

Senate File 2222 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2222
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3048)

(COMPANION TO HF 2230 BY
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to teacher education and licensing, including
2 by modifying provisions related to practitioner preparation
3 programs and licenses issued by the board of educational
4 examiners.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.16, subsection 1, Code 2026, is
2 amended by adding the following new paragraphs:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *p.* (1) Beginning July 1, 2027, include
4 clinical experiences and preparation to prepare students
5 admitted to an approved practitioner preparation program to
6 serve students with disabilities and English learners that
7 incorporates knowledge, skills, and dispositions for each
8 student admitted to an approved practitioner preparation
9 program.

10 (2) The rules adopted by the state board pursuant to this
11 paragraph must prescribe practicum and clinical experience
12 standards for all higher education institutions providing
13 practitioner preparation related to serving students with
14 disabilities and English learners, differentiated by standards
15 that are applicable to all students admitted to an approved
16 practitioner preparation program in addition to standards that
17 are applicable to students who are seeking an endorsement in
18 special education or English learner instruction.

19 (a) Clinical experiences for all students admitted to
20 an approved practitioner preparation program must include a
21 minimum of fifteen practicum hours focused on differentiation
22 of instruction and support for special populations, including
23 supporting English learners, special education experiences, and
24 instructional implementation and progress monitoring applicable
25 to individualized education programs.

26 (b) Clinical experiences for students admitted to an
27 approved practitioner preparation program who are seeking
28 an endorsement in English learner instruction must include
29 a minimum of forty practicum hours, inclusive of methods of
30 teaching English to English learners in both elementary and
31 secondary school settings.

32 (3) The department shall establish a process to routinely
33 review and provide ongoing support for the adoption and
34 implementation of standards for preparation of teacher and
35 administrator candidates in serving students with disabilities

1 and English learners.

2 NEW PARAGRAPH. *g.* (1) Beginning July 1, 2027, administer
3 prior to a student's completion of the practitioner preparation
4 program, and require that each student complete, a summative
5 end-of-program assessment that is designed to measure the
6 student's preparation in content areas that are required for
7 the endorsement area in which the student will be teaching,
8 and that was distributed to the higher education institution
9 providing practitioner preparation by the department pursuant
10 to subparagraph (2). A higher education institution providing
11 practitioner preparation shall identify appropriate student
12 remediation opportunities in endorsement areas by analyzing
13 student performance on the summative end-of-program assessment
14 described in this subparagraph compared to the score set by the
15 department pursuant to subparagraph (2).

16 (2) (a) On or before July 1, 2027, the department shall
17 identify and distribute to all higher education institutions
18 providing practitioner preparation a unified, valid, and
19 reliable summative end-of-program assessment required for each
20 endorsement area. The department shall set the minimum score
21 for each summative end-of-program assessment identified and
22 distributed pursuant to this subparagraph subdivision that will
23 be used to determine mastery of content by a student enrolled
24 in the practitioner preparation program.

25 (b) If, subsequent to July 1, 2027, the department creates
26 a new endorsement area, then the department shall identify
27 and distribute to all higher education institutions providing
28 practitioner preparation a unified, valid, and reliable
29 summative end-of-program assessment required for the new
30 endorsement area as soon as is reasonably possible after the
31 creation of the new endorsement area. The department shall set
32 the minimum score for each summative end-of-program assessment
33 identified and distributed pursuant to this subparagraph
34 subdivision that will be used to determine mastery of content
35 by a student enrolled in the practitioner preparation program.

1 (3) (a) Report to the department, in the form and manner
2 prescribed by the department, information related to the scores
3 attained by students on the summative end-of-program assessment
4 administered pursuant to subparagraph (1).

5 (b) Beginning August 1, 2028, the department shall publish
6 on the department's internet site all of the following:

7 (i) Program-level data related to the passage rates
8 attained by students on the summative end-of-program assessment
9 administered pursuant to subparagraph (1).
10 (ii) Efforts the department has made to support the higher
11 education institutions providing practitioner preparation in
12 the implementation of curriculum improvements, remediation
13 techniques, and program evaluation.

