

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**ENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 20-0663.01 Jane Ritter x4342

**HOUSE BILL 20-1312**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Michaelson Jenet and Titone,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Todd and Hisey,**

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**House Committees**  
Education

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR**  
102 **EDUCATOR LICENSURE.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill creates a requirement that of the 90 hours of professional development training currently required for educator licensure renewal during the term of the educator's license, at least 10 of those hours must include some form of behavioral health training that is culturally responsive and trauma- and evidence-informed.

The bill requires teacher preparation programs to include in

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
June 8, 2020

program graduation requirements that each teacher candidate in an initial educator licensure program complete at least 10 hours of behavioral health training that is culturally responsive and trauma- and evidence-informed.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-60.5-110, **amend**  
3 **as amended by House Bill 20-1128** (3)(b) introductory portion, (3)(b)(I),  
4 (3)(b.5), and (3)(c)(XI); **amend as added by House Bill 20-1128**  
5 (3)(b.7)(I); and **add** (3)(f) as follows:

6 **22-60.5-110. Renewal of licenses.** (3) (b) A professional licensee  
7 shall complete such ongoing professional development within the period  
8 of time for which such professional license is valid. Such professional  
9 development may include but need not be limited to in-service education  
10 programs, including ~~programs concerning juvenile mental health issues~~  
11 ~~and the awareness and prevention of youth suicide~~; training in preventing,  
12 identifying, and responding to child sexual abuse and assault;  
13 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING THAT IS CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE AND  
14 TRAUMA- AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED; and laws and practices relating to the  
15 education of students with disabilities in the classroom, including but not  
16 limited to child find and inclusive learning environments; college or  
17 university credit from an accepted institution of higher education or a  
18 community, technical, or local district college; educational travel that  
19 meets the requirements specified in subsection (3)(d) of this section;  
20 involvement in school reform; service as a mentor teacher for teacher  
21 candidates participating in clinical practice, as defined in section  
22 23-78-103; internships; and ongoing professional development training  
23 and experiences. The state board of education, by rule, may establish

1 minimum criteria for professional development; except that such criteria  
2 shall not:

3 (I) Specify any particular type of professional development  
4 activity as a requirement or partial requirement for license renewal,  
5 except as provided in subsection (3)(b.7) OR (3)(f) of this section;

6 (b.5) In adopting minimum criteria for professional development  
7 activities, the state board, by rule, may require all or a portion of the  
8 professional development activities to be related to increasing the license  
9 holder's competence in his or her existing or potential endorsement area;  
10 increasing the professional licensee's skills and competence in delivery  
11 of instruction in his or her existing or potential endorsement area; the  
12 teaching of literacy; INCREASING AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE OF  
13 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONCERNS, RESPONSES, AND STRATEGIES; or  
14 increasing awareness of laws and practices relating to educating students  
15 with disabilities in the classroom, including but not limited to child find  
16 and inclusive learning environments.

17 (b.7) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (3)(f) OF THIS  
18 SECTION FOR RENEWAL OF A PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSE, in selecting  
19 professional development activities for renewal of a ~~professional teacher,~~  
20 special services, principal, or administrator license, in addition to the  
21 other requirements set forth in this section, the ~~professional~~ SPECIAL  
22 SERVICES, PRINCIPAL, OR ADMINISTRATOR licensee shall complete A  
23 MINIMUM OF ten ~~of the~~ clock hours of professional development HOURS  
24 required during the term of any ~~professional~~ SPECIAL SERVICES,  
25 PRINCIPAL, OR ADMINISTRATOR license in professional development  
26 activities relating to increasing awareness of laws and practices relating  
27 to educating students with disabilities in the classroom, including but not

1 limited to child find and inclusive learning environments.

2 (c) In selecting professional development activities for the  
3 renewal of a professional license pursuant to this section, each licensee  
4 shall choose those activities that will aid the licensee in meeting the  
5 standards for a professional educator, including but not limited to the  
6 following goals:

7 (XI) Awareness of warning signs of dangerous behavior in youth  
8 and situations that present a threat to the health and safety of students and  
9 knowledge of the community resources available to enhance the health  
10 and safety of students and the school community, YOUTH MENTAL  
11 HEALTH, SAFE DE-ESCALATION OF CRISIS SITUATIONS, RECOGNITION OF  
12 SIGNS OF POOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE, AND SUPPORT OF  
13 STUDENTS. TRAINING PROVIDED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3)(c)(XI)  
14 MUST BE PROVIDED USING CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE AND TRAUMA- AND  
15 EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES; and

