



Public Schools of North Carolina

Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee

Principal Certification Requirements State of North Carolina

Jesse Dingle, Director -Talent Management and Development

Principal Certification

To qualify for certification as a school administrator in the state of North Carolina, an individual must meet all of the following requirements:

- 1) Submit a complete application to the State Board.
- 2) Pay the applicable fee.
- 3) Have a bachelors degree from an accredited college or accredited university.
- 4) Have one of the following:
 - a) A graduate degree from a public school administration program that meets the public school administration program approval standards established by the State Board of Education.



Principal Certification :

- a) A graduate degree from a public school administration program that meets the public school administration program approval standards established by the State Board of Education.
 - b) A masters degree from an accredited college or university and, by December 31, 1999, have completed a public school administration program that meets the public school administration program approval standards set by the State Board of Education.
 - c) Education and training determined by the State Board of Education as equivalent.
- 5) Pass the exam adopted by the State Board of Education (School Leaders Licensure Assessment- administered by (ETS) Educational Testing Service

SL 2008-287, Section 43



Principal Certification

Exam exemptions:

A person who has been engaged in administration during the five year period from **January 1, 1993- December 31, 1997** is exempt, the term engaged during the five year period means a person:

- Is either currently employed or has held employment as a superintendent, assistant superintendent, associate superintendent, or deputy superintendent for six months in a LEA.
- Is either currently employed or has held employment as a principal or assistant principal for six months in a school as prescribed in G.S. 115C-290.2(3).



Exam Exemptions continued...

- Is either currently employed or has held employment for six months in a North Carolina college or university as an instructor while in possession of a state administrators/supervisor certificate and whose major responsibilities included the preparation or supervision of individuals enrolled in a public school administration program
- Is either currently employed or has held employment for six months in public school supervisor/director position in which there is a majority responsibility to teach or directly supervise teaching.
- A person who has completed an administrative internship at any time during the five years preceding January 1, 1998 as part of an approved graduate program in school administration and obtained a valid State administrator/supervisor certificate, is exempt.



Principal Certification:

Session Law 2007-517 House Bill 536

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 115C-284 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

“(c2) The State Board of Education shall adopt new standards by July 1, 2008 for school administrator programs.

Institutions of higher education shall redesign their school administrator preparation programs to meet the new standards and report to the State Board of Education on the redesign by July 1, 2009.”

