



# **HOW TO BE A TEACHER IN JPS:**

## **General Session**

**Licensure Guidelines and Updates Meeting for  
Paraprofessionals, Provisionally Licensed Teachers, and  
Non-Licensed Personnel**

**10/1/2021**

# ONLINE SIGN-IN SHEET

- Certification Update Survey



**SCAN ME**



# AGENDA

5:30 – 6:00pm	Attendee Sign-In	Kirksey Middle School
6:00pm	Welcome	<b>Tommy Nalls, Jr., Ed.D.</b> Director of Recruitment Jackson Public School District Office of Human Resources
6:05 – 6:45pm	Teacher Licensure Requirements	
6:45 – 7:00pm	Praxis Support Licensure Updates and News	
7:00 – 7:15pm	Human Resources Updates	
7:15 – 7:30pm	Questions and Closing Remarks	
7:30pm	Adjournment	



# PROBLEM

- **Candidates are not informed**
  - **Do not understand certification process and pathways**
- **Candidates are having issues meeting certification requirements**
  - **Praxis Core**
  - **Praxis Subject Area Assessments**
  - **Foundations of Reading**



# PURPOSE

- **Inform candidates about the certification process and all pathways available to them**
- **Provide clarity regarding recent updates to MS certification requirements**
- **Provide information on district level resources (current and upcoming) that are available to candidates to assist with certification**



# MS CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- **The Three (3) Ts**
  - Completion of all **TESTING REQUIREMENTS** for certification
    - Core Academic Skills Requirement:
      - Praxis Core (Reading, Writing, and Math)
      - **21** or higher on ACT
      - Qualifying SAT Score
        - **870** and above (*Prior to 1995*)
        - **980** and above (*Between 1995 and August 2015*)
        - **990** and above (*August 2015 to February 2016*)
        - **1060** and Above (*March 2016 and thereafter*)
    - Subject Area Assessments
      - Praxis II
    - Other Testing Requirements
      - Foundations of Reading (Elementary Education Route Only)
      - Principles of Learning and Teaching (Traditional Route Only)
  - Completion of an approved **TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM** (TPP)
  - Completion of **TEACHING EXPERIENCE** (Student Teaching or Teaching Internship)



# MS CERTIFICATION PATHWAYS

- TRADITIONAL ROUTE
- NON-TRADITIONAL (ALTERNATE) ROUTE





# Traditional Route Certification Pathway



# CERTIFICATION PLAN

Yes or No:

*“I have a Bachelor’s Degree or higher in **education** AND I completed **student teaching** during the program”*

YES	NO
Traditional Route	Alternate Route



# PATHWAYS FOR CERTIFICATION

- **TRADITIONAL ROUTE**

- Obtains Bachelor's degree or higher in Education from MSBOE **approved** program from a nationally accredited institution of higher learning
- Must have documentation of **student teaching** from **nationally accredited or state approved** Institution of Higher Education
- **Completion of Required Certification Exams** (**waived through December 2021**)
- **5-Year Standard Certification (Renewable)** is issued after all requirements are met



# CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS - TRADITIONAL

- **TESTING** (waived through December 2021)
  - Educators must take and pass:
    - Praxis CORE Exam (or 21 on ACT, or qualifying SAT score)
    - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) Exam
    - Foundations of Reading Assessment (**Elementary Education Only**)
    - Praxis Subject Area Assessment
- **TEACHER PREPARATION**
  - Bachelor's Degree or Higher from Approved Teacher Preparation Program
- **TEACHER EXPERIENCE**
  - Documentation of completed Student Teaching from Approved Teacher Preparation Program



# RESOURCES FOR CERTIFICATION – Special, Non-Renewable License (SNRL)

- **SNRL– Traditional Program Completers**
  - **Must hold degree from accredited, traditional education degree program**
    - Bachelor's Degree in Education, or
    - Bachelor's Degree in any area with completion of approved traditional-route teacher preparation program
    - Program must lead to licensure
  - **Educator has three (3) years to meet requirements for full certification (5-Year Standard Educator License)**



# RESOURCES FOR CERTIFICATION – Special, Non-Renewable License (SNRL)

- **SNRL – Traditional Program Completers**
  - **Year 1 Requirements:**
    - Official transcript showing completion of traditional-route teacher preparation program
    - Documentation of completion of teaching experience (student teaching) with an earned grade of “C” or higher
    - Local District Request and District Letter of Justification
    - Application for Special, Non-Renewable License



