



SEI Endorsement for Career Vocational Technical Teachers

July 2018

Dan Murphy
Director of Educational Policy and Programs
AFT Massachusetts
dmurphy@aftma.net
617-423-3342

DESE Has Extended SEI Endorsement Requirement to Career Vocational Technical Teachers

- Initial DESE proposals went out for public comment in March 2018
 - AFT MA submitted public comments on May 10 advocating for common-sense changes: <http://ma.aft.org/news/aft-ma-submits-comments-proposal-extend-sei-endorsement-requirements-vocational-technical>
 - DESE revised their proposals and timelines based on AFT and other stakeholder feedback
 - Board of Elementary and Secondary Education approved final rules on June 26: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/bese/docs/FY2018/2018-06/item3.html>
-

Who Exactly Is Affected?

- New requirements apply to teachers of career vocational technical subjects in career vocational technical education programs
- Subjects such as Animal Science, Carpentry, Cosmetology, Plumbing, Culinary Arts, Automotive Technology, etc.
- The teacher's setting could either be a vocational technical school or a comprehensive high school with a vocational technical education program
- In most cases, affected teachers will hold a vocational technical teacher license (in rare instances a teacher may hold an academic teacher license)

There Are Four Parts to the New Requirements

1. Creation of Vocational Technical Teacher Cohort
2. Employment Requirement
3. Earning the SEI Endorsement as a Condition of Earning the Professional License
4. New Professional License Renewal Requirements

1. Creation of Vocational Technical Teacher “Cohort”

- Career vocational technical teachers who instructed English learners (ELs) during the 2017-2018 school year (~950 teachers), and the administrators who supervised or evaluated them, will be placed in a “cohort” and will be required to obtain the SEI Endorsement no later than July 1, 2021
- Members of the cohort who fail to earn an SEI endorsement by July 1, 2021, shall not be eligible to advance or renew their license...until such members earn an SEI endorsement (hardship waivers available)
- Cohort members will be given access to no-cost SEI courses beginning in 2019 (see next slide)

Creation of Cohort Continued: Anticipated Schedule (subject to change)

- August 2018: Initial notification from DESE to cohort members; the notification will contain critical details about requirements, timelines, course registration, course schedules, etc.
- Oct. 2018: Secondary notification to cohort members
- Oct. 2018 to Jan. 2019: Registration period for no-cost courses (cohort members will have the option to sign up for “Semester 1” or “Semester 2” courses)
- Feb. to June 2019: First semester of no-cost courses
- Sept. 2019 to Jan. 2020: Second semester of no-cost courses

2. Employment Requirement

- Starting on July 1, 2021, any career vocational technical teacher who is assigned to provide sheltered English instruction to an English learner shall either hold the SEI Teacher Endorsement, or is required to earn such endorsement within one year from the date of the assignment
- This employment rule will apply to **all** career vocational technical teachers **assigned to ELs**—including those placed in the cohort and those not placed in the cohort

3. Possessing the SEI Endorsement as a Condition of Earning the Professional License

- Starting July 1, 2021, educators applying for a **professional** vocational technical teacher license must have the SEI Endorsement—e.g., this rule would apply to teachers advancing their license from preliminary to professional
- College degree credits earned through the completion of a Sheltered English Immersion course may be counted towards the 18 college credits in English, mathematics and science required for the professional license
- Going forward, DESE will establish a working group to assess the feasibility of incorporating the SEI Endorsement course into the “21 college degree credits in professional education courses” pathway to the professional license

4. Professional License Renewal: New Requirements

- Stays the same: For the renewal of a primary professional vocational technical teacher license, 150 professional development points must be earned
- Starting July 1, 2021, of the 150 points, 15 must be related to SEI, English as a Second Language, or bilingual education; and 15 must be related to training in strategies for effective schooling for students with disabilities and instruction of students with diverse learning styles
- These new requirements will apply to **all** teachers seeking to renew a professional vocational technical teacher license, whether assigned to English learners or not