PDU Suspension Guidance and FAQs Teacher Standards and Practices Commission



Introduction

During the October 2023 meeting, the Commission agreed to continue the suspension of the requirement to report professional development activities to renew a license. Those employed in Oregon schools, districts and educational service districts must continue to complete professional development as directed by the employer.

Factors influencing this decision include the continued workforce shortage, input from the Rules Advisory Committee, uncertainty regarding the future of how TSPC and the Educator Advancement Council (EAC) may interact, and concern from staff. The Commission will revisit the suspension of reporting over the coming years.

TSPC recognizes the importance continued education has on educational systems and the direct work happening with students. The intent of this change is not for educators to discontinue seeking out and applying Professional Development to their work. Rather, the Commission is placing the responsibility for an educator's preparedness to engage in working with students on the employing school, school district or educational service district. The Commission, the public, and Oregon's students maintain high standards for licensed educator's professional learning, regardless of whether the learning activity results in the awarding of PDUs for purposes of license renewal.

Frequently Asked Questions

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PEER Forms

Question: Does the district still need to submit the PEER form?

School, districts and ESDs should continue to submit PEER forms and include PDUs earned by an educator to demonstrate the district's commitment to providing professional development for licensed staff. TSPC staff reviews reported assignments to be sure educators are working within the scope of the license and licensees may need the experience documented to meet requirements for a new license type.

Disclaimer: Requirements outlined in this guidance are intended to assist applicants on what must accompany an application and fee to renew an Oregon educator license. They do not supersede or nullify the requirements of Oregon Administrative Rule, Division 584.

Rules in effect as of 10/20/2022

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Advanced PDUs for the Professional Teaching License

Question: Does this suspension apply to the Advanced PDU option to move from the Preliminary to the Professional Teaching License?

Moving from the Preliminary to the Professional Teaching license is **upgrading** rather than **renewing**, so the district must submit the Advanced Professional Development form to include the number of awarded Advanced PDUs and the teaching experience.

Substitute License Issued

Question: I applied for and was issued a Substitute License because I hadn't earned the PDUs to renew my Preliminary or Professional License. What do I do to get my Preliminary or Professional License back?

If you hold an active Substitute License that was issued more than 30 days ago, you must submit a "New" application and fee through eLicensing.

Lapsed License

Question: I let my license (any type) expire because I hadn't earned the PDUs. Will the Late Fees apply if I want to get my license back?

Yes, late fees will apply any time you let a renewable license expire. ORS 342.127 (the law) directs the Commission to charge these fees.

Restricted Licenses

Question: I hold a Restricted license (any type). Do I still have to make progress in my program?

Yes. The suspension only applies to holders of full, non-provisional licenses. Holders of any kind of Restricted license must continue to make progress in their program. Holders of a Restricted CTE license must complete the requirements as outlined in their Professional Development Plan.

Reciprocal Licenses

Question: I hold a Reciprocal license (teaching or administrative). Do I still have to complete the requirements I was given when the license was issued?

Yes. Those holding the Reciprocal Teaching License most likely need to complete content knowledge testing. School Administrators from other states generally need to complete a course in Oregon School Law and Finance. Please follow these steps to see your specific requirements:

- 1. Log into eLicensing
- 2. Go to your Messages tab
- 3. View the Message with the Subject that discusses the requirements for your "Next Oregon License"

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