# RESOURCES FOR CERTIFICATION – Special, Non-Renewable License (SNRL)

- **SNRL – Traditional Program Completers**
  - **Year 2 Requirements:**
    - Official test score report(s) documenting attempt(s) to achieve a qualifying passing score on all required applicable Mississippi State Board of Education approved testing requirements
    - Must be attempted during the time the Year 1 Special, Non-renewable License was valid
  - **Year 3 Requirements:**
    - Official test score report(s) documenting attempt(s) to achieve a qualifying passing score on all required applicable Mississippi State Board of Education approved testing requirements
    - Must be attempted during the time the Year 2 Special, Non-renewable License was valid



# 3-YEAR CERTIFICATION PLAN

- **TRADITIONAL:**

- **Teacher Preparation AND Teaching Experience**

- Submit copy of transcripts to JPS Office of Recruitment

- **Testing Requirements**

- Take and Pass (3-Years to Complete):

- Praxis Core (Reading, Math, Writing)
      - Praxis Subject Area
      - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) – Appropriate Grade Level
      - Foundations of Reading Assessment

- **Apply for Licensure (5-Year Standard License)**





# Non-Traditional (ALTERNATE ROUTE) Certification Pathway



# PATHWAYS FOR CERTIFICATION

- **NON-TRADITIONAL (Alternate Route)**
  - Must hold Bachelor's degree or higher in any area from **nationally accredited** Institution of Higher Education.
  - Must also complete Six (6) hours of pre-teaching courses or teacher preparation training in a MSBE **approved** Alternate Route Program:
    - Degree Option
      - Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)
    - Certification Only
      - Teach for Mississippi Institute (TMI)
      - American Board Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE)



# PATHWAYS FOR CERTIFICATION

- **NON-TRADITIONAL (Alternate Route) - Cont.**
  - Alt. Route Program Completers must also complete Six (6) Hours OR 1 Year Equivalent of **Teacher Internship Courses** (Replaces Student Teaching) to qualify for Certification
  - **3-Year Alternate Route Certification (Non-Renewable)** issued after **testing** and **pre-teaching coursework** requirements are met
  - **5-Year Alternate Route Certification (Renewable)** issued after **teacher internship** (student teaching) is completed



# CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS – ALTERNATE ROUTE

- **TESTING** *(Waived through December 2021, except for Elementary Education alt. route)*
  - Educators must take and pass:
    - Praxis CORE Exam (or 21 on ACT)
    - Praxis Subject Area Assessment (Content Area)
    - Foundations of Reading Assessment (**Elementary 4-6 Only**)
- **TEACHER PREPARATION**
  - Bachelor's Degree or Higher from nationally accredited program in any area, PLUS
  - Six (6) hours (or equivalent) of Pre-Teaching Coursework in **approved** alternate route teacher preparation program (program leads to licensure)
- **TEACHER EXPERIENCE**
  - Documentation of completed 1-Year, Teacher Internship from **approved** alternate route teacher preparation program



# RESOURCES FOR CERTIFICATION – Special, Non-Renewable License (SNRL)

- **SNRL – Non-Traditional Program Completers**
  - Year 1 Requirements:
    - Official transcript showing completion of accredited degree program (Bachelor's Degree or Higher)
    - **One** of the Following:
      - Transcript showing completion of bachelor's degree in area of requested certification
      - 18 hours of approved coursework in area of requested certification with a grade of "C" or better in each course
      - Qualifying Passing scores on the Praxis Subject Area Assessment in the area of requested certification
    - Local District Request and District Letter of Justification (**JPS provides**)
    - Application packet for Special, Non-Renewable License



# RESOURCES FOR CERTIFICATION – Special, Non-Renewable License (SNRL)

- **SNRL – Non-Traditional Program Completers**
  - During the school year the SNRL is issued, JPS must provide the educator holding the SNRL license:
    - Appropriate ongoing activities that lead to obtaining unconditional admission to a MSBOE approved non- traditional teacher preparation program; and
    - High-quality professional development that is sustained, intensive, and classroom-focused; and
    - Intensive supervision that consists of structured guidance and regular ongoing support or teacher mentoring with a fully certified teacher.



