

November 10, 2004

STATE BOARD MEETS TO APPROVE RULES NOVEMBER 12th

BOISE - The State Board will hold a special meeting, Friday, November 12 at 8:30 a.m. to give final approval to rules that will be sent to the Legislature in January. The meeting will be held at the J.R. Williams Building in Boise in the east conference room.

Computer Based Alternative Routes

These rules set the guidelines for alternative certification programs the Board will consider including: a pre-assessment of skills and educational needs for the teacher candidate, prescribed instruction, passage of two tests to assure mastery of both content knowledge and pedagogy, and structured mentoring in the first two years of teaching. The U.S. Department of Education has approved this process as meeting the Highly Qualified Teachers requirements for "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB).

Commercial Driving Schools

These rules now set out the standards for Commercial Driving Schools.

First Year LEP Testing Requirements

New guidance was received from the U.S. Department of Education on February 23, 2004, regarding the testing of Limited English Proficient (LEP) students. The guidance informed states that the testing and classification of LEP students, specifically those students "enrolled in their first year of a U.S. school," could be changed and still comply with the "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB).

Failure to Meet AYP

This rule change provides further clarification between school and district/LEA sanctions for failing to meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) under the federal NCLB.

LEP Standards

Establishment and implementation of English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards are required for all states under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (PL 107-110), Title III: Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students (Sec 3113b.2).

Annual Yearly Growth

This rule has been changed to add clarification to the rewards naming structure and specific reward criteria has been added. Two rewards have been combined into one category to ease understanding.

Charter Schools

This chapter is being rewritten to update the rules governing charter schools pursuant to the passage of new charter school legislation signed by the Governor.

