

# Lateral Entry Information

INCREASE ACHIEVEMENT.  
INSPIRE LEADERS.  
IMPACT LIVES.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Lateral entry is an alternate route to teaching for qualified individuals outside of the public education system. Lateral entry allows qualified individuals to obtain a teaching position and begin teaching right away, while obtaining a professional educator license as they teach. The NC DPI authorizes lateral entry professional educator licenses on a provisional basis in licensure areas that correspond to the individual's academic study. WCPSS is now considering lateral entry in all curriculum areas, not just areas of critical need. Licensure eligibility information is located on this DPI site: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/licensure/lateralentry.pdf>. Contact our Licensure team via email at [LicensureQuestions@wcpss.net](mailto:LicensureQuestions@wcpss.net) with questions about licensure eligibility and the lateral entry process.

## LATERAL ENTRY INSTITUTE INFORMATION

As required by law, Lateral Entry (LE) teachers must participate in an initial 5-Day Lateral Entry Orientation which is held prior to starting the teaching assignment. The five days are split between time in workshop/discussion groups at Central Services and time on school campuses completing required assignments and observations. All of the five days are geared to help prepare new LE teachers for their first days with students. At no time should the LE teacher be responsible for students or lesson plans until he/she is officially approved by Human Resources and has successfully completed the Lateral Entry Orientation. All assignments are due by day 5 in order for the teacher to start his/her teaching assignment. An additional 5 days of support will be scheduled throughout the teacher's first year of teaching.

### **Principal (or Assistant Principal) Responsibilities during the Institute**

- Assign the LE teacher a mentor and submit his/her name to HR prior to the 5-day orientation.
- Arrange a place to work at school with computer access.
- Ensure that the teacher is introduced to school-based technologies.

If you have questions regarding our support programs once an individual is employed via the lateral entry process, please contact Tasha Davis Mills, [tdavis4@wcpss.net](mailto:tdavis4@wcpss.net).

### **Plan of Study**

LE teachers will meet with their licensure administrators within the 5-day orientation time period to apply for an NC teaching license. Upon being issued the initial provisional lateral entry professional educator's license, the LE teacher will need to affiliate with a university with an approved teacher education program in the license area, or with the Regional Alternative Licensing Center (RALC) <http://www.ralc.us/>. An individual plan of study which outlines required coursework will be prescribed for the LE teacher. WCPSS does not pay for these classes, however, depending upon federal funding, WCPSS may be able to assist with reimbursement. <http://www2.wcpss.net/departments/hr/tuition-asst.htm>

### **Coursework and Testing**

LE teachers need to closely follow the plan of study prescribed by the university or the RALC. The LE teachers must complete the plan within three years, including coursework. Any required Praxis II and/or Pearson exams must be attempted at least once in the first year and successfully passed within the second year.

### **Teacher Support Program (TSP)**

Lateral entry teachers receive targeted support through the Teacher Support Program (TSP) in order to facilitate their transition into the classroom. TSP Coordinating Teachers may provide direct classroom assistance as needed.

