

**Policy 5901, Regulations for Alternative Certification Programs for the Education of Teachers
Comment Log**

July 15, 2021 – August 16, 2021

Action

A/S Comment was accepted and supports the proposed policy.

A/C Comment was accepted and resulted in changes to the proposed policy.

N Comment was not accepted.

Date	Commenter	Comments	Action	Rationale
§126-161-1. General.				
§126-161-2. Purpose.				
§126-161-3. Summary.				
§126-161-4. Definitions.				
08-03	Greg Phillips Teacher Harrison County Schools Clarksburg WV	I strongly object to the provision in 4.2.b removing the condition requiring an area of critical need or no fully certified teacher bid. I also mentor student teachers/ resident teachers. "Alternative" does not mean equal preparation, even if the term is removed from code and policy. Students need and deserve the best qualified candidate. I do my part to make sure those who step into the profession are fully prepared. This policy would undermine those efforts and encourage reduction in quality where it is not necessary to do so. I urge you examine this policy with quality, hard-earned training receiving preference in hiring.	A/C	While this comment was accepted, it was accepted as not supportive of the policy language and resulted in a change to the proposed policy language to clarify that employment requirements of licensure and certifications for programs in section 12 and section 14 are separate from section 5 through 11 and as identified within WVBE Policy 5202, rather than WVBE Policy 5901. Licensure pathways created by W. Va. State Code §18-A-31j (section 12) and §18A-3-2a(a)(1)(C) (section 14) do not require conditions of an area of critical need and shortage to participate in a program.
§126-161-5. Procedures for Alternative Certification Programs for the Education of Teachers.				
§126-161-6. Required Components of an Alternative Certification Program Proposal.				

**Policy 5901, Regulations for Alternative Certification Programs for the Education of Teachers
Comment Log**

§126-161-7. Candidate Eligibility.				
§126-161-8. Alternative Program Instruction and the Professional Support Team.				
§126-161-12. Additional Alternative Preparation Programs to Prepare Teachers Established or Adopted Solely by the WVBE.				
08-09	Ronald Pauley Executive Director Kanawha County Board of Education Charleston WV	Why are there so many requirements for Alternative Certification Programs in this section versus section ...-14	A/C	This comment was accepted as there are many more requirements of section 12 programs (§18-A-31j) than section 14 programs (§18A-3-2a(a)(1)(C)). Criteria throughout section 12 has been changed to allow for more concise and clear rules, thereby creating more efficient processes for these programs. This includes language allowing more flexibility, as the program provider will decide if the Comprehensive Evaluation Report will be a program requirement.
§126-161-14. West Virginia Board of Education Approval of Training(s) and Course(s) in Substantive Alignment with Pedagogical Standards.				
08-09	Ronald Pauley Executive Director Kanawha County Board of Education Charleston WV	Are these programs available for individuals who already hold teacher certification?	A/C	This comment was accepted and language was added to provide clarity on this topic. It was determined that programs of section 14 are only for initial teacher certification. However, there are additional avenues for individuals who hold a valid or expired teaching certificate to acquire a valid West Virginia Professional Teaching Certificate as described in WVBE Policy 5202.
§126-161-15. Severability.				