

- November 2009, PESB added a new section to WAC 181-78A. This was WAC 181-78A-125 *Field Placement Agreements*.
- The WAC reads: *Beginning September 10, 2010, all educator preparation programs approved or authorized by the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) or other programs approved in other states operating field experiences in Washington state shall establish and maintain filed placement agreements with all Washington school districts in which candidates are placed for field experiences leading to certification or endorsement.*
- Each field placement agreement shall include, but not limited to:
  1. Assurances that:
    - a. Fingerprint and character clearance under RCW 28A.410.010 must be current at all times during the field experience for candidates who do not hold a valid Washington certificate; and
    - b. Programs shall ensure candidates are placed in settings where they can be objectively evaluated.
  2. Qualifications of the proposed site supervisor for each site and qualifications of each school's cooperating educator/administrator;
  3. Clear description by institution of duties and responsibilities of site supervisor and cooperating educator/administrator;
  4. Anticipated length and nature of field experience;
  5. Signatures from district representative.
- RCW 28A.410.010- (1)(a) The Washington professional educator standards board shall establish, publish, and enforce rules determining eligibility for and certification of personnel employed in the common schools of this state, including certification for emergency or temporary, substitute or provisional duty and under such certificates or permits as the board shall deem proper or as otherwise prescribed by law. The rules shall require that the initial application for certification shall require, at the applicant's expense, a criminal history record check of the applicant through the Washington state patrol criminal identification system under RCW [43.43.830](#) through [43.43.834](#), [10.97.030](#), and [10.97.050](#) and through the federal bureau of investigation. The record check shall include a fingerprint check using a complete Washington state criminal identification fingerprint card. (This is the fingerprint background check and the Character and Fitness Supplement that is completed by all individuals applying for initial certification as well as those who have allowed their certificate to lapse).
- OSPI Certification Office; the Office of Professional Practices and Institutes for Higher Education have been issuing Pre-Residency Certification Clearances since 2010 when the Field Placement WAC was instituted.
- RCW 28A.410.010- Certification- Duty of PESB-Rules states *the Washington professional educator standards board shall establish, publish, and enforce rules determining eligibility for and certification of personnel employed in the common schools of this state, including certification for emergency or temporary, substitute or provisional duty and under such certificates or permits as the board shall deem proper or as otherwise prescribed by law. The superintendent of public instruction shall act as the administrator of any such rules and have the power to issue any certificates or permits and revoke the same in accordance with board rules.*

- November 16, 2017 Catherine Slagle presented to the PESB regarding OSPI’s lack of authority to issue, deny, revoke, as well as investigate anyone with a pre-residency certification clearance because there is nothing in statute that gives OSPI the authority to do so. By changing the pre-residency certification clearance to an Internship or student teaching certificate and amending WAC 181-78A-125 (*Field Placement Agreements*) as well as WAC 181-79A-231 *Limited Certificates*, OSPI would then have the authority to issue, deny, revoke and when needed investigate those individuals with an internship or student teaching certificate.
- The PESB has indicated there was push back from IHE due to the costs associated with issuing permits and certificates under RCW 28A.410.060 and 28A.410.062.
- 28A.410.060 states the fee shall be no less than one dollar or such reasonable fee therefor as the Washington PESB by rule shall deem necessary therefor.
- WAC 181-79A-130 sets the fees for certificate applicants and renewals. The WAC allows for OSPI as well as deans and directors of education at colleges and universities or their designee to collect certification fees.
- Below is a chart showing how many Pre-Residency Certification Clearances have been issued by OSPI since July 1, 2014 through September 4, 2019.

| Pre-Residency Certification Clearances Issued |      |      |               |
|---|------|------|---------------|
| Issuing Agency                                |      |      |               |
| Certification Year*                           | OSPI | IHE  | % OSPI Issued |
| 2014-2015                                     | 178  | 3266 | 5%            |
| 2015-2016                                     | 209  | 3284 | 6%            |
| 2016-2017                                     | 154  | 3896 | 4%            |
| 2017-2018                                     | 306  | 3489 | 9%            |
| 2018-2019                                     | 373  | 3904 | 10%           |
| 2018-2019**                                   | 72   | 860  | 8%            |

|    |   |
|----|---|
| *  | Year is from 7/1 through 6/30           |
| ** | Data is 4 months (7/1 through 9/4/2019) |

- IHE’s issue the majority of the Pre-Residency Certification Clearances.
- **As IHE’s issue the majority of the Pre-Residency Certification Clearances, we are proposing a \$1.00 fee for the internship or student teaching certificate.**
- Options to consider moving forward.
  - Change the Pre-Residency Certification Clearance to an internship or student teaching certificate and update applicable OSPI/PESB WAC’s. Allow OSPI, colleges, and universities to collect the \$1.00 fee.
  - Leave the Pre-Residency Certification Clearance as is and OSPI will no longer issue them. The colleges and universities will be responsible for issuing all clearances. This will include candidates with criminal history and/or a Character and Fitness Supplement disclosures.