



**Certification Renewal and Progression Based on Performance:  
 Initial Certificates Expiring in 2016**

Effective January 1, 2012, renewal decisions for all educators' certifications issued after January 1, 2012 are based on performance. An educator's performance is determined by the Final Effectiveness Ratings (FER) the educator receives from state approved, local evaluation systems during their certification cycle.

Renewal and progression requirements are criteria that an educator must meet prior to renewing their certification or progressing to a different certificate type. Information about how the regulations impact educator certification renewal and progression are found below. Educators who hold **initial** certificates that expire 8/31/2016 should identify the appropriate scenario from Table 1 prior to applying for certificate renewal or progression. Educators who hold *professional certificates* that expire 8/31/2016 will renew automatically by submitting an application and fee.

**Certification Renewal and Progression Basics**

- Any certification area that is not in use by the educator, and is not subject to dependency requirements, is automatically eligible for renewal. Any RI educator who receives an FER of Developing or higher within their certification cycle will progress to a professional.
- Any educator who receives a FER of Developing or ineffective and is eligible to renew, may be required to provide evidence of professional development as part of their renewal.
- Any educator who receives a FER of Ineffective within each year of their certification cycle is not eligible to renew certification and may pursue certification reinstatement by providing evidence of retraining and supervised practice.

**Single Certificate**

- An educator must receive at least one FER of Developing or higher during at least one year of their certification cycle to progress to a professional certificate.
- An educator who receives three (3) ineffective ratings is not eligible to renew the certification.
- An educator who receives no Final Effectiveness Ratings (FER) within their certificate cycle is eligible to renew, but cannot progress.

**Multiple Certificates**

- An educator with multiple certifications must receive a Final Effectiveness Rating (FER) of Developing or higher during at least one year of their certification term to progress to a professional certificate.
- An educator who does not receive at least one Final Effectiveness Rating (FER) of Developing or higher (e.g. receives only Ineffective ratings) is not eligible to renew the certification(s) in use.
- An educator who is not eligible to renew an independent certification is also not eligible to renew any certifications which are dependent upon the independent certification.
- An educator who receives no Final Effectiveness Ratings (FER) within their certification cycle will renew all certificates, but cannot progress.

**Table 1: Scenarios for Educators with Initial Certificates Expiring August 31, 2016**

Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4
I have no work experience during my certification cycle.	I have at least one Developing rating or higher during my certification cycle.	I have an Ineffective rating and two years without ratings during my certification cycle.	I have two Ineffective ratings during my certification cycle.
Performance required to progress has not been demonstrated.	Performance required to progress has been demonstrated.	Performance required to progress has not been demonstrated.	Wait for final rating to determine renewal status.
Apply and Renew certificate(s) as initial certificates.	Apply and Progress to professional certificate type. All other certificates will be aligned to expire at the same time.	Apply and Renew your certificate as initial certificates.	If the final rating is ineffective, certificate is not renewed. If the final rating is developing or higher, certificate progresses to a professional. If there is no rating, a one year extension is issued.