

# Iowa Board of Educational Examiners



## BoEE Quarterly Newsletter – February 2021

In this issue: Frequently Asked Questions, Rule Changes, Renewal Credit Providers and Renewal Credit Options, Ethics Spotlight, and Recent Cases.

### Frequently Asked Questions

# FAQ

This [FAQ](#) document will help all educators navigate through our most frequently asked questions, including renewal credits, coaching, and more. BoEE contacts are listed by specialization area at the end of the document.

Administrators should also bookmark this document: [Helpful Hints for School Administrators and HR Directors.](#)

### Iowa Renewal Credit Providers

Iowa's approved renewal credit providers and colleges have worked tirelessly to provide quality, meaningful, and relevant courses for educators with a variety of delivery options, including face-to-face, online, and self-paced.



[Iowa AEA](#)s offer numerous renewal courses annually in a broad variety of subject areas. Check with any AEA to view catalog courses which may be face-to-face or online. There is also a statewide [AEA Learning Online](#) resource for additional courses. AEA's can also assist districts to create their own site-based courses.



[ISEA](#) offers a wide variety of courses for both members and non-members. \*New\* - micro-credential options: <https://nea.certificationbank.com/iowa>



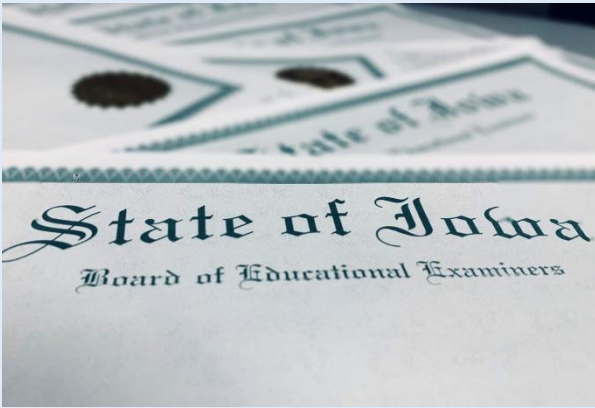
[PEI](#) offers renewal courses for both members and non-members, with a wide range of topics including literacy and educator ethics.



The [Iowa Safe Schools Academy](#) offers a large catalog of relevant courses that center around student safety, mental health, marginalized communities, and school climate and culture.



[MISIC](#) offers renewal credits focused on curriculum and instruction, and also uses micro-credentials.



Other [renewal credit options](#) include the following:

For educators currently serving in an Iowa school district, **one** renewal credit per renewal cycle may be earned through verification of the successful completion of an **individualized professional development plan** as verified by the supervising licensed evaluator.

If you served as a **cooperating teacher**, you will need to get an official certificate from the college showing how many credits were earned (maximum of 2).

Educators who participate in a **micro-externship** will be able to earn one renewal credit per experience (40 hour placement).

## Rule Changes

**Reciprocity:** 2020 Iowa Acts, House File 2627, directed the Board to update language for granting licensure to first-time out-of-state applicants under certain conditions.

1. The applicant has held a license in another state for at least one year.
2. The applicant has fully established Iowa residency.
3. The applicant has passed any required assessments in their other state.
4. The applicant does not have any past or pending disciplinary action.

Holders of an Iowa regional exchange license issued prior to January 1, 2021, may submit a new application if these new requirements would have been met at the time of their initial application.

**Career and Technical:** 2020 Iowa Acts, House File 2454, updated the qualifications for community college career and technical instructors. The same criteria will be used for anyone seeking an initial career and technical authorization. Applicants shall meet one of the following qualifications:

1. 6,000 hours of recent and relevant experience;
2. 4,000 hours of recent and relevant experience if the applicant holds a baccalaureate degree;
3. 3,000 hours of recent and relevant experience if the applicant holds an associate's degree in the teaching endorsement area sought, if such a degree is considered terminal for that field of instruction;
4. Hold a baccalaureate or graduate degree or closely related degree in the teaching endorsement area sought; or
5. Hold a baccalaureate degree in any area of study if at least 18 of the credit hours were completed in the teaching endorsement area sought.

