# Educational Leadership and Certificate Upgrades Outreach Spring 2021

# **Using Teams**

- Please mute your microphone to avoid audio issues.
- To access the chat feature, click on the "conversation bubble," which will be shaded gray if it is <u>off</u> and purple if it is <u>on</u>.
- After the presentation, if you wish to speak, please indicate that in the chat box.
- We will address as many questions as time allows at the end of the webinar.
- The session will be recorded and uploaded to the Certification Training Library on gapsc.org.

# Agenda

### **Educational Leadership**

- Difference between Tier I and Tier II
- Non-Renewable vs Professional Certification
- Reciprocity

### **Certificate Upgrades**

- College Accreditation and Program Requirements
- Who is Eligible to Upgrade Their Certificate
- Legacy Guidelines
- Certificate Upgrade Advisor
- Upgrade Denials

# **Educational Leadership**

### What is the difference between Tier I and Tier II? Tier I

- District leaders who do not supervise other leaders (Ex: Assistant Principal).
- Requires completion of a GaPSC approved program at the master's level or certification-only if the individual holds a master's degree or higher.
- Self-select into the program the individual does not need to be in a leadership role/position to complete a Tier I program.

# **Educational Leadership**

#### Tier II

- Individuals who work in leadership positions and supervises other leaders (Ex; Principal).
- Tier I certification is required for entrance into a Tier II program.
- Requires completion of a state approved performance-based program at the specialist level or higher.
- An individual cannot self-select into a Tier II program.
- Must be employed in a leadership role/position.
- The program includes 750 clinical hours.
- The Performance-Based Assessment for School Leaders (PASL) is required for all program completers after 7/1/2017.

### **Tier I and Tier II** Professional Certification Requirements

- Satisfy the exceptional child course (HB 671).
- Pass the Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership (380).
- Passing score on the Gace Educational Leadership content area assessment.
- Professional certificate is valid for 5 years.
- Leader Levels are assigned for advanced degree programs leading to initial certification in the field.

**Note:** The Program Admission Assessment (PAA) or proof of exemption is required for enrollment into the program if the individual does <u>not</u> hold professional certification in any other field.

As of **7/1/2021**, a composite score of **750** on the Gace Program Admission assessment (PAA) will be accepted to satisfy the PAA requirement. Only tests taken through our current administrator **ETS** will be accepted to meet the composite score.

# Leader Level

- In accordance with Georgia House Bills 455 and 923, an educator who completes a higher degree leading to initial Educational Leadership certification must be in a leadership position in order to be paid at the level of that degree.
- In this case, certificates are issued with two levels. One designates a general level and one designates a leadership level to facilitate placement on the state certified salary scale.
- If an individual is employed in a leadership position, the individual will be paid based on their leadership level; if not, the individual will be paid based on their general level.

# Tier I

# Non-Renewable (NL) Requirements

- Minimum of a bachelor's degree.
- Passing score on the Program Admission Assessment (PAA), or proof of exemption is required for enrollment into the program <u>if the individual does not</u> <u>hold professional certification in any other field.</u>
- Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership assessment (380).
- Must be employed with a Local Unit of Administration (LUA).
- Certificate is issued for 3 years.

#### Conversion of the NL certificate to a SRL:

- Completion of a state approved program at the master's level or a certification only program if the educator has a master's degree.
- Passing score on the Gace Educational Leadership content area assessment.

**Note:** Tier I certification is required before entering into a Tier II program.

# **Tier II**

# Non-Renewable (NPL) Requirements

- Minimum of a master's level degree.
- Employment in a role/position requiring Tier II certification.
- Certificate is issued for 3 years.

**Note**: A Non-renewable certificate will be issued for Tier I and Tier II if the individual does <u>not</u> hold Tier I certification at the time of the request.

#### Conversion of the NPL certificate to a PRL:

- Completion of a Performance-based Tier II program at the specialist level or higher.
- Passing score on the PASL for program completers after 7/1/2017.

