

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RULES GOVERNING THE LIFETIME TEACHING LICENSE
September 2007

1.0 REGULATORY AUTHORITY

- 1.01** These rules shall be known as the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Lifetime Teaching License.
- 1.02** These rules are enacted pursuant to the authority of the State Board of Education under Ark. Code Ann §§6-11-105, 6-17-401 et seq., and 25-15-201 et seq. and Act 169 of 2007.

2.0 PURPOSE

- 2.01** The purpose of these rules is to establish the requirements and procedures for obtaining the Lifetime Teaching License from the Arkansas Department of Education.

3.0 DEFINITIONS - For the purpose of these Rules, the following definitions shall apply:

- 3.01 Educational Setting** – The employment setting where the licensed employee works, including without limitation: public school, private school, institution of higher education, education service cooperative, Department of Education, adult education setting or other agency/organization that employs licensed teachers for educational purposes.
- 3.02 Lifetime Teaching License** – A standard Arkansas teaching license that is reissued every five (5) years without the teacher having to meet the general renewal requirements of professional development and teaching experience.
- 3.03 Professional Development** – A coordinated set of planned, learning development activities for teachers that are based on research, are standards-based and that meet the focus areas for professional development required by the Department of Education.
- 3.04 Teaching Experience** – The experience gained while working in an educational setting as a teacher, librarian, counselor, administrator, educational consultant, substitute teacher or other licensed position.

4.0 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING THE LIFETIME TEACHING LICENSE

4.01 Applicants for the Lifetime Teaching License shall meet the following eligibility requirements:

4.01.1 Hold a current, standard Arkansas teaching license;

4.01.2 Be over sixty-five (65) years of age; and

4.01.3 (a) Have worked in an educational setting while maintaining an Arkansas teaching license, or

(b) Have made significant contributions to education, educational research, or the profession of teaching through scholarly endeavors, teaching experience, excellence in teaching or educational innovation;

4.02 An applicant shall apply for the Lifetime Teaching License within twelve (12) calendar months after his or her sixty-fifth birthday.

4.02.1 Applicants for the Lifetime Teaching License who turned sixty-five (65) years of age prior to the effective date of this rule and held a current, standard Arkansas teaching license at that time, have twelve (12) calendar months from the effective date of these rules to apply for the Lifetime Teaching License.

4.03 Applicants are subject to a criminal background check upon application for the Lifetime Teaching License.

4.03.1 The required background check cannot be older than one year at the time of application.

5.0 GENERAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE LIFETIME TEACHING LICENSE

5.01 The Lifetime Teaching License shall be issued upon:

5.01.1 The submission of a completed application requesting the Lifetime Teaching License to the Office of Professional Licensure at the Arkansas Department of Education.

5.01.1.1 Applications for the Lifetime Teaching License shall not be submitted prior to July 1, 2008.

5.01.1.2 The Arkansas Department of Education shall promulgate and make available the for application form for use by applicants for the Lifetime Teaching License.

5.01.2 The eligibility requirements in Section 4.0 of these rules.

5.01.3 The application being approved by the Arkansas State Board of Education.

- 5.02** The Lifetime Teaching License shall reflect the applicant's licensure areas at the time of the application.
- 5.03** A teacher holding a Lifetime Teaching License is not required to renew their teaching license.
- 5.04** The Lifetime Teaching License shall be re-issued every five years as long as the license has not been suspended or revoked by the Arkansas State Board of Education.
- 5.05** A Lifetime Teaching License is subject to the same laws for revocation as any Arkansas teaching license.
- 5.06** A lifetime teaching license holder is not subject to the requirements for annual professional development unless employed pursuant to Subsection 6.02 of this rule.

6.0 EMPLOYMENT OF LIFETIME TEACHING LICENSE HOLDERS

- 6.01** A lifetime teaching license holder is eligible to serve a school district , educational services cooperative or Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) in the following capacities:
 - 6.01.1** Substitute teacher
 - 6.01.2** Tutor
 - 6.01.3** Pathwise Mentor
 - 6.01.4** Pathwise Monitor
 - 6.01.5** Praxis III Assessor
 - 6.01.6** Praxis III Assessor Trainer
 - 6.01.7** Test Investigator
 - 6.01.8** Scholastic Audit Consultant
 - 6.01.9** Others as defined by the Department
- 6.02** A lifetime teaching license holder who becomes employed full-time or part-time by a school district, educational services cooperative or the Department in a position for which sixty(60) hours of professional development is required annually, shall participate in the professional development programs as required by the employing school district, cooperative or Department.
 - 6.02.1** A lifetime teaching license holder who has not taught or been employed in an educational setting for which a license is required for one (1) or more years shall be required to provide the Department verification of twenty (20) hours of relevant professional development prior to reentering the educational setting.