16 (f) (I) IN SELECTING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR  
17 RENEWAL OF A PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSE ONLY, IN ADDITION TO  
18 THE OTHER REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION, EXCEPT FOR  
19 THOSE SET FORTH FOR SPECIAL SERVICES, PRINCIPAL, OR ADMINISTRATOR  
20 LICENSES IN SUBSECTION (3)(b.7) OF THIS SECTION, THE PROFESSIONAL  
21 TEACHER LICENSEE SHALL COMPLETE A MINIMUM OF TEN CLOCK HOURS OF  
22 THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HOURS REQUIRED DURING THE TERM OF  
23 ANY PROFESSIONAL LICENSE IN TRAINING RELATING TO:

24 (A) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING THAT IS CULTURALLY  
25 RESPONSIVE AND TRAUMA- AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED; AND

26 (B) INCREASING AWARENESS OF LAWS AND PRACTICES RELATING  
27 TO EDUCATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN THE CLASSROOM,

1 INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO CHILD FIND AND INCLUSIVE LEARNING  
2 ENVIRONMENTS.

3 (II) THE TEN CLOCK HOURS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION  
4 (3)(f)(I) OF THIS SECTION MAY BE OBTAINED THROUGH ANY COMBINATION  
5 OF COURSES RELATED TO SUBSECTION (3)(f)(I) OF THIS SECTION, SO LONG  
6 AS AT LEAST ONE OF THE REQUIRED CLOCK HOURS IS RELATED TO  
7 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING THAT IS CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE AND  
8 TRAUMA- AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED AND ONE OF THE REQUIRED CLOCK  
9 HOURS IS RELATED TO INCREASING AWARENESS OF LAWS AND PRACTICES  
10 RELATING TO EDUCATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN THE  
11 CLASSROOM, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO CHILD FIND AND INCLUSIVE  
12 LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS.

13 (III) A PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSEE WHO HAS LESS THAN  
14 THREE YEARS LEFT IN THE LICENSE RENEWAL PERIOD ON JUNE 30, 2020,  
15 HAS UNTIL THE END OF THE NEXT APPLICABLE RENEWAL PERIOD TO  
16 COMPLETE THE REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED IN SUBSECTION (3)(f)(I) OF  
17 THIS SECTION AND MAY SUBMIT CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES COMPLETED  
18 WITHIN FIVE YEARS PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 2020, TO SATISFY THE  
19 REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (3)(f)(I) OF THIS SECTION.

20 (IV) NOTHING IN SUBSECTION (3)(f)(I) OF THIS SECTION PROHIBITS  
21 A PROFESSIONAL TEACHER LICENSEE FROM APPLYING A SINGLE  
22 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE OR ACTIVITY TO ONE OR MORE  
23 CONTENT OR HOURLY REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS  
24 SECTION OR BY RULE OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

25 (V) THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING REQUIRED PURSUANT TO  
26 SUBSECTION (3)(f)(I) OF THIS SECTION MAY INCLUDE PROGRAMS SUCH AS:

27 (A) MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID SPECIFIC TO YOUTH AND TEENS;

- 1 (B) STAFF DEVELOPMENT TRAINING MODULES CONCERNING HOW
- 2 TO PREVENT TEEN SUICIDE;
- 3 (C) INTERCONNECTED SYSTEMS FRAMEWORK FOR POSITIVE
- 4 BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS AND MENTAL HEALTH;
- 5 (D) TRAINING APPROVED OR PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT
- 6 WHERE THE TEACHER IS EMPLOYED;
- 7 (E) TRAINING CONCERNING STUDENTS WITH BEHAVIORAL
- 8 CONCERNS OR DISABILITIES;
- 9 (F) TRAINING MODULES CONCERNING CHILD TRAUMATIC STRESS;
- 10 AND
- 11 (G) ANY OTHER PROGRAM OR TRAINING THAT MEETS THE
- 12 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION (3)(f).

13 SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-121, add  
14 (2)(d.5) as follows:

15 23-1-121. Commission directive - approval of educator  
16 preparation programs - review. (2) The commission shall adopt  
17 policies establishing the requirements for educator preparation programs  
18 offered by institutions of higher education. The department shall work in  
19 cooperation with the state board of education in developing the  
20 requirements for educator preparation programs. At a minimum, the  
21 requirements must ensure that each educator preparation program  
22 complies with section 23-1-125, is designed on a performance-based  
23 model, and includes:

- 24 (d.5) A REQUIREMENT THAT EACH TEACHER CANDIDATE IN AN
- 25 INITIAL LICENSURE PROGRAM COMPLETE AT LEAST ONE SEMESTER OR
- 26 QUARTER-LENGTH COURSE IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING USING
- 27 CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE AND TRAUMA- AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED

1 PRACTICES;

2 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
3 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
4 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.