

Report From Agency
FINAL REPORT
CLEARINGHOUSE RULE 20-024
CHAPTER PI 34
EDUCATOR LICENSES

Analysis by the Department of Public Instruction

Statutory authority: 115.28 (7) (c), Stats.

Statute interpreted: ss. 115.28 (7) (c) and 115.76 (14) (a) 2., Stats.

The proposed rule amends ch. PI 34 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code with respect to creating flexibility for applicants seeking licensure as a short-term substitute in an educational interpreter assignment. Under the current rule, applicants who wish to obtain a substitute educational interpreter license must either hold certification from an organization approved by the state superintendent in consultation with the state superintendent's Advisory Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Programs; sign language interpreter licensure issued by the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services; certification from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf; or basic, advanced, or master certification from the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters. The proposed rule will create another option for applicants for a substitute educational interpreter license by permitting them to pass the educational interpreter performance assessment, with a cut score set by the State Superintendent in consultation with the State Superintendent's Advisory Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Programs, in addition to the existing pathways to obtaining licensure.

The hearing notice was published in the July 20, 2020 edition of the Wisconsin Administrative Register. A public hearing was held on August 19, 2020.

No persons testified at the August 19, 2020 public hearing. However, the following persons submitted written testimony:

NAME	ORGANIZATION	IN FAVOR OR GENERALLY IN FAVOR	OPPOSED OR GENERALLY OPPOSED	OTHER
Keith Burisek	Self-employed	X		

Summary of public comments relative to the rule and the agency's response to those comments:

- The respondent speaking in favor of the rule argued that the proposed changes will create more options for applicants seeking to obtain and maintain licensure as a short-term substitute in an educational interpreter assignment.

Agency Response: The department agrees. No changes are needed.

Changes made as a result of oral or written testimony:

- None.

Changes to the analysis or the fiscal estimate:

- None.

Responses to Clearinghouse Report:

2. Form, Style and Placement in Administrative Code:

The recommended changes were accepted.

4. Adequacy of References to Related Statutes, Rules and Forms:

The recommended changes were accepted.

5. Clarity, Grammar, Punctuation and Plainness:

a. The passing score on the educational interpreter performance assessment for substitute educational interpreters under s. PI 34.095 (2) (a), set by department in consultation with the State Superintendent's Advisory Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Programs, is consistent with current rule language governing educational interpreters under s. PI 34.086 (2) (c). The advisory council is composed of experts that provide services to pupils who are deaf and hard of hearing, including educational interpreters. The advisory council's duties, in part, include receiving input from professionals and developing recommendations that will improve services for students who are deaf and hard of hearing. No change to rule language is necessary because the passing score is recommended by the advisory council as a result of input collected from experts in the field of educational interpreting. To clarify the proposed rule, however, the department has inserted a note directing readers where to obtain additional information regarding the passing score on the department's webpage. The department has also created similar notes for educational interpreter licenses under s. PI 34.086 create consistency for both types of educational interpreter licenses.

b. The department has referenced "the educational interpreter performance assessment" under s. PI 34.095 (2) (a) in order to provide flexibility in the event the current assessment recognized by the department is no longer available or is renamed and can substitute with another performance assessment without going through rulemaking. No changes are needed.