

**TITLE 6            PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**  
**CHAPTER 60       SCHOOL PERSONNEL - GENERAL PROVISIONS**  
**PART 6            CONTINUING LICENSURE FOR LICENSED EDUCATORS IN NEW MEXICO**

**6.60.6.1            ISSUING AGENCY:** Public Education Department (PED).  
[6.60.6.1 NMAC - Rp 6.60.6.1 NMAC, 09-30-03; A, 08-31-04; A, 10-31-07]

**6.60.6.2            SCOPE:** Chapter 60, Part 6 governs continuing licensure for persons holding valid New Mexico licensure and seeking continuing licensure on or after July 1, 1990.  
[6.60.6.2 NMAC - Rp 6.60.6.2 NMAC, 09-30-03]

**6.60.6.3            STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Sections 22-2-1, 22-2-2, and 22-10A-3, NMSA 1978.  
[6.60.6.3 NMAC - Rp 6.60.6.3 NMAC, 09-30-03]

**6.60.6.4            DURATION:** Permanent.  
[6.60.6.4 NMAC - Rp 6.60.6.4 NMAC, 09-30-03]

**6.60.6.5            EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 30, 2003.  
[6.60.6.5 NMAC - Rp 6.60.6.5 NMAC, 09-30-03]

**6.60.6.6            OBJECTIVE:** This rule governs continuing licensure for persons holding valid New Mexico licensure and seeking continuing licensure on or after July 1, 1990.  
[6.60.6.6 NMAC - Rp 6.60.6.6 NMAC, 09-30-03; A, 05-31-06]

**6.60.6.7            DEFINITIONS:**

**A.**            “Level 1 teaching license” means a provisional teaching license issued for the first five years of teaching that gives a beginning teacher the opportunity, through a formal mentorship program, for additional preparation to be a quality teacher.

**B.**            “Level 2 teaching license” means a professional teaching license given to a teacher who is a fully qualified professional who is primarily responsible for ensuring that students meet and exceed PED academic content and performance standards; a teacher may choose to remain at level 2 for the remainder of that teacher's career.

**C.**            “Level 3-A teaching license” means a master teaching license and is the highest level of teaching competence for those teachers who choose to advance as instructional leaders in the teaching profession and undertake greater responsibilities such as curriculum development, peer intervention, and mentoring.

**D.**            “Full school year” means a minimum of 160 instructional days in a school year or 480 instructional days or equivalent number of days in schools or school districts on alternative schedules over multiple school years of full-time or part-time teaching during which the teacher is the teacher of record or serves as an instructional coach or resource teacher in at least one class each school year while holding a standard teaching license. An equivalent number of instructional hours may be accepted for those teachers who do not teach every day. Instructional days may include teaching in summer school or similar educational setting.

[6.60.6.7 NMAC - N, 09-30-03; A, 04-29-05; A, 05-31-06; A, 10-31-07; A, 06-15-09]

**6.60.6.8            [RESERVED]**

[6.60.6.8 NMAC - Rp 6.60.6.8 NMAC, 09-30-03; A, 08-31-04; A, 05-31-06; Repealed, 10-31-07]

**6.60.6.9            REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCEMENT AND RENEWAL OF TEACHING LICENSES:**

**A.**            A teacher holding a valid level 1 license and seeking a level 2 license pursuant to the provisions of this rule shall meet the following requirements, which may not be waived or substituted by any other experience:

**(1)**           complete three full school years of teaching experience as the teacher of record at level 1 New Mexico licensure with successful annual evaluations as determined by the local superintendent. The local superintendent shall consider the effectiveness ratings from the NMTEACH evaluation system as a consideration in determining whether the teacher has had successful evaluations. The superintendent will consider all annual evaluations that have occurred during the term of the level 1 license, except that a teacher who has completed two full school years of teaching experience while holding standard teaching licensure in New Mexico or in another state or country or has obtained level 1 New Mexico teaching licensure through reciprocity in 6.60.4 NMAC and is

seeking advancement to level 2 may be required by a local New Mexico school district to complete up to two full years of teaching experience in New Mexico before being eligible for licensure advancement to level 2 except that a person who has completed one full school year of teaching in another state or country must teach for two full school years under standard level 1 New Mexico licensure; and

