

DRAFT

SUMMARY

Digest: The Act would make the TSPC create by rule two types of licenses for people who want to be a substitute teacher. The Act would make the TSPC create by rule a way for people with a restricted substitute teaching license to get a regular substitute teaching license. (Flesch Readability Score: 60.8).

Directs the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission to establish by rule a substitute teaching license and a restricted substitute teaching license. Requires the commission to establish by rule an expedited process for persons with a restricted substitute teaching license to obtain a substitute teaching license.

Directs the commission, in consultation with the Oregon Substitute Teachers Association, to report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to education no later than December 15, 2025.

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the licensure of substitute teachers; creating new provisions;
3 amending ORS 342.125; and declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 342.125 is amended to read:

6 342.125. (1) Teaching licenses shall be issued and renewed by the Teacher
7 Standards and Practices Commission by the authority of the State of Oregon,
8 subject to ORS 342.120 to 342.430 and the rules of the commission.

9 (2) Notwithstanding any requirements prescribed for issuance of a license,
10 a person whose application for a license is pending may be employed in the
11 public schools of this state for 90 calendar days after the date of submission
12 of the application if:

13 (a) The person is not ineligible for a license following background checks

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 conducted by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, including a
2 criminal records check as provided in ORS 181A.195 and a background check
3 through an interstate clearinghouse of revoked and suspended licenses;

4 (b) The school district has completed the review of the employment his-
5 tory of the person as required by ORS 339.374;

6 (c) The person had not been employed as provided by this subsection
7 during the previous 12 months with a pending application for the same li-
8 cense; and

9 (d) The person and the school district have complied with any other re-
10 quirements established by the commission by rule.

11 (3) Subject to ORS 342.130 and to subsection (4) of this section, licenses
12 shall be of the following types:

13 (a) Preliminary teaching license.

14 (b) Professional teaching license.

15 (c) Distinguished teacher leader license.

16 (d) Preliminary personnel service license.

17 (e) Professional personnel service license.

18 (f) Preliminary administrative license.

19 (g) Professional administrative license.

20 (h) Reciprocal license.

21 (i) Legacy license.

22 (4)(a) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission may establish
23 other types of teaching licenses as the commission considers necessary for
24 operation of the public schools of the state and may prescribe the qualifica-
25 tions for the licenses. However, no license established under the authority
26 of this subsection is required for a regular classroom teaching position in the
27 public schools.

28 **(b) The commission shall by rule establish a substitute teaching li-**
29 **cense and a restricted substitute teaching license. The rules must**
30 **provide:**

31 **(A) Eligibility criteria, application procedures and other require-**

1 **ments for issuance of a substitute teaching license or a restricted**
2 **substitute teaching license.**

3 **(B) An expedited process for persons with a restricted substitute**
4 **teaching license to obtain a substitute teaching license, based upon**
5 **training, mentorship, classroom experience or other work experience.**

6 (5) Notwithstanding ORS 342.127, any person who has held a teaching li-
7 cense identified in subsection (3) of this section or established as provided
8 by subsection (4)(a) of this section may, within three years of retirement and
9 without payment of any fees or any other additional requirements, convert
10 the teaching license into a substitute teaching license.

11 (6)(a) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission shall establish a
12 public charter school teacher and administrator registry. The commission
13 shall require the applicant and the public charter school to jointly submit
14 an application requesting registration as a public charter school teacher or
15 administrator. The application shall include:

16 (A) A description of the specific teaching or administrator position the
17 applicant will fill;

18 (B) A description of the background of the applicant that is relevant to
19 the teaching or administrator position, including any post-secondary educa-
20 tion or other experience; and

21 (C) Documentation as required by the commission for the purposes of
22 conducting a criminal records check as provided in ORS 181A.195 and a
23 background check through an interstate clearinghouse of revoked and sus-
24 pended licenses.

25 (b) Subject to the results of the criminal records check and background
26 check and to information received under ORS 342.143 (2), the commission
27 shall approve the application for registration. The commission may deny a
28 request for registration only on the basis of the criminal records check, the
29 background check through an interstate clearinghouse of revoked and sus-
30 pended licenses or the information received under ORS 342.143 (2). The reg-
31 istration is valid for a term established by the commission and, subject to

1 information received under ORS 342.143 (2), may be renewed upon joint ap-
2 plication from the teacher or administrator and the public charter school.

3 (c) A registration as a public charter school teacher qualifies its holder
4 to accept the teaching position described in the application in the public
5 charter school that submitted the application with the holder of the regis-
6 tration.

7 (d) A registration as a public charter school administrator qualifies its
8 holder to accept the administrator position described in the application in
9 the public charter school that submitted the application with the holder of
10 the registration.

11 (7)(a) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission shall adopt an
12 expedited process for the issuance of any license established pursuant to this
13 section. The expedited process **adopted under this subsection** may require
14 the following:

15 (A) The showing of an urgent situation; and

16 (B) The joint request for the expedited process from the applicant for the
17 license and:

18 (i) The school district superintendent or school district board;

19 (ii) The public charter school governing body; or

20 (iii) The education service district superintendent or board of directors
21 of the education service district.

22 (b) Except as provided by paragraph (c) of this subsection, the commission
23 shall issue a license as provided by this subsection within two working days
24 after receiving a completed application.

25 (c) The commission may limit the number of applications the commission
26 will accept under this subsection from a school district or an education ser-
27 vice district to not more than 100 applications in a period of two working
28 days.

29 (d) For purposes of this subsection, the commission may not distinguish
30 between a school district or an education service district involved in a labor
31 dispute and any other school district or education service district.

1 **SECTION 2.** The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, in
2 consultation with the Oregon Substitute Teachers Association, shall
3 submit a report on the implementation of the amendments to ORS
4 342.125 by section 1 of this 2025 Act in the manner provided by ORS
5 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the in-
6 terim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to education no
7 later than December 15, 2025.

8 **SECTION 3.** Section 2 of this 2025 Act is repealed on January 2, 2026.

9 **SECTION 4.** This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate pres-
10 ervation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is de-
11 clared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect on July 1, 2025.

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