# RESOURCES FOR CERTIFICATION – Special, Non-Renewable License (SNRL)

- **SNRL – Non-Traditional Program Completers**
  - **Year 2/3 Requirements** – *In addition to the requirements on the previous slide, the educator must complete one of the following:*
    - A. **Official test score report(s)** documenting achievement of or attempt(s) to achieve the qualifying passing score(s) on all required applicable Mississippi State Board of Education approved testing requirements, during the time the Year 1 or Year 2 SNRL was valid:
      - A. **Praxis Core**
      - B. **Praxis Subject Area Test**
    - B. **Letter of Unconditional Acceptance** from MSBE Approved Alternate Route Teacher Preparation Program
    - C. **Official transcripts** showing required courses are “in-progress” or “completed” with a grade of C or higher in each course



# 3-YEAR CERTIFICATION PLAN

- **NON-TRADITIONAL (Alt. Route):**

- **Testing Requirements (Year 1)**

- **Attempt or Pass (*One Year to Complete*):**

- Praxis Core (Reading, Math, Writing)
      - Praxis Subject Area
      - Foundations of Reading Assessment (**Elementary Only**)

- **Enroll in or Complete Alternate Route Program and Complete Pre-Teaching Requirements**



# 3-YEAR CERTIFICATION PLAN

- **NON-TRADITIONAL (Alt. Route) - Continued:**
  - **Teacher Preparation (Year 2)**
    - **Attempt or Pass (*One Year to Complete*):**
      - Praxis Core (Reading, Math, Writing)
      - Praxis Subject Area
      - Foundations of Reading Assessment (**Elementary Only**)
    - **Enroll or Complete Alternate Route Program and Complete Pre-Teaching Requirements**
    - **Apply for 3-Year Alternate Route License**
      - License will be issued in the area that the Subject Area Test was taken.
      - **One year Emergency Certificate (EC) can be requested for a supplemental endorsement with 1 Year of verifiable teaching experience**





# 3-YEAR CERTIFICATION PLAN

## ○ Teaching Experience (Year 3)

- Pass (*1-Year to Complete*):
  - Praxis Core (Reading, Math, Writing)
  - Praxis Subject Area
  - Foundations of Reading Assessment (**Elementary Only**)
- Apply for 3-Year Alternate Route license and Complete 1-Year Teacher Internship
- Apply for Standard 5-Year License





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# Licensure Updates and News

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF EDUCATOR LICENSURE

# No Waiver for Elementary Education Alternate Route Exam (5018)

- TESTING WAIVER IS IN PLACE THROUGH DECEMBER 2021
- There is NO WAIVER for Elementary Education (4-6)
  - Elementary Education (4-6) Endorsement is currently the only Elementary **alternate route** certification pathway
  - Candidates can only qualify for the endorsement through testing
- Must request endorsement as your initial endorsement;  
Cannot be added as a supplemental endorsement



# Verification of Lawful Presence

- Effective with complete licensure applications received July 1, 2021, and thereafter, Citizens of the United States are required to submit appropriate documentation for verification once during their next most immediate licensure application submission.
- Licensure applications shall not be processed if the applicant fails to answer the request for documentation required for verification of lawful presence in the United States.



# Verification of Lawful Presence

- You will need to make a clear copy of your valid ID and have the copy notarized at the same time you complete and get the affidavit notarized
- Once you complete the VLP form, upload the affidavit and the copy of your ID together into your **ELMS account** using the document upload feature provided within the correspondence section of your account.



# Verification of Lawful Presence

- To access forms:
  - Go to <http://www.mdek12.org/OEL>
  - Look for the forms icon



## Forms

Please use the forms below to submit requested information to the Division of Educator Licensure. Before submitting a **Licensure Application**, please review the **Licensure Application Checklist** to be sure you have all required documentation necessary to submit a completed application for evaluation. **Note:** Only the current version of the respective forms below will be accepted for licensure application review and processing. To not delay the review and processing of your licensure request, please only use the forms provided below.

- [Licensure Application Checklist](#)
- [Licensure Application](#)
- [Administrator Mentorship Evaluation Form](#)
- [Authorization to Disclose Personal Information](#)
- [Child Development Program Verification](#)
- [ELMS Portal Access Security Form](#)
- [Institutional Program Verification](#)
- [Mentorship Induction Evaluation Form](#)
- [Request for Test Score Report](#)
- [Request for Update to ELMS Account](#)
- [Verification of Experience](#)
- [Verification of Lawful Presence](#)