**Note:** The Gace Georgia Ethics for Educational Leaders (380) and the Educational Leadership content area assessment were satisfied with the Tier I certification.

### Alternative Pathway to Educational Leadership Certification

- The program is performance-based and certification-only.
- Job embedded
- Individuals cannot self-select into the program.
- Master's degree for employed educators and a recommendation from the employing LUA are required for participation in the program.

**Note:** A bachelor's degree is acceptable for non-educator candidates with 5 years of leadership experience in business, preferably executive management.

## Alternative Pathway to Educational Leadership Certification

#### Issuance:

- Meet the degree requirement
- Pass the Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership (380) assessment
- Passing score on the Program Admission Assessment (PAA) or proof of exemption is required for enrollment into the program <u>if the</u> individual does not hold professional certification in any other field.
- Employment in a leadership position
- Requested by the employing LUA

#### **Conversion**:

- Program completion
- Gace Education Leadership content area assessment
- Satisfy the exceptional child course requirement

### Alternative Pathway to Educational Leadership Certification Available through RESA

Tier I

- Metro RESA
- Middle Georgia RESA
- Southwest Georgia RESA

#### Tier 2

- Metro RESA
- Middle GA RESA

# **GaPSC Tier I Approved Programs**

| INSTITUTIONS WITH<br>AN APPROVED<br>PROGRAM IN<br>EDUCATIONAL<br>LEADERSHIP - TIER I | GATAPP | Certification-only<br>(post-<br>baccalaureate/<br>non-degree) | Baccalaureate | Master's(M.A.T.<br>or Equivalent) | Specialist | Doctorate |
|--|--------|---|---------------|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Albany State University  | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| Augusta University   | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| Berry College  | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| Clark Atlanta University   | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| Columbus State University  | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| Covenant College   | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| Georgia College and State<br>University  | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| Georgia Southern University  | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| Georgia State University   | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| Kennesaw State University  | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| LaGrange College   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | No        |
| Mercer University  | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| Metro RESA   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | No        |
| Middle Georgia RESA  | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | No        |
| Northwest Georgia RESA   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | No        |
| Piedmont College   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | No        |
| Pioneer RESA   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | No        |
| Southwest Georgia RESA   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | No        |
| University of Georgia  | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| University of North Georgia  | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |
| University of West Georgia   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | No        |
| Valdosta State University  | No     | Yes   | No            | Yes                               | No         | No        |

### **GaPSC Tier II Approved Programs**

| INSTITUTIONS WITH<br>AN APPROVED<br>PROGRAM IN<br>EDUCATIONAL<br>LEADERSHIP - TIER II<br>Click on an Institution below for<br>more information | GATAPP | Certification-only<br>(post-<br>baccalaureate/<br>non-degree) | Baccalaureate | Master's(M.A.T.<br>or Equivalent) | Specialist | Doctorate |  |
|--|--------|---|---------------|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------|--|
| Albany State University  | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | Yes        | No        |  |
| Augusta University   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | Yes        | No        |  |
| Berry College  | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | Yes        | No        |  |
| Clark Atlanta University   | No     | No  | No            | No                                | No         | Yes       |  |
| Columbus State University  | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | Yes        | No        |  |
| Georgia College and State<br>University  | No     | No  | No            | No                                | Yes        | No        |  |
| Georgia State University   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | Yes        | Yes       |  |
| Kennesaw State University  | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | Yes        | No        |  |
| LaGrange College   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | No        |  |
| Mercer University  | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | Yes        | No        |  |
| Metro RESA   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | No        |  |
| Middle Georgia RESA  | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | No        |  |
| Northwest Georgia RESA   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | No        |  |
| Piedmont College   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | No         | Yes       |  |
| University of Georgia  | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | Yes        | Yes       |  |
| University of North Georgia  | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | Yes        | No        |  |
| University of West Georgia   | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | Yes        | No        |  |
| Valdosta State University  | No     | Yes   | No            | No                                | Yes        | Yes       |  |

# Reciprocity

#### Tier I – Master's

- Professional certification out-of-state (OOS)/out of the country (OOC) at the master's level.
- Less than 3 years of successful experience.
- Gace Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership (380)
- Issued as a SRL Tier I.

