

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Waiver:

16 KAR 5:040. Request to Waive Cooperating Teacher Eligibility Requirements for Carson Tuscany

Action Question:

Should the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) approve the request from Western Kentucky University to waive a portion of the cooperating teacher eligibility requirements for Carson Tuscany?

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.042, 16 KAR 5:040

History/Background:

Existing Policy: 16 KAR 5:040, Section 1 (1)(b), requires a Cooperating Teacher to have at least three years of teaching experience as a certified educator.

Summary: Western Kentucky University has requested that one of their Learning and Behavior Disorders (LBD) student teachers be placed in Mr. Carson Tuscany's classroom in the fall of 2025. At that time, Mr. Tuscany will have completed two full years of teaching and will be entering his third year of teaching experience with a professional certificate for teaching exceptional children with an emphasis on LBD, grades primary through 12. Western Kentucky has also created a support plan that will guarantee additional guidance and oversight to be provided by two administrative personnel who are also certified LBD teachers. Based upon the limited number of available certified LBD teachers in the region, Western Kentucky University submits this waiver request for the EPSB's consideration.

Budget Impact: There is no budgetary impact.

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