

Dear Year 2 B.Ed. / Concurrent Year 5 Teacher Candidates:

This message is to add clarification and guidance regarding recently announced amendments to *Ontario Regulation 298: Operation of Schools and Ontario Regulation 176/10 Teachers Qualifications*, which came into force on January 30, 2021. The amendments work together to add a new Temporary Certificate of Qualification and Registration that may be granted by the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT) under the Ontario College of Teachers Act, 1996.

### **TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION AND REGISTRATION**

The Temporary Certificate of Qualification and Registration is a limited one-time, emergency measure designed to address occasional teacher shortages in Ontario's public school system that have been exacerbated due to the impact of COVID-19. The certificate is issued by the Ontario College of Teachers. All temporary certificate holders are members of the College. As such, they are required to uphold the Standards of Practice and Ethical Standards for the Teaching Profession and may be subject to investigation and discipline proceedings relating to complaints of professional misconduct, incompetence or incapacity.

### **Who Can Apply?**

Ontario teacher candidates can apply for the temporary certificate if they:

- are expected to successfully complete their initial teacher education program by December 31, 2021
  - ***In University of Windsor's Faculty of Education this means:***
    - Teacher candidates who are in their second year in the consecutive B.Ed. program
    - Teacher candidates who are in the final year of their concurrent B.Ed. (eligible only upon official conferral of their undergraduate degrees)
    - Teacher candidates in the technological education program who are scheduled to complete their program by August 31
- have, as of the date of their application, successfully completed a portion of the practicum as determined by reports made by Faculties of Education to the College
  - ***In University of Windsor's Faculty of Education this means:***
    - Teacher Candidate must have successfully completed a face-to-face practicum of at least 20 days in total AND
    - Teacher Candidates must have successfully completed a practicum (face-to-face, virtual, or hybrid) OR an eligible alternative placement in the Fall of 2020.
- have made satisfactory progress in their program as determined by reports made by Faculties of Education to the College
  - ***In University of Windsor's Faculty of Education this means:***

- Teacher candidates who have successfully completed all required coursework as part of their B.Ed.
- Teacher candidates in good academic standing

Please note: Eligible teacher education candidates will only be recommended for the temporary certification after the successful completion of courses on March 12, 2021. Once grades are finalized, should a teacher candidate have failed a course, a recommendation will be made to the OCT to revoke the temporary certificate without refund. Any teacher candidate who takes a paid position in advance of that timeline or who does so without a valid temporary certificate does so at their own risk. Under no circumstances will paid teaching work taken prior to March 12 be counted toward practicum requirements. Similarly, under no circumstances will paid teaching work taken without a valid temporary teaching certificate be counted toward practicum requirements.

In order to be granted the temporary certificate, applicants must have also paid all necessary fees and meet all other applicable certification requirements.

### **What Can I Do With a Temporary Certificate?**

The temporary certificate enables Ontario teacher candidates to be employed as occasional teachers on days that otherwise would have been designated as practicum days. This teaching experience may be used to satisfy practicum requirements, as determined by the Faculty of Education. ***In the Faculty of Education at the University of Windsor, the following shall apply:***

- Teacher Candidates holding a temporary certificate may act as an emergency occasional teacher as part of their designated practicum placement and only within the same school as their practicum placement, once the school has followed its regular protocols to fill a teacher vacancy and is unable to locate a suitably qualified occasional teacher, in accordance with existing hiring norms and regulations.
- **All placement arrangements are made by and through the Field Experience Office.** These placements are made to ensure that Teacher Candidates meet their respective division and subject requirements. Paid teaching work taken by a Teacher Candidate must be made within the division and subject area requirements to be counted toward practicum requirements. If any days of paid teaching work are found by the Field Experience Office to not fulfil the divisional/teachable requirements, additional placement time will need to be completed.

### **How Long is the Temporary Certificate Valid?**

The temporary certificate can be granted on or after January 31, 2021 and expires on December 31, 2021, subject to the Mathematics Proficiency Test condition set out below. There are no extensions. The temporary certificate may be converted into a general Certificate of Qualification and Registration if the College receives satisfactory evidence that practicum and program requirements are completed before January 1, 2022.

## **Do I have to pass the Mathematics Proficiency Test?**

**Ontario applicants certified between January 31, 2021 and August 31, 2021** – An Ontario applicant who is required to pass the Mathematics Proficiency Test can be granted a temporary certificate with a condition to pass the test by August 31, 2021. If they do not pass the test by August 31, 2021, their certificate will expire and there will be no extensions. They cannot be granted another temporary certificate. They will be required to pass the test and meet all other applicable certification requirements before re-certification.

**Ontario applicants certified between September 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021** – in order for an Ontario applicant who is required to pass the Mathematics Proficiency Test to be granted the temporary certificate between September 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021, they are required to pass the test before they can be granted a temporary certificate. They cannot be certified with a condition to pass the test.

Please see the College's information on the Mathematics Proficiency Test ([Math Proficiency Test | Ontario College of Teachers \(oct.ca\)](https://www.oct.ca/math-proficiency-test)).

## **HOW TO APPLY?**

You can now [request the temporary certificate online](#). Please see [Registration Guides](#) for application requirements.

-----  
The Faculty of Education  
University of Windsor