#### Tier II

- 3 years or more of successful experience.
- Gace Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership (380). Please note 5 years of successful experience will exempt the ethics assessment requirement.

#### Tier II – Specialist or Doctorate

- Professional certification OOS/OOC at specialist level or higher.
- Submit successful leadership experience.
- Gace Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership (380).
   Please note 5 years of successful experience will exempt the ethics assessment requirement.
- Issued as a SRL Tier II.

**Note:** If the individual has not met the exceptional child course at the time of application, the course must be satisfied by renewal.

If a content area assessment was not passed for certification in the field and the experience (5 years) will not exempt the assessment requirement, a 1 year Non-renewable certificate can be issued at the request of a LUA to allow time to pass the content area assessment.

I received a Master of Education degree in Business Administration in 2005 from Tennessee State University. I currently hold a Level 5 certification in Elementary Education in Georgia. What do I need to do to obtain my Educational Leadership certification?

#### **Response:**

The educator must complete a Tier I program, pass the Gace Educational Leadership content area assessment, the Gace Ethics for Educational Leadership assessment (380) and receive a recommendation from the program provider to add the field.

Since the educator holds a master's degree, a certification only program is an option.

For issuance of a Non-renewable certificate, the educator must pass the Gace Ethics Leadership assessment (380) and the certificate must be requested by the employing LUA.

How does an out-of-state educator who completed a master's level Educational Leadership program qualify for Tier II?

Out-of-state educators professionally certified in Educational Leadership through a master's-level program must have completed 3 years of successful leadership experience to qualify for Educational Leadership – Tier II certification.

I have an Educational Leadership Ed. S. degree, valid leadership certification, and more than 3 years of successful leadership experience out-of-state. I have been a certified GA professional educator since 2006, then moved out of state, then returned in 2020.

Would the leadership program/certification/experience I possess not qualify for reciprocity? If not, what must I do to gain Tier 1 or Tier 2 certification?

#### **Additional Information**

The educator worked in Georgia through the 2010 school year and completed an Ed. S. degree in Educational Leadership at Regent University in August 2017.

#### **Response:**

Since the educator was employed in Georgia (2007-2010 and 2021), the educator must complete a GaPSC approved Tier I program and then a Tier II program to add Educational Leadership to the certificate. A certification only program is an option since the educators current certificate level is a 6.

# **Certificate Upgrades**

# **Certificate Upgrades**

#### **Requirements:**

- The option is available to an educator who holds Professional certification at the bachelor's level or higher (4) and completes an advanced degree through a college or university accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) or at institutions with the Carnegie Classification of High/Very High Research.
- In addition to the college meeting the accreditation requirements, the advanced degree program must meet <u>one</u> of the following requirements:
  - Option 1: The degree must be completed in a field that is <u>in-field</u> with the certification held.
  - Option 2: The program must lead to certification in a <u>new field</u>.
    - Educators must complete a state approved program, pass the Gace content area assessment in the field and receive a recommendation from the college to add the field and receive the upgrade.

# Who is Eligible to Upgrade Their Certificate?

#### Qualify:

- Professional/Induction (1, 2, 3, 5-Year) certificate holders at a level 4 or higher.
- Teaching, Service, Leadership, and CTAE certificates.

#### Do Not Qualify:

- Induction Pathway 4/Provisional
- International Exchange
- Paraprofessional
- Permit
- Instructional Aide
- Support Personnel
- Adjunct
- Clearance

# Legacy Requirements

Institution must be regionally accredited (any major is acceptable)

- Enrolled and actively taking classes on or prior to 7/15/11
- Enrolled is defined as admitted to a program and actively completing coursework.

Completion of degree by:

- Master's or Specialist degree completed by December 15, 2014.
- Doctoral degree completed by December 15, 2016.

