

# LICN-008: Licensure Fees

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# **PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA**

State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction

# Statutory Authority

# General Statute 115C-270.10

- (a) Fee Schedule – The State Board of Education shall establish by rule a schedule of fees for professional educator licensure and administrative changes. The fee established under this section shall not exceed the actual cost of providing the service. The schedule may include fees for any of the following services:
  - 1) Application for demographic or administrative changes to a license
  - 2) Application for a duplicate license or for copies of documents in the licensure files
  - 3) Application for a renewal, extension, addition, upgrade, reinstatement, and variation to a license.
  - 4) Initial application for a new graduate from any recognized educator preparation program.
  - 5) Initial application for an out-of-state applicant.
  - 6) All other applications.

# Proposed Changes

# Initial Licenses

Application Type	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
In-State IPL*	\$70	\$85
Out-of-State IPL	\$100	\$115
Initial Residency License	\$100	\$115

\*Pursuant to GS 270.10(a1), SBE reimburses the application fee if the applicant successfully earns an initial professional license.

# Renewals and Other Services

Application Type	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Renewal	\$35 every 5 years	\$75 every 5 years
All other applications	\$60	\$70

# Rationale for Fee Changes



# Context

- Based on historical data, the Licensure Office processes approximately 50,000 applications per year.
- Emails to “Ask Licensure” in past year – 23,747
- Phone Calls in past year – 20,000 - 25,000
- The Licensure Office employs 10 FTEs as Specialists, 2 FTEs as Processing Assistants, 4 FTEs as Regional Assistance Licensure Consultants, and 3 FTEs as Managers/Specialists.

# NC Occupational Licensing Board Fees

Licensing Board	Renewal Fee	Five Year Equivalent
NC Board of Barber Examiners	50	250
NC Board of Architecture	50	250
NC Board of Funeral Service	75	375
NC Board of Landscape Architects	100	500
NC Board of Nursing	100	250*
NC Board of Physical Therapy	100	500
NC Board of Psychology	250	625*
NC Board of Social Work Certification and Licensure Board (LCSW)	150	375*
NC Board of Licensed Clinical Mental Health	200	500*
NC Board of Speech and Language Pathologists and Audiologists	100	500
NC Marriage and Family Therapy Licensure Board	200	1000
NC Board of Occupational Therapy	50	250
NC Board of Dietetics/Nutrition	75	375
NC Board of Athletic Trainer Examiners	75	375
NC Interpreter & Transliterator Licensing Board	150	750
NC Real Estate Commission (Brokerage License)	45	225
NC State Board of Education Educator License	35	35

\* Renewal period is every 2 years; all others are annual renewals.

# Licensure Fees Relative to Teacher Salary

Years of Teaching Experience	5-year Cumulative Salary (2017)	Renewal Fee (2017)	Percentage of Salary (2017)	5-year Cumulative Salary (2023)	Renewal Fee (2023)	Percentage of Salary (2023)
8 years	\$189,500	\$35	0.02%	\$236,500	\$75	0.03%
13 years	\$205,000	\$35	0.02%	\$264,000	\$75	0.03%
18 years	\$224,250	\$35	0.02%	\$284,900	\$75	0.03%
23 years	\$237,250	\$35	0.01%	\$286,000	\$75	0.03%
28 years	\$252,000	\$35	0.01%	\$294,800	\$75	0.03%

# Market Forces

- The role of NCDPI Licensure Specialist is not a closed market. PSUs across the State also employ licensure specialists. There is the potential for competition for qualified personnel.
- The role of licensure specialist is extremely complex, and the volume of work is great.

# Budget Considerations

- More direct support to client base is needed (staffing).
  - Clients prefer phone and email support to instructions on the web.
  - Client feedback clearly indicates that better support is needed **and** improve processing times for applications.
- Technology Enhancements.
  - NCDPI online licensure system is outdated and behind the current technology. Efficiency is not optimal, but the cost of obtaining a more efficient system is greater than budget allows.
  - Legacy processes (paper and microfiche) create the need for better document storage and access which come at increased costs.

# Questions

