Preliminary Teaching License

(1) Purpose of the License: The Preliminary Teaching License qualifies its holder to teach in prekindergarten through grade 12 Oregon public school districts, education service districts, and charter school assignments. The Preliminary Teaching License is issued to new teachers who have successfully completed an Oregon teacher preparation program or who have entered the state as a licensed beginning teacher. The Preliminary Teaching License signifies that the educator is a novice teacher who has not met the advanced competencies and experience requirements necessary to meet the qualifications of the Professional Teaching License.

(2) Term of Licensure: The Preliminary Teaching License is valid for three years and is renewable as provided in subsection (7) of this rule. The license may be renewed continuously until the applicant has met both the advanced competencies and experience requirements for the Professional Teaching License. The date of the first expiration of the license is three years from the date of issue plus time until the applicant’s birthday.

(3) Assignment and Endorsement Authorization: The Preliminary Teaching License qualifies the teacher to accept:

(a) Any instructional assignment from prekindergarten through grade 12 within the scope of the subject-matter endorsement(s) on the Preliminary Teaching License. The scope of the endorsement shall be determined by the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES) course codes associated with the endorsement as provided by the TSPC Licensure Guide; and

(b) Any substitute teaching assignments.

(4) Recency of Oregon Teacher Preparation: The Commission requires Oregon-prepared applicant for the Preliminary Teaching License to have recent teacher preparation in accordance with the following provisions:

(a) If the applicant completed an Oregon teacher preparation program within the six years preceding their first application for licensure in Oregon or another NASDTEC jurisdiction, there are no additional recency requirements to qualify for the Preliminary Teaching License.

(b) If the applicant completed an Oregon teacher preparation more than six years prior to their first application for licensure in Oregon or another NASDTEC jurisdiction, the applicant must submit:

(A) A recent passing score on the content test of knowledge for each endorsement the applicant is seeking to hold on their license. A passing score is recent if it has been obtained within the two years immediately preceding the application for licensure; and

(B) Evidence of completion of a pedagogy course. The pedagogy course must:

(i) Include the word pedagogy or methods in the course title or be acceptable to the Commission upon evaluation of course syllabi or other evidence;

(ii) Be at least three quarter hours or two semester hours;

(iii) Be related to the subject-matter endorsement area requested for the license;

(iv) Include official verification that the course was passed within the two years immediately preceding the application for the Preliminary Teaching License; and

(v) Be verified by official sealed transcripts from a regionally accredited college or university.

(c) The Executive Director, or Director of Licensure, may accept alternative evidence of recent practice or professional development if the Executive Director, or Director of Licensure, determines the evidence sufficiently addresses the need for recent engagement in the content knowledge and pedagogy required for the Preliminary Teaching License.

(d) Oregon prepared applicants who hold an active and valid out-of-state non-provisional teaching license from another NASDTEC jurisdiction are not subject to the recency requirements. The recency requirements provided in this subsection do not apply to applicants moving directly from a Reciprocal
Teaching License to a Preliminary Teaching License or to qualified out-of-state licensed applicants moving directly to the Preliminary Teaching License.

(5) Out-of-state applicants: An out-of-state applicant may apply for the Preliminary Teaching License If the applicant:
(a) Holds a valid and active non-provisional teaching license from another National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) jurisdiction;
(b) Meets the requirements for the Preliminary Teaching License provided in this rule; and
(c) Meets the requirements for the Reciprocal Teaching License provided in OAR 584-210-0060.

(6) To be eligible to apply for a Preliminary Teaching License, an applicant must:
(a) Possess the personal qualifications for licensure including attainment of at least eighteen years of age and possessing good moral character and mental and physical health necessary for employment as an educator;
(b) Hold a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution in the United States, or the foreign equivalent of such degree approved by the Commission. A master's degree or a doctoral degree from a regionally accredited institution in the United States validates a non-regionally accredited bachelor's degree for licensure purposes;
(c) (A) Provide evidence of admission to and completion of an Oregon Preliminary Teaching License preparation program approved by the Commission; or
(B) Provide evidence of completion of a teaching preparation program as provided in OAR 584-210-0060(8)(Reciprocal Teaching License) if applying from out-of-state;
(d) Obtain a passing score as currently specified by the Commission on each of one or more tests of subject mastery for subject-matter endorsement or otherwise complete endorsement requirements established by the Commission;
(e) Meet the recency of preparation requirements as provided in subsection (4) of this rule;
(f) Obtain a passing score on a Commission-approved test of knowledge of U.S. and Oregon civil rights laws and professional ethics;
(g) Complete a background clearance that includes:
(A) Furnishing fingerprints (if necessary);
(B) Providing satisfactory responses to character questions in the form and manner prescribed by the Commission; and
(h) Submit a complete and correct application in the form and manner required by the Commission, including payment of all required fees as provided in OAR 584-200-0050.

(7) To be eligible to apply for renewal of the Preliminary Teaching License, an applicant must:
(a) Complete 75 advanced professional development units as provided in OAR 584-210-0040 Professional Teaching License and OAR 584-255-0010 Professional Development Requirements; or
(b) Complete 75 continuing professional development units as provided in OAR 584-255-0010 Professional Development Requirements.

(c) Submit a complete and correct renewal application in the form and manner required by the Commission, including payment of all required fees as provided in OAR 584-200-0050.

(8) Upon qualifying for the advanced competencies and teaching experience requirements of the Professional Teaching License, an applicant will be promoted from the Preliminary Teaching License to the Professional Teaching License. Licensees may renew the Preliminary Teaching License until they have met all qualifications for the Professional Teaching License.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 342
Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 342.120 - 342.430, 342.455 - 342.495 & 342.553
History:
TSPC 2-2017, f. & cert. ef. 4-12-17
TSPC 1-2016, f. & cert. ef. 2-10-16