

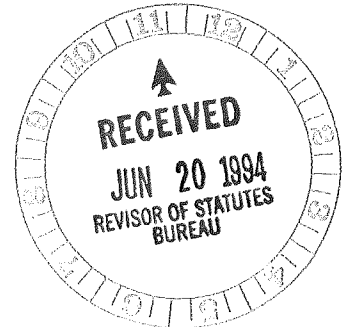
CR 93-212

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF WISCONSIN )  
 ) SS  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION)

I, State Superintendent of the Department of Public Instruction and custodian of the official records of said Department, do hereby certify that the annexed rule relating to licensure of teachers of the visually impaired was duly approved and adopted by this Department on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register.

I further certify that said copy has been compared by me with the original on file in this Department and the same is a true copy thereof, and of the whole of such original.

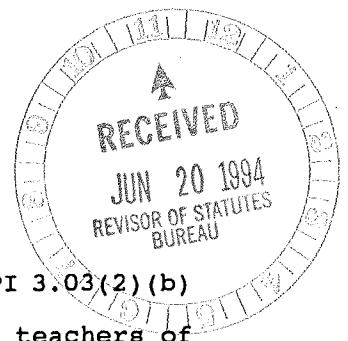


IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Department at General Executive Facility (GEF) 3, 125 South Webster Street, P.O. Box 7841, in the city of Madison, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1994.

*John T. Benson*  
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John T. Benson  
State Superintendent  
State Department of Public Instruction

9-1-94

ORDER OF THE  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
CREATING/AMENDING RULES



The state superintendent of public instruction hereby amends PI 3.03(2)(b) and creates PI 3.03(2)(f) and PI 3.31(3), relating to licensure of teachers of the visually impaired.

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ANALYSIS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Statutory authority: ss. 115.28(7), 118.19(4m) and 227.11(2)(a), Stats.

Statute interpreted: s. 118.19(4m), Stats.

1991 Wisconsin Act 164 prohibits the state superintendent from issuing or renewing a license to teach the visually impaired unless the applicant demonstrates, based on criteria established by the state superintendent, that he or she is proficient in reading, writing and teaching Braille. The state superintendent shall take into consideration the standard used by the librarian of congress for certifying Braille transcribers.

In response to the Act, the proposed rules create additional certification and renewal requirements for persons seeking a license to teach pupils having vision impairments. The rules require applicants for an initial license to successfully complete both of the following:

1. The National Literary Braille Competency Test and
2. Coursework in methods of teaching Braille and experience in teaching Braille to school-age children.

Currently, in order for an applicant to renew a license to teach the visually impaired, he or she must complete 6 semester credits or the equivalent of continuing professional education directly and substantively related to the license. The proposed rules require these applicants to meet current renewal requirements by including at least one of the 3 activities specified in each of the following:

1. Successful completion of either the National Literary Braille Competency Test, or 2 semester credits in reading and writing Braille, or 30 department approved clock hours in reading and writing Braille; and
2. Experience in teaching Braille to school age children, or one semester credit in methods of teaching Braille, or 15 department approved clock hours in methods of teaching Braille.

The rules also specify that successful completion of the National Literary Braille Competency Test and completion of one of the activities under 2 above may be accepted as the equivalent of the renewal requirements one time only.

The requirements specified under these rules must be met one time only and pertain to any applicant applying for or renewing a license to teach the visually impaired with an effective date on or after July 1, 1995.

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- 1           SECTION 1. PI 3.03 (2) (b) is amended to read:  
2           PI 3.03 (2) (b) Renewal. 1. Except as provided under pars. (c) and (e),  
3           and (f), a regular license may be renewed if the applicant satisfactorily

1 completes 6 semester credits or the equivalent of continuing professional  
2 education during the 5 years immediately preceding his or her application for  
3 renewal. The 6 semester credits or the equivalent shall be directly and  
4 substantively related to one or more of the licenses held by the applicant or to  
5 the applicant's professional competency.

6 SECTION 2. PI 3.03 (2) (f) is created to read:

7 PI 3.03 (2) (f) Visually impaired license renewal. Effective July 1, 1995,  
8 a license to teach the visually impaired may be renewed only if the applicant  
9 satisfactorily includes or supplements the requirements under par. (b) with at  
10 least one activity in each of the following requirements within the 5 years  
11 preceding his or her application:

12 1. Successful completion of either the national literary braille  
13 competency test, or 2 semester credits in reading and writing of braille, or 30  
14 department approved clock hours in reading and writing braille. To meet the  
15 requirements under this subdivision, the credits or approved clock hours shall  
16 contain a student evaluation component.

17 2. Experience in teaching braille to school-age children, or one semester  
18 credit in methods of teaching braille, or 15 department approved clock hours in  
19 methods of teaching braille. To be accepted under this subdivision, teaching  
20 experience shall be based on documentary evidence to be approved by the  
21 department and may include a practicum or student teaching.

22 3. Successful completion of the national literary braille competency test  
23 under subd. 1 and successful completion of one of the activities under subd. 2  
24 may be accepted as the equivalent of the requirements under par. (b) one time  
25 only.

26 SECTION 3. PI 3.31 (3) is created to read:

27 PI 3.31 (3) Effective July 1, 1995, successful completion of both of the  
28 following within the 5 years preceding application:

29 (a) The national literary braille competency test.

30 (b) Coursework in methods of teaching braille and experience in teaching  
31 braille to school-age children. To be accepted under this subdivision, teaching  
32 experience shall be based on documentary evidence to be approved by the

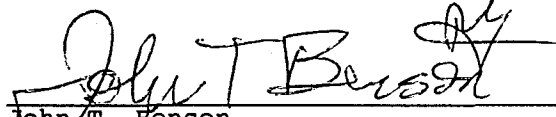
1 department and may include a practicum or student teaching.

2           **SECTION 4. INITIAL APPLICABILITY.** Any applicant who applies for or renews  
3 a license to teach visually impaired pupils with an effective date on or after  
4 July 1, 1995, shall meet the requirements under ss. PI 3.03 (2) (f) or PI 3.31  
5 (3) one time only.

NOTE: The National Literary Braille Competency Test is available from The Library of Congress, NLS/BPH, 1291 Taylor Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20542.

The rules contained in this order shall take effect on the first day of the month commencing after the date of publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register, as provided in s. 227.22 (2) (intro.), Stats.

Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1994

  
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John T. Benson  
State Superintendent