(2) submit, in a form acceptable to the director of licensure, a completed licensure application, along with the superintendent's assurance that the superintendent has considered the NMTEACH effectiveness ratings over the term of the level 1 license, as well as the superintendent's determination of successful annual evaluations. The teacher may apply for advancement by establishing either an effective or better rating on the NMTEACH evaluation system, as determined by the department; or, if the teacher does not meet the NMTEACH requirements, submit a professional development dossier (PDD), as provided in 6.69.4.11 NMAC or certification from the national board for professional teaching standards. The application for advancement may be submitted up to three months in advance of the completion of the requirement in Paragraph (1) of Subsection A of 6.60.6.9 NMAC with final approval dependent upon the completion of three full years of teaching experience at the level 1 licensure.

(3) complete the mentorship requirement for beginning teachers in 6.60.10 NMAC.

**B.** A teacher holding a valid level 2 license and seeking a level 3-A license pursuant to the provisions of this rule shall meet the following requirements, which may not be waived or substituted by any other experience:

(1) complete three full school years of teaching experience as the teacher of record at standard level 2 New Mexico licensure with successful annual evaluations as determined by the local superintendent. The local superintendent shall consider the effectiveness ratings from the NMTEACH evaluation system as a consideration in determining whether the teacher has had successful evaluations. The superintendent will consider all annual evaluations that have occurred during the term of level 2 license, except that a teacher who has four or more full school years of teaching experience while holding standard teaching licensure in New Mexico or in another state or country or has obtained level 2 New Mexico teaching licensure through reciprocity in 6.60.4 NMAC and who is seeking advancement to level 3-A may be required by a local New Mexico school district to complete up to two full years of teaching experience in New Mexico before being eligible for licensure advancement to level 3-A; and

(2) hold a post-baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university or hold certification from the national board for professional teaching standards; and

(3) submit, in a form acceptable to the director of licensure, a completed licensure application, along with the superintendent's assurance that the superintendent has considered the NMTEACH effectiveness ratings over the term of the level 2 license, as well as the superintendent's determination of successful annual evaluations, the teacher may apply for advancement by establishing either an effective or better rating on the NMTEACH evaluation system, as determined by the department; or, if the teacher does not meet the NMTEACH requirements, submit a professional development dossier (PDD), as provided in 6.69.4.11 NMAC or certification form the national board for professional teaching standards. The application for advancement may be submitted up to three months in advance of the completion of the requirement in Paragraph (1) of Subsection A of 6.60.6.9 NMAC with final approval dependent upon the completion of three full years of teaching experience at level 2 licensure.

**C.** A teacher holding a valid level 2 or level 3-A teaching license and seeking licensure renewal at the same level as the current license shall meet the requirements of either (1) or (2) below:

(1) If renewing a license through the PED, submit, along with the fee specified in 6.60.7.8 NMAC, a completed application for licensure renewal to the director and verification from the superintendent of the local school district or the governing authority of the state institution, charter school, or private school by which the applicant has been most recently employed as of the date of the application for licensure renewal, that the applicant has satisfactorily demonstrated the competencies for the current level of licensure and has met other requirements of the high objective uniform standard of evaluation for the current level of licensure as evidenced by the teacher's annual evaluations as determined by the local superintendent. The local superintendent shall consider the effectiveness ratings from the NMTEACH evaluation system as a consideration in determining whether the teacher has had successful annual evaluations. The superintendent will consider all annual evaluations that have occurred during the term of the current license.