14 (iii) Examples of program remediation and assessment plans
15 that higher education institutions providing practitioner
16 preparation have provided to students who scored below the
17 minimum score set by the department pursuant to subparagraph
18 (2) prior to the student's completion of the practitioner
19 preparation program.

20 Sec. 2. Section 256.16, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
21 following new subsection:

22 NEW SUBSECTION. 3. For purposes of this section, "*English*
23 *learner*" means the same as defined in section 280.4.

24 Sec. 3. Section 256.146, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
25 following new subsection:

26 NEW SUBSECTION. 28. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A
27 that require an individual who has applied to a school to
28 teach in a special education setting to complete a self-paced
29 course created by the department of education as a condition
30 of awarding the individual a class B license or a conditional
31 license. The self-paced course must include content related to
32 basic special education laws, assessment procedures, and other
33 essential competencies.

34 EXPLANATION

35 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

1 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

2 This bill relates to teacher education and licensing,
3 including by modifying provisions related to practitioner
4 preparation programs and licenses issued by the board of
5 educational examiners (BOEE).

6 Beginning July 1, 2027, the bill requires higher education
7 institutions providing practitioner preparation to include
8 clinical experiences and preparation to prepare students
9 admitted to a practitioner preparation program to serve
10 students with disabilities and English learners. The rules
11 adopted by the state board pursuant to this provision must
12 prescribe practicum and clinical experience standards for
13 practitioner preparation programs related to serving students
14 with disabilities and English learners. Clinical experiences
15 for all students are required to include a minimum of 15
16 practicum hours focused on differentiation of instruction
17 and support for special populations. Meanwhile, clinical
18 experiences for students who are seeking an endorsement in
19 English learner instruction must include a minimum of 40
20 practicum hours, inclusive of methods of teaching English
21 to English learners in both elementary and secondary school
22 settings. The bill requires the department of education
23 (DE) to establish a process to review and provide ongoing
24 support for the adoption and implementation of standards for
25 preparation of teacher and administrator candidates in serving
26 students with disabilities and English learners.

27 Beginning July 1, 2027, the bill requires higher education
28 institutions providing practitioner preparation to administer
29 prior to a student's completion of the practitioner preparation
30 program a summative end-of-program assessment that is designed
31 to measure the student's preparation in content areas that are
32 required for the endorsement area in which the student will
33 be teaching, and that was distributed to the higher education
34 institution by DE pursuant to the bill's provisions.

35 The bill requires DE to, on or before July 1, 2027, identify

1 and distribute to all higher education institutions providing
2 practitioner preparation a summative end-of-program assessment
3 required for each endorsement area. If DE creates a new
4 endorsement area after July 1, 2027, the bill requires DE to
5 identify and distribute to all higher education institutions
6 providing practitioner preparation a summative end-of-program
7 assessment required for the new endorsement area. DE
8 is required to set the minimum score for each summative
9 end-of-program assessment that will be used to determine
10 mastery of content by a student enrolled in a practitioner
11 preparation program.

12 Higher education institutions are required to report to
13 DE information related to the scores attained by students on
14 the summative end-of-program assessment. Beginning August 1,
15 2028, the bill requires DE to publish on the DE's internet
16 site passage rates attained by students on the summative
17 end-of-program assessment, information related to efforts
18 DE has made to support the higher education institutions in
19 certain specified areas, and examples of program remediation
20 and assessment plans that higher education institutions have
21 provided to students who scored below the minimum score set by
22 DE.

23 BOEE is required to adopt rules requiring an individual who
24 has applied to a school to teach in a special education setting
25 to complete a self-paced course created by DE as a condition
26 of awarding the individual a class B license or a conditional
27 license.