**Ethics Code:** 2020 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2360, directed the board to add the following language to the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics:

- Failure of an administrator to protect the safety of staff and students.
- Failure of an administrator to meet mandatory reporter obligations.
- Refusal of the practitioner to implement provisions of an individualized education program or behavioral intervention plan.
- Habitual nonparticipation in professional development by the practitioner.

**5-12 Social Sciences - Basic:** a new endorsement area has been added - 5-12 Social Sciences - Basic.

Content Requirements: Completion of 27 semester hours to include 9 semester hours in each of American history, world history, and American government. Holders of the 5-12 social sciences—basic endorsement may add the following endorsements with 6 semester hours per endorsement area: 5-12 economics, 5-12 geography, 5-12 psychology, or 5-12 sociology.

Holders of this endorsement may teach any middle school social studies course, any high school American history, world history, or American government course, and any courses related to additional added endorsements.

**Administrator Endorsements:** requirements for administrator endorsements have been updated to match national standards.

## Ethics Spotlight: Educator Privacy in an Online World

As educators, our homes have historically been a private space away from student access, however the switch to online instruction has modified normal boundaries.

The following excerpts are from a December 2020 blog post by Frederick Lane, who is an attorney and author specializing in cyber safety.

*The Model Code of Ethics for Educators acknowledges the profession's expectations and makes clear that educators need to "establish and maintain appropriate ... boundaries" (Principle III).*

*Teachers have both a personal interest and an ethical obligation to minimize the scope of the virtual invasion. The two most important steps are to create an appropriate professional background for virtual teaching sessions and dress accordingly. Flip your camera to view your space as others see it, or better yet, do a Zoom call with a friend you can trust to critique what people see behind you.*

*If possible, remind the other occupants of your house that you are teaching and that their behavior reflects on you. Try to keep distractions and extraneous noises to a minimum. Perhaps most importantly, always assume that your camera is on and act accordingly.*

Frederick S. Lane is an author, educational consultant, and attorney based in New York. He is the author of ten books, including most recently *Cybertraps for Expecting Moms & Dads*, *Raising Cyberethical Kids*, and *Cybertraps for Educators 2.0*. All of his books are available through Amazon.com or his web sites, [FrederickLane.com](http://FrederickLane.com) and [Cybertraps.com](http://Cybertraps.com)

## Recent Cases

Click here to review the [Iowa Code of Professional Conduct](#) to eliminate uncertainty and to prevent future complaints.

In case number [19-182](#), the respondent received a reprimand after a complaint from the district alleged abandonment of a contract without prior unconditional release.

The complaint in case number [20-32](#) alleged the respondent kicked a student and used improper seclusion and restraint techniques. The settlement agreement imposes a reprimand and a minimum two-year license suspension. The respondent must complete seclusion and restraint training before seeking reinstatement.

In case number [20-05](#), the respondent used his access to district technology systems to investigate potential personnel action against the respondent. This conduct was unauthorized and occurred during school hours. The settlement agreement imposes a reprimand and requires the respondent to complete an ethics course.

The respondent in case number [20-13](#) arrived at school and began teaching while under the influence of alcohol. The final order imposes a reprimand and a minimum one-year license suspension. Prior to seeking reinstatement, the respondent must complete an ethics course and a substance abuse evaluation.

In case numbers 19-144 and [19-150](#), the respondent allegedly hit a student with a yardstick on two occasions. The respondent was charged with assault, pleaded guilty, and received a deferred judgment. The final board order imposes a reprimand and a minimum one-year license suspension. The respondent must complete an ethics course prior to seeking reinstatement.

The complaint in case number [20-67](#) alleged the respondent used a district credit card for a personal expense on one occasion. The settlement agreement imposes a reprimand and requires the respondent to pay restitution for the charge.

The respondent in case number [20-81](#) was charged with misuse of sick leave. The settlement agreement imposes a reprimand and requires the respondent to complete an ethics course.

In case number [20-73](#), the complaint alleged the respondent held an unauthorized event with student athletes on school grounds during the COVID-19-related school closures in the spring of 2020. The settlement agreement imposes a reprimand and requires the respondent to complete an ethics course.