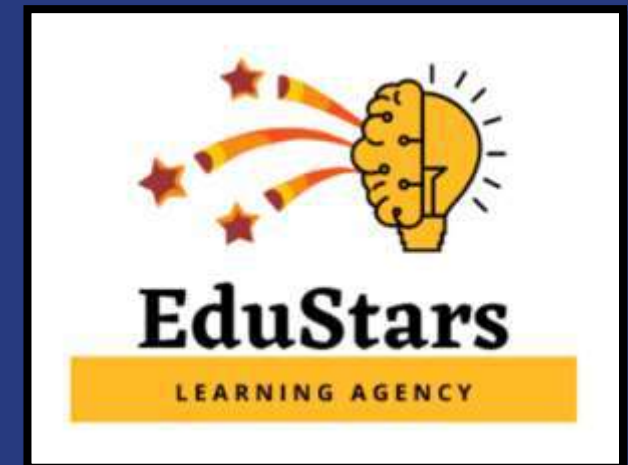
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# PRAXIS SUPPORT

DR. PHAREN NELSON-BURKETT

EDUSTARS, LLC





**EduStars**

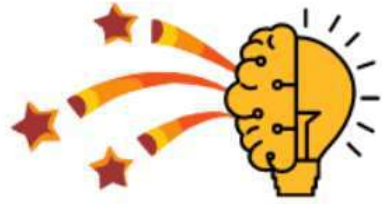
LEARNING AGENCY

# Praxis Prep Academy



#PassThePraxis










**EduStars**

LEARNING AGENCY

 98% Pass Rate

 100% Participant Satisfaction

## Program Design:

-  Individualized
-  In-person Learning Sessions
-  Blended Learning Platform
-  Instructor Feedback
-  Instructional Support

# TO AND THROUGH Certification

- ENROLL IN PRAXIS  
PREP ACADEMY
- CREATE A  
TEACHER  
CERTIFICATION  
PATHWAY
- ENROLL IN THE  
8WK COHORT

#PassThePraxis

# Testimonials

“

"I feel the live sessions are the most important part of the Praxis classes. As a visual and hands-on learner, I prefer meeting face-to-face. These sessions aids in my ability to hear, see, and work at the same time. It increases my understanding and retention of the concepts I am learning."

-L. Devine

”

“

"I prefer hybrid learning over others because live sessions because face to face sessions give more clarity other than working independently."

-R. Williams

”

“

"I love them because they actually teach us the content and have us to show our understanding, versus just giving work and going over it together."

-J. Taylor

”

“

"The instructors at Praxis Prep Academy are phenomenal!! They are so knowledgeable about their respective content areas and the exams."

E. Moore

”

# EduStars Praxis Prep Academy



District Contact: Dr. Tommy Nalls

[tnalls@jackson.k12.ms.us](mailto:tnalls@jackson.k12.ms.us)

# PRAXIS SUPPORT

- JPS entered into an agreement with EduStars, LLC to provide Praxis Supports for JPS employees beginning in October 2021 for the following areas:
  - Elementary Education 4-6
  - Special Education
  - Early Childhood Education (PreK-K)





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# Human Resources Updates

KEY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# JPS “GROW YOUR OWN” INITIATIVES

- JPS is renewed agreement with William Carey University to continue Teacher Certification Initiative
  - Candidates will earn Certification with option to continue for MAT degree
  - Candidates must agree to 3-Years of service beyond licensure to participate in the program
  - Certification Areas include
    - Any 7-12 endorsement areas
    - Elementary Education (4-6) - Must have already passed the 5018 Praxis
    - Priority given to educators seeking certification in Elementary Education, Special Education, and Mathematics



# KEY REMINDERS

- Individuals on District Requested licenses (**SNRL, VEC, Expert Citizen, etc.**) should have requirements met prior to March 1, 2022.
  - **Traditional Route:** Official Score Reports showing attempts to meet testing requirements during that current year the SNRL was held
  - **Non-Traditional Route:**
    - Year-2 SNRL Holders: Completion of Testing Requirements AND Letter of Unconditional ACCEPTANCE into the appropriate Alt. Route Teacher Preparation Program
    - Year-3 SNRL Holders: Transcripts that show coursework or internship is “completed” with a grade of “C” or better, OR “in progress”
    - Expert Citizen Holders: Must complete application for additional Expert Citizen license or be licensed by traditional or alternate route means
    - Veteran Emergency Certificate Holders: Must meet requirements or be making progress toward adding the requested endorsement permanently.
- The district requested licenses expire at the end of each school year
- No Valid Teaching License = **No Teaching Contract**







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## Human Resources Office Teacher Recruitment

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## THANK YOU FOR COMING!!!