



HOUSE BILL 634: Private Alternative Teacher Preparation.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	House Education - K-12	Date:	April 20, 2017
Introduced by:	Reps. Hardister, Blackwell, Elmore, Quick	Prepared by:	Brian Gwyn
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H634-CSBE-11		Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 634 would direct the State Board of Education to approve certain qualifying alternative lateral entry educator preparation programs. The PCS would clarify the qualifications for approval, modify the application timeline, and incorporate multiple technical changes.*

CURRENT LAW: Under G.S. 115C-296.12, individuals may start teaching without having completed an educator preparation program. These individuals receive an initial teaching license and may teach for three years while also completing a program of study designed to prepare the lateral entry teachers for continuing licensure.

Prior to teaching, a lateral entry teacher must receive preservice training in the following areas:

- (1) The identification and education of children with disabilities.
- (2) Positive management of student behavior.
- (3) Effective communication for defusing and deescalating disruptive or dangerous behavior.
- (4) Safe and appropriate use of seclusion and restraint.

Only the State Board of Community Colleges and North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, Inc. are authorized to provide a program of study for lateral entry teachers. These programs of study must meet all of the following criteria:

- Provide adequate coursework in the teaching of reading and mathematics (Elementary education only)
- Assess knowledge of scientifically based reading and mathematics instructional practices
- Prepare teachers to apply formative and summative assessments that measure and predict expected student improvement.
- Require competencies in using digital and other instructional technologies

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BILL ANALYSIS:

SECTION 1

- Authorizes the State Board of Education to approve alternative, private, for-profit, or nonprofit lateral entry programs.
- Requires the State Board of Education to develop standards that these programs must meet, which must at least include:
 - (1) Preservice training in the same areas required of other lateral entry programs. The PCS would combine this item with (3).
 - (2) Program of study that includes criteria required of other lateral entry programs.
 - (3) At least 80 instructional hours of classroom readiness training prior to entering the classroom.
 - (4) A minimum of three educator coaching visits in the first year of teaching.
 - (5) Completion of all required pedagogy and subject-area content by the end of the first year of teaching.
- Requires the State Board to approve at least one, but no more than four, programs that meet these standards.

SECTION 2

Outlines the timeline for implementing the act, as well as reporting requirements:

- August 1, 2017: Superintendent requests applications from alternative, private, for-profit, or nonprofit lateral entry teacher education preparation programs
- September 1, 2017: Superintendent presents applications to the State Board of Education
- October 15, 2017: State Board must approve at least one program, but not more than four
- December 15, 2019 (and annually thereafter): State Board of Education reports to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the performance of teachers who participated in these programs

The PCS would change the September 1 and October 15 deadlines to September 15 and November 15, respectively.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would be effective when it becomes law.