(2) If renewing a license through a local New Mexico school district, state institution, charter school, or private school, complete the PED's application for licensure renewal. The employing school district, charter school, state institution, or private school shall attach to the application the PED's verification by the superintendent of the local school district or the governing authority of the state institution, charter school, or private school by which the applicant has been most recently employed as of the date of the application for licensure renewal, that the applicant has satisfactorily demonstrated the competencies for the level of licensure sought and has

met other requirements of the high objective uniform standard of evaluation for the level of licensure as is evidenced by the teacher's annual evaluations as determined by the local superintendent. The local superintendent shall consider the effectiveness ratings from the NMTEACH evaluation system as a consideration in determining whether the teacher has had successful annual evaluations. The superintendent will consider all annual evaluations that have occurred during the term of the current license. These documents will be maintained on file in the teacher's personnel file in the local school district, state institution, charter school, or private school. The superintendent or the superintendent's designee will authorize the PED to issue the renewal of licensure through electronic notification procedures established by the PED when the PED determines such an electronic system is viable and operational. The license shall be printed by, and mailed to the license holder from, the PED. Under no circumstances will local school districts directly issue or print a New Mexico educator license. The PED shall determine how or if renewal fees authorized in 6.60.7.8 NMAC shall be paid by an applicant who renews the license under Paragraph (2) of Subsection C of 6.60.6.9 NMAC.

(3) If a teacher does not satisfactorily demonstrate the competencies for the level of licensure or other requirements of the high objective uniform standard of evaluation for licensure renewal, the applicant, depending on the outcome of any due process proceeding under the Uniform Licensing Act, sections 61-1-1 through 61-1-31, NMSA 1978, might not be issued a license.

D. A person holding a valid level 3-A license may choose not to renew the level 3-A license and apply for a level 2 license. The superintendent of the local school district or the governing authority of the state institution, charter school, or private school by which the applicant has been most recently employed as of the date of the application for licensure must submit to the director a verification that the applicant has satisfactorily met the high objective uniform standard of evaluation for level 2 license as is evidenced by the teacher's annual evaluations.

E. If a level 3-A teacher does not satisfactorily meet the high objective uniform standard of evaluation for level 3-A licensure renewal, the applicant, depending on the outcome of any due process proceeding under the Uniform Licensing Act, sections 61-1-1 through 61-1-3-1, NMSA 1978, might not be issued a level 3-A license. In that case, the applicant may be issued a level 2 license if the superintendent of the local school district or the governing authority of the state institution, charter school, or private school by which the applicant has been most recently employed as of the date of the application for licensure renewal, submits to the director a verification that the applicant has satisfactorily met the high objective uniform standards of evaluation for level 2 licensure as is evidenced by the teacher's annual evaluations.

F. A teacher who has taught in New Mexico under a standard teaching license for one full school year and who subsequently teaches under a standard teaching license in another state or authorization to teach in another country and has met the total amount of years for advancement required in Paragraph (1) of Subsection A of 6.60.6.9 NMAC or Paragraph (1) of Subsection B of 6.60.9 NMAC may advance to the next higher licensure level without presenting a dossier as required in Paragraph (2) of Subsection A of 6.60.9 NMAC, or Paragraph (3) of Subsection B of 6.60.6.9 NMAC.

G. A person who obtains a level one alternative license must complete the requirements for this license by the end of the second year. A third year may be granted by the director of licensure if adequate progress toward completion has been made. A person who fails to complete the requirements within the three years shall not be issued another alternative license in the same or another teaching field or endorsement area. [6.60.6.9 NMAC - N, 09/30/2003; A, 08/30/2004; A, 04/29/2005; A, 05/31/2006; A, 10/31/2007; A, 06/15/2009; A, 01/29/2010; A, 08/15/2017]

#### **6.60.6.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCEMENT AND RENEWAL OF LICENSES OTHER THAN TEACHING:**

A. A person holding a valid level 1 license and seeking a level 2 license pursuant to the provisions of this rule shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) a completed application for continuing licensure shall be submitted to the director;
- (2) the superintendent of the local school district, or the governing authority of the state institution, charter school, or private school by which the applicant has been most recently employed as of the date of the application for continued licensure must submit to the director a verification that the applicant has satisfactorily demonstrated the competencies required by the PED for a level 2 license of the type sought.

