

**TEACHER LICENSING BY COMPETENCY**

**AMENDMENTS**

2009 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: D. Chris Butters**

House Sponsor: Curtis Oda

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies procedures for obtaining a competency-based license to teach.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

► provides that a person may obtain a competency-based license to teach if the person:

- files an application with the State Board of Education;
- pays the application fee;
- has not had a license issued by the State Board of Education revoked,

suspended, or surrendered;

- successfully completes a criminal background check;
- has certain educational degrees or certification; and
- demonstrates competency in a subject area by passing a test or completing

certain course work or has particular skills, talents, and abilities.

**Monies Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:



28           **53A-6-104.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2004, Chapter 19



30 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

31           Section 1. Section **53A-6-104.5** is amended to read:

32           **53A-6-104.5. Licensing by competency.**

33           (1) A competency-based license to teach may be issued based on the demonstrated  
34 competence of a teacher as provided in this section.

35           (2) ~~[A local school board or charter school may request, and the]~~ The State Board of  
36 Education shall grant~~[, upon receipt of documentation from the local school board or charter~~  
37 ~~school verifying the person's qualifications as specified in this section,]~~ a competency-based  
38 license to a person who:

39           (a) files an application with the board on the form prescribed by the board;

40           (b) pays the fee required by Section 53A-6-105;

41           (c) has not had a license revoked, suspended, or surrendered;

42           (d) successfully completes a criminal background check as required by Section  
43 53A-6-401; and

44           (e) meets the qualifications specified in this section ~~[and Section 53A-6-401].~~

45           (3) (a) A ~~[local school board or charter school]~~ person may request a  
46 competency-based license to teach one or more core academic subjects at the elementary  
47 school level if the ~~[candidate meets the following qualifications]~~ person:

48           ~~[(a) a license candidate who teaches one or more core academic subjects in an~~  
49 ~~elementary school shall:]~~

50           (i) ~~[hold]~~ holds at least a bachelor's degree; and

51           (ii) ~~[have]~~ has demonstrated, by passing a rigorous state test, subject knowledge and  
52 teaching skills in reading, writing, mathematics, and other areas of the basic elementary school  
53 curriculum[;].

54           ~~(b) [a license candidate who teaches one or more]~~ A person may request a  
55 competency-based license to teach a core academic ~~[subjects in]~~ subject at a middle or  
56 secondary school ~~[shall]~~ level if the person:

57           (i) ~~[hold]~~ holds at least a bachelor's degree; and

58           (ii) ~~[have]~~ has demonstrated a high level of competency in ~~[each of]~~ the academic

59 ~~[subjects in which the teacher teaches]~~ subject by:

60 (A) passing a rigorous state academic subject test ~~[in each of the academic subjects in~~  
61 ~~which the teacher teaches];~~ or

62 (B) successful completion~~[, in each of the academic subjects in which the teacher~~  
63 ~~teaches,]~~ of an academic major, a graduate degree, course work equivalent to an undergraduate  
64 academic major, or advanced certification or credentialing~~[, or]~~.

65 (c) ~~[a license candidate who teaches subjects]~~ A person may obtain a  
66 competency-based license to teach a subject other than a core academic subject ~~[in]~~ at  
67 elementary, middle, or high school ~~[staff]~~ level if the person:

68 (i) ~~[hold]~~ has a bachelor's degree, associate's degree, or skill certification; and

69 (ii) ~~[have]~~ has skills, talents, or abilities~~[, as evaluated by the employing entity,]~~ that  
70 make the person suited for the teaching position.

71 (d) The State Board of Education shall make rules in accordance with Title 63G,  
72 Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, that specifies standards and procedures for  
73 determining if a person who applies for a competency-based license to teach a subject other  
74 than a core academic subject has the skills, talents, or abilities suited for the teaching position.

75 (4) A school district or charter school:

76 (a) shall monitor and assess the performance of each teacher holding a  
77 competency-based license; and

78 (b) may recommend that the competency-based license holder's training and  
79 assessment be reviewed by the Utah State Office of Education for a level 1 license.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
as of 9-12-08 10:00 AM

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**

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**S.B. 48 - Teacher Licensing by Competency Amendments**

**Fiscal Note**

2009 General Session  
State of Utah

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**State Impact**

Enactment of this bill may increase costs at the Utah State Office of Education associated with verifying applicants seeking a competency-based teaching license as outlined in the bill. Increased workload is estimated to require an additional 0.5 FTE at a cost of \$25,500. Bill provisions require a fee be paid by the applicant to cover the costs associated with granting the license.

	<u>2009</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>2010</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>2011</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>2009</u> <u>Revenue</u>	<u>2010</u> <u>Revenue</u>	<u>2011</u> <u>Revenue</u>
Uniform School Fund Restricted	\$0	\$25,500	\$25,500	\$0	\$25,500	\$25,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$25,500</b>	<b>\$25,500</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$25,500</b>	<b>\$25,500</b>

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**Individual, Business and/or Local Impact**

Individuals seeking a competency-based teaching license may be required to pay a fee to cover the costs associated with issuing the license.