

# Iowa Board of Educational Examiners



## BoEE Quarterly Newsletter – February 2018



Welcome Iowa Educators! We hope you find this quarterly newsletter to be a useful and valued resource.

**View your license and expiration date under “[search for a license](#).”** It is important not to let your license expire if you are under contract.

## Social Media Tips for Educators

In the age of social media communication, educators often struggle to maintain clear professional and personal boundaries. The following recommendations will assist you to navigate social media as a professional educator.

Do not . . .	Do . . .
“friend” students on social media	set your personal privacy settings to the highest levels (but understand that posts can still be shared)
use language that is vulgar, discriminatory, inflammatory, or disparaging	know your district social media and technology policies
communicate privately with students via social media or texting	communicate with groups of students and families via text, through a professional account such as “Remind” (if district policy allows)
post information about students through a personal account	use a professional account to promote student activities and awards with permission (if district policy allows)
post pictures or statements that present your image as unprofessional	use social media to connect with other educators professionally, such as twitter #iaedchat

## Converting Initial to Standard



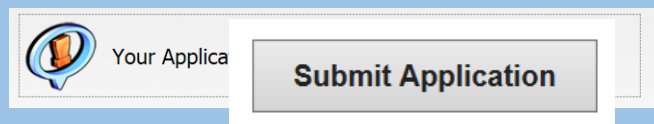
Teachers on an initial license must wait until after the last day of school to apply for their standard license once they have met the experience requirement. Applications received early will not be processed. School administrators should not sign their portion of the application form if it is submitted early. If the initial license expires before the last day of school, there is a \$25 extension available.

## Did you know . . .? Helpful Hints from the BoEE

- You can apply to renew your license one year in advance of the expiration date without losing any time on your new license.
- You can use one completed Individualized Professional Development Plan for one renewal credit per renewal cycle.
- You can obtain a certificate from an Iowa college showing renewal credits earned for serving as a cooperating teacher for practicum students and student teachers for up to two credits per renewal cycle.
- You can use our new online system to apply for a new license or to renew your license, and we even accept clear pictures of transcripts taken from a smartphone.

## Did you click “submit application”?

In our new online system, the last step of any application is to click the “submit application” button. This is the page after submitting payment.



We will not receive your application unless you also click “submit application”.

## Professional Development Highlights

### College and Career Planning – Courses for Counselors

The importance of college access counseling in Iowa is growing. Counselors and other educators are at the forefront of helping students prepare and plan for college and careers. Iowa College Aid is providing professional development to help them meet this need.

The Iowa Go Alliance Academy is a suite of online courses for counselors, administrators, and other education professionals to build capacity to create equitable opportunities for students to plan, pay for, and go to college. Provided by Iowa College Aid, in partnership with Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) and AEA Learning Online, it is Iowa's only college access training program.

The online curriculum is tailored to include Iowa-specific resources, allowing participants to see best practices in action, and gain knowledge and resources that can be immediately incorporated into their work with students. Course participants are part of a cohort, which allows for structured online discussions with peers, and feedback is provided from trained facilitators.

The [Iowa Go Alliance Academy](#) is open to any professional working in the college access field, although courses are geared toward school counselors. Any individual who completes the three core courses\* will earn a certificate as an Iowa College Aid College Access Professional.

- Building a College-Going Culture for All Students\*
- College, Career and Academic Planning\*
- Financial Aid and College Applications\*
- Maximizing School Counselor Impact on Student Success: A Module for School Leaders

Courses are offered for both Licensure Renewal Credit and Graduate Credit. For Licensure Renewal Credit, courses cost \$35 per credit; most courses are three credits. Courses taken for Graduate Credit have a higher cost, determined by the participating institutions: Drake University, Viterbo University, or Morningside College. Courses are offered repeatedly throughout the school year.

# Create Your Own Renewal Credit Course

Iowa school districts are leading the way to create relevant and meaningful staff development opportunities for educators to ensure continuous improvement for our students. These collaboration efforts often include learning from one another. Districts can create their own licensure renewal courses through the AEA system. Site-based courses, book studies, and action research groups are possible options through this “create your own” process. Click your AEA icon below to find out more!