B. A person holding a valid level 2 license and seeking a level 3 license pursuant to the provisions of this rule shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) a completed application for continuing licensure shall be submitted to the director;
- (2) the applicant must hold a master's degree from a regionally accredited college or university;

(3) the superintendent of the local school district, or the governing authority of the state institution, charter school, or private school by which the applicant was most recently employed as of the date of the application for continued licensure must submit to the director a verification that the applicant has satisfactorily demonstrated the competencies required by the PED for a level 3-A license.

C. A person holding a valid level 2 or level 3-A license and seeking continuing licensure pursuant to the provisions of this rule shall meet the requirements of either (1) or (2) below:

(1) If renewing licensure through the PED, submit, along with the fee specified in 6.60.7.8 NMAC, a completed application for continuing licensure to the director and verification from the superintendent of the local school district or the governing authority of the state institution, charter school, or private school by which the applicant has been most recently employed as of the date of the application for licensure renewal, that the applicant has satisfactorily demonstrated the competencies required by the PED.

(2) If renewing through a local school district, state institution, charter school, or private school, complete the PED's application for continuing licensure. The employing school or school district shall attach to the application the PED's verification by the superintendent of the local school district, the governing authority of the state institution, charter school, or private school by which the applicant has been most recently employed as of the date of the application for licensure renewal, that the applicant has satisfactorily demonstrated the competencies required by the PED. These documents will be maintained on file in the individual's personnel file in the local school district or school. The superintendent or the superintendent's designee will authorize the issuance of the renewal of licensure through procedures established by the PED. The license shall be printed by, and mailed to the teacher from, the PED. Under no circumstances will local school districts print a license. The PED shall determine how or if renewal fees authorized in 6.60.7.8 NMAC shall be paid by an applicant who renews the license under Paragraph (2) of Subsection C of 6.60.6.9 NMAC.

D. A person holding a valid level 2 teaching license and a level 3 counselor license seeking advancement to level 3-B, licensure in educational administration shall follow the requirements and procedures set forth in 6.62.2.8 NMAC.

E. A person holding a level 3-B administrator license and seeking continuing licensure pursuant to the provisions of this rule shall meet the requirements of either Paragraphs (1) or (2) of Subsection C of 6.60.6.10 NMAC.

[6.60.6.10 NMAC - N, 09-30-03; A, 08-31-04; A, 04-29-05; A, 05-31-06; A, 10-31-07; A, 01-29-10]

#### **6.60.6.11 EXCEPTIONS:**

A. Exceptions for "exigent circumstances":

(1) The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to an individual holding a valid New Mexico license who, in exigent circumstances, is unable to secure a verification of the required competencies for licensure renewal.

(2) As used in this paragraph, "exigent circumstance" means:

(a) the non-availability of the superintendent of the local school district, charter school administrator or of an authorized representative of the state institution, charter school, or private school by which the applicant has been most recently employed; or

(b) the licensed individual has not been employed in elementary or secondary education during the term of the license(s); or

(c) when an intern or level 1 teacher has not been employed as the teacher of record in a New Mexico or out-of-state public school district, charter school or combination of public school districts or charter schools for the total number of years authorized by the license.

