



HAWAI'I TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

October 2011 eNewsletter

Highlights of new HTSB policies passed at the October 28, 2011 Board meeting. View all new policies by going to www.htsb.org and clicking on Board Meeting New Business Items (NBIs) at the bottom of the homepage.

HTSB approved a new process to review state approved teacher education programs seeking provisional review to operate in Hawaii. All states have the responsibility for approving and monitoring teacher preparation programs that operate and recommend teacher candidates for licensure in their state. There are currently eleven approved "units" that operate teacher preparation programs in the state, with three others currently going through the approval process.

By law, all public school teachers are required to hold a valid, active teaching license. Part of maintaining a license means paying the fee. Like all professionals, teachers must also maintain their license by keeping their license fee current. But unlike most professions, the HTSB has generously offered payment plans to teachers as they transitioned from payroll deduction to direct payment of the fee. Currently, teachers holding a standard license may select full payment (\$240 for the five year license) or a yearly option (\$48 per year for the life of the license). However, on July 1, 2016, Hawaii teachers will begin to pay the full fee when they receive a new license or renew an existing license, like teachers in all other states.

It's the law: teachers must keep their license current by paying their fees and renewing prior to expiration!

BE SURE YOU TAKE THE CORRECT LICENSURE TEST!

New applicants for the Provisional and Standard Hawaii teaching licenses are required to submit passing scores for licensure tests. The test must be in the same field as your preparation program. If you already hold an out of state license, tests you took in another state may be used instead of having to take Hawaii tests. Be sure to check the HTSB website prior to registering for licensure tests as new tests are adopted and older tests retired periodically. In general, HTSB tries to have a period of transition from the "old" to the "new" tests when possible. Licensure tests may also be used as one of the ways to add a field to your license. Visit the HTSB website for information and any necessary forms to apply for a license or add an additional field to your existing license.

NEW SCHOOL LIBRARIAN STANDARDS

HTSB reviewed new performance standards for school librarians at the October 28 meeting. These standards are based on the American Library Association (ALA) and the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) standards for the initial preparation of school librarians. The five standards are:

- Teaching for Learning
- Literacy and Reading
- Information and Knowledge
- Advocacy and Leadership
- Program Management and Administration

HTSB will convene a panel of K-12 school librarians and school librarian preparation faculty from schools statewide to give feedback on the new standards prior to final adoption.