## CTE Information Technology – Apply Now! FAQs

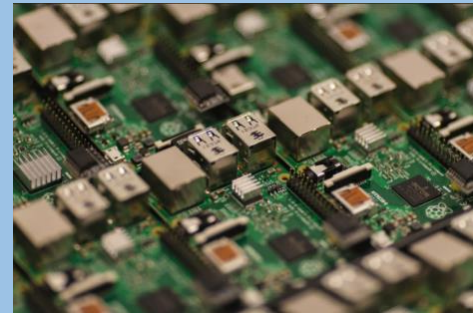
*Anyone with a license at the grade level can teach technology classes. Why was a special endorsement created?*

- As part of a statewide career and technical (CTE) redesign, technology was added as a new possible CTE service area. In order for the service area to be approved, a specific CTE endorsement is required.
- The endorsement includes 12 semester hours of computer science, 6 semester hours of CTE methods, and a computer science methods course.

*My district would like to add technology courses as a CTE service area. Which BEDS codes for classes taught will be able to be used for CTE? 10010-10012, 10051, 10098, 10101-10112, 10148, 10151-10160, 10198-10206, 10248, 10301-10302, 10901, 11001-11002, 11104, 11151-11155*

Questions about the chosen BEDS/SCED codes should be directed to Pat Thieben at the Iowa Department of Education.

([pat.thieben@iowa.gov](mailto:pat.thieben@iowa.gov))



*What is the [“waiver” application](#)?*

- **Now through August of 2018, educators may apply to add the endorsement without completing any additional coursework through a waiver (grandfathering) process.**
  - Teachers must have at least two years of experience teaching any course(s) in the approved BEDS codes in order to apply for the coursework waiver.
  - A short portfolio will be submitted to the BoEE showing any relevant coursework previously completed or other artifacts to show proficiency (lesson plans, etc.).
  - CTE teachers will be eligible to have all required coursework waived.
  - Non-CTE teachers will be eligible to have all required computer science coursework waived, but the CTE coursework will still be required as per state and federal rules.

*Who should apply for the coursework [waiver](#)?*

- **EVERYONE** who has taught within the above BEDS codes for at least two years.
  - This will allow maximum flexibility in case a district decides to add these classes as a CTE service area down the road.
  - Even for non-CTE teachers, we want to waive as much as possible prior to August 2018, thus only leaving CTE coursework to pursue anytime down the road.

## Recent Case Studies

The respondent in case number [17-90](#) brought alcohol to a school activity involving students. The settlement agreement imposes a reprimand, two-year suspension of the respondent's coaching authorization, and requires the respondent to complete an ethics course.

In case number [17-61](#), the respondent omitted material information regarding the evaluation of students and did not keep adequate records. The respondent agreed to accept a reprimand and is required to complete an ethics course.

In case number [17-84](#), the respondent agreed to a reprimand, two-year suspension, and requirement to complete an ethics class after the board charged him with being under the influence of alcohol on school premises, during the school day.

Following a hearing, the board found the respondent in case number [16-54](#) misused public funds and performed incompetently as a school business official. The respondent was also convicted of first-degree theft based on the events underlying the complaint. The respondent's school business official authorization was permanently revoked.

The respondent in case number [16-187](#) was charged with falsifying or deliberately misrepresenting or omitting material information regarding the evaluation of students. Following a hearing, the respondent received a six-month license suspension and was ordered to complete an ethics course.

The respondent in case number [17-52](#) was reprimanded for abandoning an employment contract without prior release by her employing district.

In case number [17-49](#), the respondent agreed to accept a reprimand and complete an ethics course after being charged with falsification of information on student IEPs.

The respondent in case number [17-63](#) coached soccer for several years with an expired coaching authorization. The settlement agreement imposes a reprimand, suspension for the 2018 soccer season, and a requirement to complete an ethics course.

In case number [17-32](#), the respondent was charged with failing to make a reasonable effort to protect the health and safety of students or creating conditions harmful to student learning, as well as performing services beyond the scope of the respondent's licensure. The respondent received a reprimand and is required to complete an ethics course.

The respondent in case number [16-88](#) made inappropriate comments about race and sex to students while teaching. The board's final order imposes a reprimand and a three-month deferred suspension. The suspension will not be imposed if the respondent completes an ethics course and an anti-bullying course within one year of the date of the order.

The respondent in case number [17-05](#) was charged with soliciting or encouraging a romantic or otherwise inappropriate relationship with a student. The final order imposes a reprimand, six-month suspension, and ethics course requirement.

In case number [17-83](#), the respondent received a reprimand and was ordered to complete an ethics course after using family leave to attend a job interview.

The respondents in the following cases waived their right to a hearing and voluntarily surrendered their respective licenses:

<http://www.boee.iowa.gov/board/orders/2017/17-21.pdf>

<http://www.boee.iowa.gov/board/orders/2017/17-188.pdf>

<http://www.boee.iowa.gov/board/orders/2015/15-190.pdf>

<http://www.boee.iowa.gov/board/orders/2017/17-131.pdf>