#### Legacy Provision

If the above requirements are met, the educator is eligible for a certificate level upgrade.

# **Extended Legacy Requirements**

Three transition fields:

- Curriculum and Instruction
- Instructional Technology
- Teacher Leadership

Extended grandfathering dates:

- Enrolled and actively taking classes by 1/15/13
- Completion of Masters or Specialist degree by 9/1/15
- Completion of Doctoral degree by 9/1/17

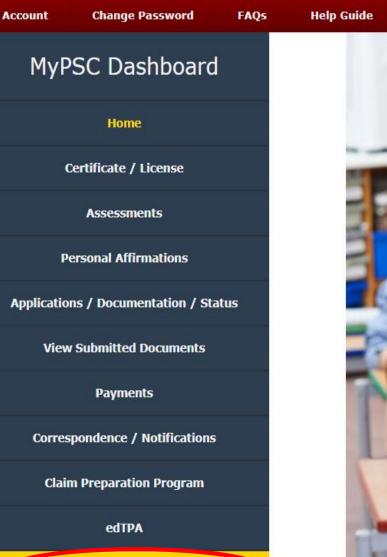
#### Legacy Provision:

If the above requirements are met, the educator is eligible for a certificate upgrade.

# **Certificate Upgrade Advisor**

- A tool designed to help educators select programs that are in-field with their certification or lead to certification in a new field.
- Accessible through the Dashboard in MyPSC or through the Quick View lookup on gapsc.com.
- The Upgrade Advisor lists approved programs that are offered in Georgia and out-of-state for programs that are <u>In-Field</u> with certification fields.
- GaPSC approved providers are the only providers listed in the Upgrade Advisor for programs leading to certification in New Fields. Since Georgia does not approve out-of-state programs for certification, only GA colleges are listed as <u>New field</u> options.





Certificate Upgrade Advisor



Logout

**GaPSC Home** 

#### **Certificate Upgrade Advisor**

Upgrade Advisor Home >> My Upgrade Advisor

Select a certificate upgrade option: 

In-field upgrade
New field upgrade

#### About In-field upgrade Show | Hide

#### Your Current Certificate(s): You are eligible to upgrade your certificate to a higher degree level

| Certificate Field                            | Level | Expiration date                 | Upgrade Degree Options | Your Saved Degrees |
|--|-------|---------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| ENGLISH (6-12) [FLD730]                      | 5     | 06/30/2022                      | Show Degrees           | History            |
| MATHEMATICS (6-12) [FLD743]                  | 5     | 06/30/2022                      | Show Degrees           | History            |
| EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP - TIER II [FLD710]    | 5     | 06/30/2022                      | Show Degrees           | History            |
| <b>VEC</b> Degree will lead to a cortificate |       | aree will not load to a cortifi |                        |                    |

 YES - Degree will lead to a certificate
 NO - Degree will not lead to a certificate
 Image
 - Select the notepad for important degree

 upgrade
 upgrade
 information

#### Available Institution/Degree infield upgrade for ENGLISH (6-12) [FLD730]

| State | Institution                           | Degree  | Cert Upgrade Approval |
|-------|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| AR    | Arkansas State University-Main Campus | -Educational Specialist in Curriculum Director  | NO                    |
| он    | Ashland University                    | Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing   | YES                   |
| AL    | Auburn University Main Campus         | Ed.S. English Language Arts Education   | YES                   |
| GA    | Augusta University                    | Doctor of Education in Educational Innovation with a concentration in English                       | YES                   |
| GA    | Augusta University                    | Specialist in Education with a Major in Advanced Educational Studies and a concentration in English | YES                   |
| MN    | Capella University                    | -Eoctor of Education Curriculum and Instruction   | NO                    |
| MN    | Capella University                    | -Eoctor of Education in Reading and Literacy  | NO                    |
| MN    | Capella University                    | -Eoctor of Philosophy in Education in Curriculum and Instruction                                    | NO                    |
| GA    | Clark Atlanta University              | Poctor of Philosophy in Humanities with a concentration English                                     | YES                   |
| GA    | Columbus State University             | Specialist in Education with a Major in Secondary Education   | YES                   |
| 1234  | 4 5 6                                 | $\vee$  |                       |

