

- (15) Regional accrediting agency--The recognized regional accrediting agencies are:
- (A) Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;
 - (B) Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools;
 - (C) North Central Association of Colleges and Schools;
 - (D) New England Association of Schools and Colleges;
 - (E) Western Association of Schools and Colleges;
 - (F) Northwest Accreditation Commission;
 - (G) Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities;
 - (H) Commission on International and Trans-regional Accreditation;
 - (I) International Baccalaureate Organization;
 - (J) European Council of International Schools/Council of International Schools; and
 - (K) National Council for Private School Accreditation.
- (16) Salary increments--Increases in salary granted for teaching or work experience.
- (17) School nurse--An educator employed to provide full-time nursing and health care services and who meets all the requirements to practice as a registered nurse (RN) pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act and the rules and regulations relating to professional nurse education, licensure, and practice, and who has been issued a license to practice professional nursing in Texas.
- (18) Service--A term of employment measured in school years in an entity in which the employment is recognized for salary increment purposes.
- (19) State school--A school that is funded by legislative action in the appropriations act. These schools include the Texas School for the Blind, the Texas School for the Deaf, and schools under the jurisdiction of the Texas Department of State Health Services (formerly the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation) and the Juvenile Justice Department (formerly known as the Texas Youth Commission).
- (20) Substitute teacher--A certified teacher who works on call, does not have a full-time assignment, and provides instruction.
- (21) Teacher service record--The official document used to record years of service and days used and accumulated under the state's former minimum sick leave program or the state's current personal leave program. A service record with a digital signature is only valid for the intended recipient as recorded on the service record. A digital version that includes information from previous employing districts is acceptable if the most recent school district is the designated recipient of the information from the previous districts. The digital service record will not be official if the recipient is the educator; however, upon request the district will provide a copy to the educator inhen rcaSubsd82[(S)erve.4(d)-4.21)

- (1) A current valid Texas certificate, a special assignment permit, a nonrenewable permit, a non-certified instructor's permit, an emergency teaching permit, or the appropriate licensure from the State of Texas.
 - (2) For special education related service teachers, the credential must be appropriate licensure from the State of Texas.
 - (3) For those special education related service personnel who do not require Texas certification or licensure, proper credentials as described in §89.1131 of this title (relating to Qualifications of Special Education, Related Service, and Paraprofessional Personnel) are required.
- (d) Teacher service record. The basic document in support of the number of years of professional service claimed for salary increment purposes and both the state's sick and personal leave program data for all personnel is the teacher service record (form FIN-115) or a similar form containing the same information. It is the responsibility of the issuing school district or charter school to ensure that service records are true and correct and that all service recorded on the service record was actually performed.
- (1) The service record must be validated by a person designated by the school district or charter school to sign service records.
 - (2) Supporting documents are required for service in out-of-

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- (1) Texas public elementary and secondary schools, including charter schools;
- (2) State regional education service centers;
- (3) State departments of education;
- (4) Texas Department of Corrections--Windham Schools;
- (5) Public elementary and secondary schools in all other states in the United States or within the boundaries of any of its territorial possessions;
- (6) Overseas schools operated by the U.S. Government;
- (7) Texas public or private colleges or universities;
- (8) Texas private elementary and secondary schools;
- (9) Texas non-public special education contract schools;
- (10) Texas Department of State Health Services (formerly the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation)--state hospitals and state schools;
- (11) Texas veterans' vocational schools;
- (12) Public or private colleges or universities and private elementary and secondary schools in all other states in the United States or within the boundaries of any of its territorial possessions;
- (13) Foreign public or private colleges or universities, or elementary and secondary schools;
- (14) U.S. Department of Interior--Bureau of Indian Affairs;
- (15) U.S. service academies;
- (16)

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Commissioer's Rules on

- (8) Texas private elementary and secondary schools.
 - (A) For experience prior to the 1986-1987 school year, accreditation by the Texas Education Agency or the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools is required.
 - (B) For experience in the 1986-1987, 1987-1988, and 1988-1989 school years, service shall be acceptable if the school was accredited by the Texas Education Agency, or a recognized regional accrediting agency.

be acceptable provided the person held, while employed, a valid teaching certificate from the state in which the school is located or a valid Texas teaching certificate.

- (C) It is the responsibility of the employing school district or charter school to have evidence on file of the accreditation status of private schools in other states.
 - (D) Hospital nursing experience shall be acceptable provided the person held a registered nurse position with a recognized accredited university-operated hospital listed in this subsection. All eligible prior-year service in this area can be claimed for placement beginning on the 2000-2001 minimum salary schedule.
- (13) Foreign public or private elementary and secondary schools, colleges, and universities.
- (A) Employment in colleges or universities must be verified in the same manner as for Texas colleges or universities.
 - (B) For foreign public schools, colleges, and universities, accreditation by a recognized agency of the foreign country or by a recognized accrediting agency in the United States is required.
 - (C) For foreign private schools, colleges, and universities, accreditation must be by a recognized regional accrediting agency listed in subsection (a)(15) of this section.
 - (D) The accreditation status must be verified in the same manner as for public or private schools in the United States.
- (14) United States Department of the Interior--Bureau of Indian Affairs. Service must have been full-time.
- (15) United States service academies.
- (A) Employment must have been at a faculty status level a0 Td [(r)-39(u)8(9(g)8.1(n)8(p)-4.12.9(ev)8(el)2.9(4

Commissioner's Rules on

- (5) Current placement on the salary schedule means a placement based on years of service recognized for salary increment purposes up to the current year.
 - (6) Salary schedule means a system of providing routine salary increases based upon an employee's total teaching experience and/or an employee's longevity in a school district.
- (b) Base monthly salary. The base monthly salary is the monthly salary that is at least equal to the monthly salary as determined by TEC, §21.402(c-1).