

**House File 255 - Reprinted**

HOUSE FILE 255  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 4)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 8, 2023)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act modifying requirements related to teacher intern  
2 license programs and licenses and authorizations issued  
3 by the board of educational examiners and establishing a  
4 temporary initial teaching license to be issued by the board  
5 of educational examiners to applicants who complete an  
6 alternative teacher certification program.  
7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.16, subsection 1, Code 2023, is  
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *m.* If a higher education institution  
4 providing practitioner preparation offers a program that is  
5 designed to assist students in attaining a teacher intern  
6 license from the board of educational examiners, the program  
7 shall require participants to satisfy all of the following  
8 requirements before completing the program:

9 (1) A participant in the program must have graduated from  
10 an accredited or state-approved college or university and must  
11 meet the requirements for an endorsement area approved by the  
12 board of educational examiners for a teacher intern license.

13 (2) A participant in the program must submit with the  
14 application to the program a copy of an offer of employment  
15 from a school.

16 (3) A participant in the program must complete the required  
17 pedagogy training.

18 (4) A participant in the program must work under the  
19 supervision of a teacher leader assigned by the school district  
20 or accredited nonpublic school, including during co-teaching  
21 and planning time.

22 Sec. 2. Section 272.2, subsection 13, Code 2023, is amended  
23 to read as follows:

24 13. Adopt rules to provide for nontraditional preparation  
25 options for licensing persons who hold a bachelor's degree  
26 or higher from an accredited or state-approved college or  
27 university, who do not meet other requirements for licensure.  
28 The rules shall, at a minimum, require the board to do all of  
29 the following:

30 a. Issue a teacher intern license to an applicant who has  
31 enrolled in a program established pursuant to section 256.16,  
32 subsection 1, paragraph "m".

33 b. Allow a licensee who has attained a teacher intern  
34 license pursuant to paragraph "a" to apply for an initial  
35 teaching license if the school that employed the licensee

1 during the licensee's completion of the program established  
2 pursuant to section 256.16, subsection 1, paragraph "m", and  
3 the higher education institution that operated the program,  
4 recommend that the licensee be allowed to apply for an initial  
5 teaching license.

6 Sec. 3. Section 272.2, Code 2023, is amended by adding the  
7 following new subsection:

8 NEW SUBSECTION. 26. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
9 17A that allow an individual seeking a career and technical  
10 secondary authorization to apply, and if eligible, be issued  
11 the secondary authorization prior to accepting an offer of  
12 employment with a school.

13 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. **272.17 Temporary initial license for**  
14 **applicants who complete an alternative teacher certification**  
15 **program.**

16 1. The board shall grant a temporary initial teaching  
17 license to an applicant who meets all of the following  
18 requirements:

19 a. The applicant shall hold a bachelor's degree from an  
20 accredited college or university.

21 b. The applicant shall successfully complete an alternative  
22 teacher certification program that includes all of the  
23 following:

24 (1) The required content training in the area in which the  
25 applicant seeks to be licensed.

26 (2) Pedagogy training, including an examination, that  
27 teaches effective instructional delivery, classroom management  
28 and organization, assessment, instructional design, and  
29 professional learning and leadership.

30 2. To be considered an alternative teacher certification  
31 program for purposes of this section, an alternative teacher  
32 certification program shall meet all of the following  
33 requirements:

34 a. The alternative teacher certification program must  
35 operate in at least five states.

1     *b.* The alternative teacher certification program must have  
2 been in operation for at least ten years.

3     3. An individual who successfully completes an alternative  
4 teacher certification program and who is granted a temporary  
5 initial teaching license by the board under this section is  
6 authorized to teach the subjects and grade levels that the  
7 individual successfully completed during the alternative  
8 teacher certification program.

9     4. An individual who successfully completes an alternative  
10 teacher certification program and who is granted a temporary  
11 initial teaching license by the board under this section shall  
12 not provide instruction to students who are eligible for  
13 services under chapter 256B until the individual successfully  
14 completes a practicum relating to providing instruction to  
15 such students that includes short-term field experiences in  
16 educational settings that are connected to specific coursework.

17     5. The board shall treat an individual who successfully  
18 completes an alternative teacher certification program and who  
19 is granted a temporary initial teaching license by the board  
20 under this section in the same manner as an individual who  
21 completes a traditional teacher preparation program and who  
22 receives an initial teaching license, including during the  
23 process of converting the temporary initial teaching license  
24 to a standard teaching license.

25     Sec. 5. Section 272.28, Code 2023, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27     **272.28 Licensure beyond a temporary initial license or an**  
28 **initial license.**

29     1. Requirements for teacher licensure beyond a temporary  
30 initial license or an initial license shall include successful  
31 completion of a beginning teacher mentoring and induction  
32 program approved by the state board of education pursuant to  
33 section 284.5; or two years of successful teaching experience  
34 in a school district with an approved career paths, leadership  
35 roles, and compensation framework or approved comparable system

1 as provided in [section 284.15](#); or evidence of not less than  
2 three years of successful teaching experience at any of the  
3 following:

4 *a.* An accredited nonpublic school in this state.

5 *b.* A preschool program approved by the United States  
6 department of health and human services.

7 *c.* Preschool programs at school districts approved to  
8 participate in the preschool program under [chapter 256C](#).

9 *d.* Shared visions programs receiving grants from the child  
10 development coordinating council under [section 256A.3](#).

11 *e.* Preschool programs receiving moneys from the school  
12 ready children grants account of the early childhood Iowa fund  
13 created in [section 256I.11](#).

14 2. A teacher from an accredited nonpublic school or another  
15 state or country is exempt from the requirement of [subsection 1](#)  
16 if the teacher can document three years of successful teaching  
17 experience and meet or exceed the requirements contained in  
18 rules adopted under [this chapter](#) for endorsement and licensure.