

# Recent MDE Licensure Updates Related to COVID-19

- **Student Teachers** - Spring 2020 candidates will be eligible for teaching license (waiving the 12 weeks required student teaching/counting the virtual experience as sufficient).
- **Testing requirements for entry to colleges of ed.** are being waived through Dec. 31, 2021.
- **Alternate route program admission** - Candidates have to have 18 hours in the area they are seeking licensure, degree in that area, or they have to have already passed the required test for admission to the alt. route/non-traditional route programs.
- **Licensure testing criteria** is suspended for all licensure applications until December 31, 2021. A 5-year license will be issued for those who qualify by meeting other standard criteria.
- **Licensure Renewal** - Anyone with a license that expires June 30, 2020, is eligible for an extension. The process is as follows: Go to MDE's licensure page forms icon: <https://www.mdek12.org/OEL/Forms> and click on Licensure Application. Don't be confused by the application option on MDE's website titled COVID-19 Extension. This one is for District requests only, so educators who need a license extension/renewal must use the first application link on MDE's website. After completing the form, employees need to upload it as a PDF and attach it to the Correspondence section of their ELMS account. CTE and AP licenses are included in this renewal extension opportunity.
- **Local District Requests** - Anyone currently employed who Mrs. Collins helped get a special non-renewable license for 19-20, is eligible for a one-year extension. Contact her and she will be reaching out as well to get these extensions per your recommendation for a 20-21 contract of these employees. They have different steps to take than before if this is their second year, so Mrs. Collins will walk them through it.
- **Reciprocity licenses** - For educators coming to GPSD from out of state, the testing requirements are suspended through Dec. 31, 2021.