

Personnel — Certified**Continuing Education Units (CEUs)**

The Board of Education believes in the importance of teachers holding a professional certificate participating in continuing educational units (CEUs) as part of their professional and educational development on a regular basis. This belief is based upon the knowledge that student learning is directly affected by teacher competence and that teacher competence is enhanced by ongoing professional development and continuous learning. Teachers, like students, must be continual learners.

State law requires the successful completion of 9 CEUs every five years in order for a holder to maintain a professional educator certificate. A certified staff member providing documented completion of a national board certification assessment in the appropriate endorsement area during each 5 year period shall be exempt from this requirement. In order to achieve this goal, the Board will make available annually at no cost to its certified employees, not fewer than eighteen, 60-minute instructional contact hours of professional development activities for CEUs. Only CEUs awarded by providers approved by the State Department of Education may be used to fulfill the CEU requirements.

The specific professional development activities to be made available will be determined with the advice and assistance of the professional development council which will include a representative of the teachers' union. The time, location and substance of these professional development activities shall be approved by the Board.

All professional development for which CEUs are issued must focus on improved student learning. All learning experiences for which CEUs are awarded should enrich or improve the skills, knowledge and abilities of educators to improve student learning. Professional development, for which CEUs can be offered include workshop presentations, time spent in learning, problem solving, experimenting, interacting with colleagues, developing curriculum and writing professional journal articles. The focus for professional development activities in establishing a link between effective teaching and increased learning shall be *Connecticut's Common Core of Learning, Connecticut Framework: K-12 Curriculum Goals and Standards, Connecticut's Common Core of Teaching and Connecticut Guidelines for Teacher Evaluation and Professional Development*.

The Board of Education may award a CEU equivalent to any of its employees for the successful completion of professional development activities which are not necessarily offered by an approved CEU provider. Any combination of CEUs and CEU equivalents can be used toward the 18 CEU requirement. All 18 CEUs may be earned as CEU equivalents.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-145b Teaching certificates (as amended by PA 01-173)

10-220a In-service training

Board Adopted: November 13, 2013