

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

The State Superintendent of Education, pursuant to the authority set forth in section 3(b)(11) of the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000, effective October 21, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176) and amended by the Public Education Reform Amendment Act of 2007, (D.C. Law 17-9), D.C. Official Code § 38-2602(b)(11)) (2007 Supp), hereby gives notice of her intent to adopt this proposed rulemaking to amend Chapter 16 of Title 5 of the *District of Columbia Municipal Regulations* (DCMR), in not less than thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice in the *D.C. Register*. The purpose of the proposed regulation is to amend Section 1667, entitled “Administrative Services Credentialing”, to establish the credentials that will be required of candidates seeking to qualify for a position as a principal, assistant principal, director, or other school operating officer at a public school in the District of Columbia.

Section 1667 of Title 5 of the DCMR is amended to read as follows:

5-1667 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CREDENTIAL

- 1667.1 An individual must have an Administrative Services Credential to serve as a principal, assistant principal, director, or instructional leader at a public school in the District of Columbia.
- 1667.2 The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) shall issue an Administrative Services Credential in accordance with the provisions of this Section.
- 1667.3 To qualify for an Administrative Services Credential, the candidate must have:
- (a) Earned an advanced degree from an accredited institution of higher education; or successfully completed the initial licensure requirements of a program for educational administrators approved by the OSSE in accordance with subsection 1667.7 of this chapter;
 - (b) Successfully completed two years of school-based experience in one of the following: elementary, secondary, or university-level classroom based teaching, other instructional teaching experience, guidance counseling, social work, psychological services, or rehabilitative services for students with disabilities; and
 - (c) Successfully completed the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA), with a qualifying score determined by the State Superintendent of Education.

- 1667.4 At the request of a local education agency located in the District of Columbia (LEA), the State Superintendent of Education may waive the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 1667.3 of this chapter;
- 1667.5 The term of the Administrative Services Credential shall be five calendar years from the date of issuance, unless a shorter term is prescribed by the State Superintendent of Education. The Administrative Services Credential is renewable upon completion of two hundred (200) hours of professional activities and services that contribute to performance and effectiveness as an educational administrator. The State Superintendent of Education shall specify which professional activities and services qualify toward renewal under this subsection.
- 1667.6 Candidates who hold a valid administrative services license from another state or jurisdiction within the United States of America, and have not taken the SLLA, shall be eligible for a non-renewable Provisional Administrative Services Credential that expires within two calendar years from the date of issuance or any shorter term prescribed by the State Superintendent of Education.
- 1667.7 The State Superintendent of Education shall develop policies or directives setting forth objective and verifiable standards for the approval, renewal, and revocation of approval by the OSSE of programs for educational administrators that qualify candidates to earn an Administrative Services Credential pursuant to subsection 1667.3(a) of this chapter. Only programs sponsored by an institution of higher education, a non-profit organization, or LEA may be considered for approval pursuant to this subsection by the OSSE. Any approval granted by the OSSE pursuant to this subsection, shall specify which requirements must be successfully completed to qualify a candidate for the Administrative Services Credential pursuant to subsection 1667.3(a) of this chapter. Any such programs in existence as of the date of the final approval of this rule, shall maintain their qualified status pursuant to subsection 1667.3(a) of this chapter, for the duration of the term of their current approval as a qualified program.
- 1667.8 Each candidate for an Administrative Services Credential shall be required to undergo a criminal history record check prior to receiving the credential, and may be required to submit to additional checks for purposes of renewing or continuing to hold the credential. The State Superintendent of Education shall develop policies or directives setting forth objective and verifiable criteria for the review of such records. Only criminal convictions and pending charges shall be taken into account with regard to criminal background information in determining whether or not an individual is qualified to hold the credential.

Persons wishing to comment on these proposed rules should submit their comments in writing to Deborah A. Gist, State Superintendent of Education, 441 4th Street, NW, Room 350N, Washington, D.C., 20001, Attn: Ms. Virginia Crisman. All comments must be received by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education not later than thirty (30) days after publication of this notice in the DC Register. Copies of this emergency and proposed rule may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling the Office of the State Superintendent of Education at (202) 727-6436.