122A.27 ALTERNATIVE PREPARATION LICENSING FOR ADMINISTRATORS.

Subdivision 1. **Requirements.** (a) A preparation program that is an alternative to a graduate program in education administration for public school administrators to acquire an entrance license is established. The program may be offered in any administrative field.

- (b) To participate in the alternative preparation program, the candidate must:
- (1) have a master's degree in an administrative area;
- (2) have been offered an administrative position in a school district, group of districts, or an education district approved by the commissioner of education to offer an alternative preparation licensure program;
 - (3) have five years of experience in a field related to administration; and
 - (4) document successful experiences working with children and adults.
- (c) An alternative preparation license is of one year duration and is issued by the commissioner of education to participants on admission to the alternative preparation program.
- Subd. 2. **Characteristics.** The alternative preparation program has the characteristics enumerated in this subdivision:
- (1) staff development conducted by a resident mentorship team made up of administrators, teachers, and postsecondary faculty members;
- (2) an instruction phase involving intensive preparation of a candidate for licensure before the candidate assumes responsibility for an administrative position;
 - (3) formal instruction and peer coaching during the school year;
- (4) assessment, supervision, and evaluation of a candidate to determine the candidate's specific needs and to ensure satisfactory completion of the program;
- (5) a research-based and results-oriented approach focused on skills administrators need to be effective;
 - (6) assurance of integration of education theory and classroom practices; and
- (7) the shared design and delivery of staff development between school district personnel and postsecondary faculty.
- Subd. 3. **Affiliation with a postsecondary institution.** An alternative preparation program at a school district, group of schools, or an education district must be affiliated with a postsecondary institution that has a graduate program in educational administration for public school administrators.
- Subd. 4. **Approval for standard entrance license.** The resident mentorship team must prepare for the commissioner of education an evaluation report on the performance of the alternative preparation licensee during the school year and a positive or negative recommendation on whether the alternative preparation licensee shall receive a standard entrance license.
- Subd. 5. **Standard entrance license.** The commissioner of education must issue a standard entrance license to an alternative preparation licensee who has successfully completed the school year in the alternative preparation program and who has received a positive recommendation from the licensee's mentorship team.

Subd. 6. **Qualified administrator.** A person with a valid alternative preparation license is a qualified administrator within the meaning of section 122A.16.

History: 1991 c 265 art 7 s 19; 1993 c 224 art 9 s 33; 1993 c 337 s 8; 1998 c 397 art 8 s 70,101; art 11 s 3; 1998 c 398 art 5 s 55; 2003 c 130 s 12