(3) A person seeking to renew the current level of licensure who, in exigent circumstances, is unable to secure verification of the required competencies shall submit a sworn statement asserting the exigent circumstance(s). In the situation of Subparagraphs (a) (b) of Paragraph (2) of Subsection A of 6.60.6.11 NMAC the applicant may be granted a five-year level 1 license. In the situations in Subparagraph (c) of Paragraph (2) of Subsection A of 6.60.6.11 NMAC, an intern applicant may be granted a one-time license renewal and a level 1 teacher may be granted no more than three level 1 licensure renewals, in both cases with effective periods equal to the amount of time of non-employment, except that any period of non-employment less than a full school year, but more than ninety (90) days shall constitute a full school year. Level 1 teachers who remain unemployed after their last level 1 license renewal may renew subsequent licenses at level 1 following Subparagraph (b) of Paragraph (2) of Subsection A of 6.60.11 NMAC, but any previous years of teaching experience counted toward advancement to level 2 licensure become void.

**B.** Exceptions for persons unable to demonstrate “exigent circumstances”: Except for individuals who held only an internship license, a person seeking licensure renewal pursuant to this rule and who cannot show exigent circumstances for the lack of verification of the satisfactory demonstration of the competencies required by the PED or whose level 1 license has expired or lapsed may, upon the expiration of a period of three years from the date of expiration of the valid New Mexico license, apply to the director for a level 1 license. Level 1 licenses granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be subject to advancement at level 2 in the same manner as other such licenses.

**C.** A person seeking level 2, 3-A, or 3-B licensure renewal pursuant to this rule who has worked in education but not in an elementary or secondary school setting or who has retired from or has not continued to work in elementary and secondary education under a New Mexico license during the effective period of the license shall submit a sworn statement asserting that the person has not worked in an elementary or secondary school setting during the effective period of the license, and may renew the license at the current level held.

[6.60.6.11 NMAC - Rp 6.60.6.9 NMAC, 09-30-03; A, 08-31-04; A, 04-29-05; A, 05-31-06; A, 10-31-07; A, 06-15-09]

**6.60.6.12 IMPLEMENTATION:** Persons meeting these requirements may obtain a license at the level and for the duration as adopted by the PED.

**A.** Absent the exceptions provided in Subparagraphs (b)-(c), of Paragraph (2), of Subsection (A) of 6.60.6.11 NMAC, a level 1 teaching license shall not be renewed and shall be deemed to have lapsed upon the date of expiration, immediately terminating authorization to work as a teacher in New Mexico public and charter schools.

**B.** Continuing level 2 and level 3-A licenses granted pursuant to 6.60.6.8 NMAC of this rule shall be granted for nine years.

**C.** Applications and requirements for level 2 or level 3A licensure advancement or renewal must be submitted no later than June 30 of the year following expiration of the license. After that date the license is deemed to have lapsed.

**D.** A level 2, level 3 or level 3A license that has lapsed may be renewed at the same level of the lapsed license if the applicant submits evidence of having satisfactorily carried out the duties as previously authorized by the lapsed license for five complete school years and submits a verification from the superintendent of the local school district or the governing authority of the state institution, charter school, or private school by which the applicant has been most recently employed as of the date of the application for licensure renewal, that the applicant has satisfactorily demonstrated the competencies for the level of lapsed licensure as evidenced by annual evaluations. If the applicant cannot provide both the verification of five years experience and competency from the superintendent of the local school district, the governing authority of the state institution, charter school, or private school by which the applicant has been most recently employed, the applicant shall be issued only a level 1 license. [6.60.6.12 NMAC - Rp 6.60.6.11 NMAC, 09-30-03; A, 08-31-04; A, 04-29-05; A, 05-31-06; A, 10-31-07; A, 06-15-09]

#### **HISTORY OF 6.60.6 NMAC:**

**PRE-NMAC HISTORY:** The material in this regulation was derived from that previously filed with the state records center and archives under SBE Regulation 87-6, Continuing Licensure for Licensed Educators in New Mexico, filed June 15, 1987, and SBE Regulation 87-6, Amendment No. 1, Continuing Licensure for Licensed Educators in New Mexico, filed April 3, 1995.

#### **HISTORY OF REPEALED MATERIAL:**

6.60.6 NMAC, Continuing Licensure for Licensed Educators in New Mexico, filed 10-16-01 - Repealed effective 09-30-03.