



Education and Early Childhood Learning

System Performance and Accountability Division
Governance and Policy Branch
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To: Superintendents of School Divisions
Manitoba School Boards Association
The Manitoba Teachers' Society
Manitoba Association of School Superintendents
Manitoba Funded Independent Schools
Council of Deans of Education Manitoba
Manitoba School for the Deaf

Dear Colleagues:

On July 10, 2023, Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning communicated to the sector that it had begun a systematic review of the Teaching Certificates and Qualifications Regulation M.R. 115/2015 to modernize the certification process and to ensure alignment with other Canadian jurisdictions.

After initial consultations with the Manitoba School Boards Association, the Manitoba Association of School Superintendents, and The Manitoba Teachers' Society, the department has made the following amendments to the regulation, effective August 31, 2023.

- Providing flexibility in meeting the requirements for a Provisional Professional Teaching Certificate for internationally educated teachers by allowing an applicant to be short up to nine credit hours in total in the combined requirements for a teachable major, minor, and/or breadth.
- Allowing a minimum of one year of teaching experience approved by the Minister to be a substitute for a practicum requirement for certification if the applicant's teaching program did not include a practicum component.
- Broadening the definition of what constitutes a teaching education institution by changing the language from approved "university" to approved "post-secondary institution" to better match post-secondary programs of teaching education internationally. Post-secondary institutions still have to be approved by the Minister, who holds the authority to assess the quality of such institutions.

- Providing for the recognition of professional teaching experience in independent schools abroad by removing the requirement that schools must be supported by public funds. Independent schools will need to be approved by the Minister in order for experience to be recognized. Consequently, this amendment also repeals the provision in which certification must be an employment condition of a school outside Manitoba, as this is not a requirement in all international jurisdictions. However, the regulation still requires a teacher to hold an approved teaching certificate to have that experience recognized.

These are interim amendments to reduce barriers to the certification process for internationally educated teachers and to better recognize their experience in other jurisdictions. The department will continue to work on the broader review of the regulation, including a thorough consultation process as committed in the department's July 10, 2023 letter to the sector.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Stacey Hay
Director
Teacher Certification and Standards

c. Jeffrey Kehler, Executive Director, Governance and Policy Branch