Technical Education endorsement.
 - Clarifies that a person seeking a secondary teaching endorsement has completed a major or minor AND has passed the required competency exam for the applicable area.

- **R124-22 – Changes to NAC 391.XXX; 391.036; 391.045; 391.065; 391.067; and 391.319.**
 - Creates a new school psychologist assistant license.
 - Allows current school psychology assistants to remain employed without obtaining a license.
 - Removes internship hour requirement and ensures all coursework is completed for a school psychologist provisional license.

- **R145-22 – Changes to NAC 389.803**
 - Updates licensure endorsements to mirror current Career and Technical Education areas under the Business and Industry pathway to licensure.

- **R165-22 – Changes to NAC 391.120; 391.125; 391.1301; 391.1312; 391.315; and 391.558.**
 - Removes eight (8) additional semester hours of coursework to align with NAC 391.042 accepting teaching experience in lieu of student teaching without requiring additional coursework.
 - Updates comprehensive majors/minors.
 - Requires a master’s or more advanced degree for a school psychologist license.
 - Repeals NAC 391.1312.

- **R167-22 – Changes to NAC 391.627.**
 - Prescribes the required content and delivery options for the Nevada Model Code of Educator Ethics annual training.

- **R063-23 – Changes to NAC 391.056.**
 - Updates language to reflect that a provisional license holder has three (3) years to complete up to six (6) credits of missing coursework and any required competency exams.
 - Removes the Parent Involvement and Family Engagement course as a license provision to comply with Senate Bill 442 (2023) as recorded in NRS 391B.

- **R065-23 – Changes to NAC 391.036, 391.083, 391.0897, 391.100, 391.135, 391.179, 391.220, 391.237, 391.240, 391.245, 391.250, 391.265, 391.275, 391.310, 391.323, 391.325, 391.347, 391.363, 391.376, 391.393, 391.400, and 391.436.**
 - Defines that the business and industry endorsement is a type of career and technical education endorsement in NAC 391.400.
 - Provides conforming language in NAC 391.036, 391.083, 391.0897, 391.237, 391.323, and 391.363.
 - Provides transitory language in Section 8.
 - Repeals NAC 391.100, 391.135, 391.179, 391.220, 391.240, 391.245, 391.250, 391.265, 391.275, 391.310, 391.325, 391.347, 391.376, 391.393, and 391.436 as they are addressed in other regulations, outdated, or no longer needed.

- **R087-23 – Changes to NAC 391.060.**
 - Allows National Board-Certified Educators to qualify for the longest licensure period as they would otherwise be qualified by degree.

- **R088-23 – Changes to NAC 391.065 and 391.080.**
 - Allows a licensee to obtain continuing education at any time during the licensure period.
 - Updates required continuing education to equal 90 clock hours, 6 semester credit hours or a combination of clock hours and credit hours.
 - Ensures that continuing education activities for licensure renewal hours are offered by approved providers as described by NAC 391.080.
 - Confirms that colleges/universities, local education agencies, employer organizations, and regional professional development programs are approved providers of continuing education.
 - Provides an approval process for other providers of continuing education to ensure they meet the Nevada Learning Standards in NAC 391A.300.

- **R090-23 – Changes to NAC 391.160.**
 - Allows for school counselors, mental health workers and social workers to obtain a program administrator endorsement.

- **R008-24 – Changes to NAC 391.XXX, 391.045, 391.056, 391.0565, 391.070, 391.073, 391.111, 391.120, 391.125, and 391.270.**
 - Changes the Parent Involvement and Family Engagement course requirement from a provision to a renewal requirement and allows a licensee to take the course at any time prior to the renewal of a license.
 - Changes the Special Education course requirement from a provision to an initial preparation coursework requirement for the middle, secondary, and K-12 music and art licenses.

- Adds Computer Science as an endorsement for the middle school license.
- Updates the license application review fees.
- **R012-24 – Changes to NAC 391.363.**
 - Requires a minimum bachelor's degree for an early childhood developmental delay license.
 - Updates coursework requirements for this license.

**REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL
STANDARDS IN EDUCATION IN 2024 - PENDING ADOPTION BY
THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION**

R011-24 amending NAC 391.XXX, 391.340, 391.343, 391.360, 391.363, 391.367, 391.378, and 391.391. This regulation will create an Interim Route to Certification for already license general education educators to obtain an endorsement in special education. This regulation was adopted by the Commission on 9/18/2024 and is pending adoption by Legislative Commission.

R070-24 amending NAC 391.XXX. This regulation will create a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) endorsement. This regulation was adopted by the Commission on 9/18/2024 and is pending adoption by Legislative Commission.

R100-24 amending NAC 391.XXX. This regulation will create a Registered Apprenticeship License. This regulation was adopted by the Commission on 9/18/2024 and is pending adoption by Legislative Commission.

R009-24 and R067-24 were already mentioned in the **Legislative Action Required** section above.

**REGULATIONS PENDING PUBLIC HEARING BY THE
COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION**

R010 amending NAC 391.XXX. This regulation will create an Interim Route to Licensure for already licensed educators who wish to obtain an administrative endorsement. This regulation is pending a rewrite for another Public Hearing.

R066 was already mentioned in the **Legislative Action Required** section above.