

Reactivation Procedures – Academic Licenses

Overview of Requirements

The TN State Board of Education’s [Licensure Rule 0520-02-03](#) establishes requirements for reactivating expired licenses. All academic license types can be reactivated by meeting one of the following sets of requirements:

- Hold an active license in another state considered equivalent to Tennessee’s Professional license,
- Hold active National Board certification, or
- Provide evidence of completion of an educator preparation program (EPP) if not already verified and submit passing scores on all currently required assessments.

Educators with expired **Professional** licenses have two additional pathways:

- Earn 60 [professional development points](#) (PDPs) at any time after the expiration date of the license, or
- Demonstrate evidence of a minimum of two years of [educator experience](#) as defined by the Department.

These two reactivation pathways are only available to educators with expired licenses specifically labeled “Professional” or “Professional – 6 Year.” Any licenses listed in the table at the bottom of this document are not considered professional licenses and can only be reactivated with National Board certification, an out-of-state professional license, or EPP verification and assessments.

Tennessee Literacy Success Act

Beginning August 1st, 2023, any educator seeking to reactivate a license with an endorsement impacted by the TN Literacy Success Act must first complete a Tennessee Department of Education (department)-approved literacy training or assessment. This applies regardless of the pathway through which an educator is seeking reactivation. Impacted endorsement areas include Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, English as a Second Language, and most Special Education endorsements.

For more information about this requirement and links to training and assessment options, please visit the Department’s [TLSA landing page](#).

Assessment/EPP Requirements by License Type

If an applicant is seeking to reactivate an expired initial level license and does not hold National Board certification or an active out-of-state professional level license in another state, the only option for reactivation is to provide evidence of completion of an EPP (if not already provided) and submit passing scores on currently required assessments as defined in [Professional Assessments for Educators Policy 5.105](#). License types that required EPP completion prior to issuance can be reactivated without providing updated evidence of a completed program (see the table below).

Educators reactivating an expired license that was issued based on enrollment in a **job-embedded program** must have the appropriate pedagogical assessment on file. Educators who completed an in-state job-embedded program must either have passed the Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching assessment prior to the license's expiration date or have a passing score on the edTPA. Educators who completed an out-of-state job-embedded program must have a passing score on either the Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching assessment or edTPA.

Any educator who has never held a Practitioner license may enroll in a job-embedded program and become licensed through this pathway. This includes educators who once held a now-retired license in Tennessee. All license types in the chart below are retired except for the two Practitioner license types at the top (i.e., Practitioner – 1st Issuance, Practitioner Teacher).

License Type	Reactivation Requirements			Able to Obtain a New Job-Embedded Practitioner License?
	Proof of EPP Completion	Current Content Assessments	Pedagogical Assessment	
Practitioner Teacher – 1st Issuance	Required	Required	Required	No
Practitioner Teacher	Not Required	Required	Not Required	No
Apprentice Teacher	Not Required	Required	Not Required	Yes
Out-of-State Teacher	Not Required	Required	Not Required	Yes
Interim Type B	Not Required	Required	Required	Yes
Interim Type D	Required	Required	Required	Yes
Alternative Type A	Required	Required	Required	Yes
Alternative Type C	Required	Required	Required	Yes
Alternative Type E	Required	Required	Required	Yes
Alternative Type I	Required	Required	Required	Yes
Alternative Type II	Required	Required	Required	Yes
Transitional	Required	Required	Required	Yes