Add to List

#### List of selected degrees for ENGLISH (6-12) [FLD730]

| • | State | Institution               | Degree  |                  |
|---|-------|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| ) | GA    | Columbus State University | Specialist in Education with a Major in Secondary Education                   | Remove from list |
|   | GA    | Clark Atlanta University  | Doctor of Philosophy in Humanities with a concentration English               | Remove from list |
|   | GA    | Augusta University        | Doctor of Education in Educational Innovation with a concentration in English | Remove from list |
|   |       |                           | Save List Print List  |                  |

#### **Certificate Upgrade Advisor**

|                                      |                    | Upgrade Advisor Home >> My Upgrade Advisor |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Select a certificate upgrade option: | 💿 In-field upgrade | ○New field upgrade                         |

#### About In-field upgrade Show | Hide

Your Current Certificate(s): You are eligible to upgrade your certificate to a higher degree level

| Certificate Field                         | Level | Expiration date | Upgrade Degree Options | Your Saved Degrees |
|---|-------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| ENGLISH (6-12) [FLD730]                   | 5     | 06/30/2022      | Show Degrees           | History            |
| MATHEMATICS (6-12) [FLD743]               | 5     | 06/30/2022      | Show Degrees           | History            |
| EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP - TIER II [FLD710] | 5     | 06/30/2022      | Show Degrees           | History            |

The list was successfully saved to your advisor history and to your certification file.

Please note: GAPSC will honor all upgrade advisor approvals up to one year. If you are unable to enroll in the program within 1 year, you must login to Upgrade Advisor and check and save the updated approval.

#### History list for ENGLISH (6-12) [FLD730]

| Inquiry Date          | State | Institution               | Degree  | Allowed |
|-----------------------|-------|---------------------------|---|---------|
| 2/12/2020 9:36:53 AM  | GA    | University of Georgia     | Doctor of Philosophy with a Major in Comparative Literature                   | YES     |
| 3/13/2018 7:38:52 AM  | GA    | Columbus State University | Specialist in Education with a Major in Secondary Education                   | YES     |
| 2/28/2021 2:01:56 PM  | GA    | Columbus State University | Specialist in Education with a Major in Secondary Education                   | YES     |
| 11/6/2018 12:25:38 PM | GA    | Georgia State University  | Doctor of Philosophy with a Major in English                                  | YES     |
| 10/23/2018 2:23:40 PM | GA    | Clark Atlanta University  | Doctor of Philosophy in Humanities with a concentration English               | YES     |
| 2/28/2021 2:01:56 PM  | GA    | Clark Atlanta University  | Doctor of Philosophy in Humanities with a concentration English               | YES     |
| 2/28/2021 2:01:56 PM  | GA    | Augusta University        | Doctor of Education in Educational Innovation with a concentration in English | YES     |

Information received through the Advisor is considered an official response and once saved, it verifies that the degree is acceptable.



#### ATTENTION: DO NOT ENROLL IN A DEGREE PROGRAM FOR AN UPGRADE UNTIL YOU READ THE INFORMATION BELOW!

#### Do you currently hold a certificate that can be upgraded?

The following types of certificates can be upgraded:

- Renewable, professional certificates: Includes Standard Professional, Performance-Based Professional, Advanced Professional, and Lead Professional;
- 5-year Induction certificates.

The following types of certificates may not be upgraded:

• Permits, Provisional certificates, International Exchange Certificates, and Paraprofessional Licenses.

#### If you hold any other type of certificate or license, you do not qualify for a certificate upgrade and the Advisor will not be able to assist you.

