



650 W. State Street • Boise, ID • 83702
P.O. Box 83720 • Boise, ID • 83720-0037

July 1, 2025

Idaho Lifetime Certificate Procedures

Effective July 1, 2025, in accordance with the newly created Idaho Code 33-1204(4), certificated teachers and administrators who have “accumulated at least twenty-five (25) years of combined teaching and administration experience in an Idaho school district, a public charter school in Idaho, or an equivalent public school system in another jurisdiction” are eligible for a “lifetime” instructional or administrator certificate. This memorandum provides the procedures for application and issuance of such certificates.

- Lifetime certificates are available for the Standard Instructional Certificate, Pupil Service Staff Certificate, Administrator Certificate, Standard Occupational Specialist Certificate, and the Advanced Occupational Specialist Certificate.
- Idaho experience plus any out-of-state experience must equal a total of 25 years or more. Certified instructional, pupil service staff, or administrative experience may be applied toward the total required years.
- Idaho experience will be verified by assignment data reported to the state longitudinal education data system, Idaho System or Education Excellence (ISEE). Certified public school experience which occurred in another state(s) must be verified using a signed [Certificated Professional Experience Report](#) from each out-of-state public school employer.
- Active educators or administrators may apply for a lifetime certificate in the year that their current Idaho certificate expires. Renewal requirements or interim certificate conditions must be met.
- Educators or administrators with an expired Idaho certificate and 25 years or more of certified experience can apply for the lifetime certificate if their renewal credit requirement has been met within the last five (5) years.
 - If the renewal credit requirement have NOT been met, the individual can apply for reinstatement of their certificate. The individual may apply for the lifetime certificate once the conditions of the reinstatement have been completed. NOTE: Reinstatement conditions include completion of six (6) professional development credits and two (2) years of proficient evaluations.
- Educators or administrators with a valid out-of-state certificate and 25 years or more of out-of-state experience may apply for a lifetime certificate after meeting Idaho-specific conditions under a three (3)-year interim certificate.

- An educator with an interim certificate (out-of-state, alternative authorization, reinstatement) who has 25 years or more experience will not be eligible for the lifetime certificate until all interim certificate conditions have been completed.
- A lifetime certificate holder must continue to comply with and maintain all applicable professional certification requirements, specific endorsement requirements, and specialized training required by Idaho Code, the Idaho Department of Education, the Division of Career Technical Education, or any other special or specific requirements.
 - New endorsements may be added onto a lifetime certificate upon completion of all endorsement requirements as outlined in Idaho Code, IDAPA 08.02.02.21, Board Policy IV.D - Educator Preparation and Certification, and Board Policy VII.C. Career Technical Educator Certification.
- Educators who do not meet any of the circumstances listed above can contact Teacher Certification at (208) 332-6882 or certification@sde.idaho.gov for additional information.
- Educators holding a certificate issued by the Division of Career Technical Education with questions regarding the application process and requirements should contact the Division certification staff directly at certification@cte.idaho.gov or (208) 429-5513.
- Access to the Lifetime Certificate website:
<https://www.sde.idaho.gov/cert-psc/cert/apply/lifetime.html>