Some degrees will not lead to a certificate upgrade! You may upgrade your certificate level by completing a degree program that matches one of your existing fields of certification, or by completing a degree program that prepares you for certification in a new field. If you choose to complete a new field upgrade please visit our Approved Programs page to search a list of GaPSC-approved programs and providers. The college/university at which you complete your advanced degree must also meet certain institutional accreditation requirements. To read more about certificate upgrade requirements, please visit this webpage or read the Certificate Upgrade Rule. **Login now!** Use your MyPSC login credentials to access your advanced degree options which could lead to a certificate upgrade. The advisor will determine your eligibility for an upgrade and help you find acceptable in-field and new field degrees. You will be able to identify degree(s) of interest and save your results to your certification file as a record of GaPSC's verification of eligibility. GAPSC will honor all upgrade advisor approvals up to one year. If you are unable to enroll in the program within 1 year, simply login to the Upgrade Advisor and check and save the updated approval.

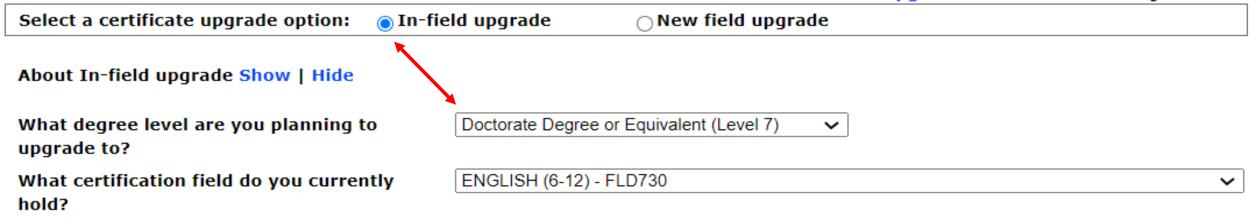


Just browsing? Select the Quick View option for general certificate upgrade information. Since this option cannot access your current certification record, Quick View cannot determine your eligibility for an upgrade or give specific advice tailored to your certification. You will not be able to save Quick View search results.



#### **Certificate Upgrade Advisor**

Upgrade Advisor Home >> Quick View



# **Approved Programs (In-Field**)

| State         | Institution                  | Degree  | Allowed |
|---------------|------------------------------|---|---------|
| GA            | Augusta University           | Doctor of Education in Educational Innovation with a concentration in English   | YES     |
| MN            | Capella University           | Doctor of Education Curriculum and Instruction  | NO      |
| MN            | Capella University           | Doctor of Education in Reading and Literacy   | NO      |
| MN            | Capella University           | Doctor of Philosophy in Education in Curriculum and Instruction   | NO      |
| GA            | Clark Atlanta University     | Doctor of Philosophy in Humanities with a concentration English   | YES     |
| GA            | Georgia Southern University  | Doctor of Education with a Major in Curriculum Studies  | YES 🗐   |
| GA            | Georgia State University     | Doctor of Philosophy in English: Concentration in Creative Writing  | YES     |
| GA            | Georgia State University     | Doctor of Philosophy with a Major in English  | YES     |
| GA            | Georgia State University     | Doctor of Philosophy with a Major in Teaching and Learning with a Language and<br>Literacy Concentration                                  | YES     |
| GA            | Kennesaw State University    | Doctor of Education in Secondary Education with a concentration in English  | YES     |
| GA            | Kennesaw State University    | Doctor of Education with a Major in Teacher Leadership for Learning   | NO      |
| ₩A            | Liberty University           | Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction (including all specializations)   | NO 🗐    |
| <del>AZ</del> | Northcentral University      | Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Teaching  | NO      |
| ft            | Nova Southeastern University | Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Teaching  | NO      |
| VA            | Old Dominion University      | Doctor of Philosophy in English (online) with a focus in Literacy and Cultural<br>Studies and/or Writing, Rhetoric, and Discourse Studies | YES     |
|               |                              |   |         |

# Certificate Upgrade Rule 505-2-.33

### Why is it important to understand the rule?

- Complete programs that meet the requirements as outlined in the rule and are approved by the GaPSC.
  - Accreditation (CAEP or Carnegie Classification H/VH)
  - In-Field or New Field
  - Earning an advanced degree may lead to a promotion or a new opportunity within the school system or organization.

### Difference between an approval or a denial.

# Upgrade Denials 2020 and 2021



Total of 50 (36-Upgrades, 5-Leadership and 9-Other) Total of 10 (6-Upgrades, 2-Leadership and 2-Other)

# **Reasons for a Denial**

- College did not meet the accreditation requirements.
- The degree was not <u>in-field</u> with the certification held or the program did not lead to certification in a <u>new field</u>.
- The individual did not complete the program within the dates of the legacy period.

#### **Resources**

- Certificate Upgrade Advisor (MyPSC or the GaPSC.com website).
- <u>CertUpgrade@gapsc.com</u> email address where an individual can submit the Upgrade Degree Approval form for review. GaPSC will review the program and let the individual know if the program is acceptable.
- Contact our office by phone on Monday, Wednesday or Friday and speak with an Upgrade Specialist. Our contact number is 404-232-2500 or 800-869-7775.

1 am looking at Doctoral programs & would like to find out if the Georgia PSC recognizes doctorate degrees from Lincoln Memorial University (Tennessee)? I completed my Specialist through Lincoln Memorial years ago, but am not sure if the GAPSC still recognizes LMU. Thank you.

Certification:

The educator holds certification in Elementary Education, Educational Leadership Tier II and Health and Physical Education at a level 6.

Does Lincoln Memorial meet the requirements for an upgrade and if so, in what field?

#### **Certificate Upgrade Advisor**

You can access the advisor through the **Search** box on the top right-hand side of the gapsc.com home page or through the quick link "**How to Upgrade Your Certificate**" located in the center of the home page. If accessed through the link, scroll to the bottom of the page and you will see the <u>Certificate Upgrade Advisor</u> link.

#### **Response:**

Lincoln Memorial holds CAEP accreditation and they have doctorate degrees that are in-field with Educational Leadership. The educator can select one of the approved programs listed below to upgrade to a level 7.

| ŦN | Lincoln Memorial University | Doctor of Education (Ed.D) in Executive Leadership                 | NO  |
|----|-----------------------------|--|-----|
| TN | Lincoln Memorial University | Doctor of Education in Instructional Leadership                    | YES |
| TN | Lincoln Memorial University | Doctor of Education in Leadership and Administration               | YES |
| TN | Lipscomb University         | Doctor of Education in Learning Organizations and Strategic Change | YES |

I currently hold professional certification in Mathematics 6-12 and Middle Grades Math 4-8 and I want to complete a Master of Science program in Curriculum and Instruction at Western Governors. Will this program allow me to upgrade my certificate?

#### **Response:**

Although Western Governors meets the accreditation requirement, the master's program does not lead to certification in curriculum and instruction.

To add the field, the educator must complete a state approved program through a GaPSC approved provider, pass the Gace Curriculum and Instruction assessment and receive a recommendation from the college to add the field and receive the upgrade.

I hold certification in Science 6-12 at a level 5 and I would like to complete the Ed. D. in Educational Practice and Innovation with a concentration in STEM at the University of South Carolina - Columbia, SC. I did not see the program in the advisor and I wanted to check to see if it would qualify for an upgrade.

#### **Response:**

Although the college meets the accreditation requirements, the Ed. D. is not in-field with your certificate and it will not qualify for a certificate upgrade. However, the degree is in-field with the STEM endorsement and if you complete a state approved STEM endorsement program and add the field to your certificate, the Ed. D. degree will be in-field and it will qualify for the certificate upgrade.



# Contact Information We're Here to Help!

#### **Certification:**

Questions about rules, cases, websites (.org/.com), access to .org, etc.

Email: certhelp@gapsc.com

OR

HR Line:

404-334-6462 – (inside the metro area) 800-390-6698 – (outside the metro area)

### Training:

Training requests for New HR/Certification Personnel or Outreach:

Email: <u>cert\_training@gapsc.com</u>