

**From:** Renee Shaat  
**Sent:** Friday, January 2, 2026 12:17 PM  
**Subject:** From Joseph C. Barrow, Jr.: GaPSC's Final Notice of Effective Rules

## **FINAL NOTICE**

**TO:** Employers of Educators  
Preparers of Educators  
Other Interested Parties

**SUBJECT:** Professional Standards Commission Rule Rescission/Amendment/Adoption

On October 9, 2025, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) initiated the rulemaking process to (1) repeal the current rules in Chapter 505-2- Certification, effective January 1, 2026, as follows: 505-2-.11, 505-2-.42, 505-2-.153, 505-2-.159, 505-2-.160, 505-2-.161, 505-2-.162, 505-2-.165, 505-2-.166, 505-2-.167, 505-2-.168, 505-2-.169, 505-2-.170, 505-2-.171, 505-2-.174, 505-2-.175, 505-5-.176, 505-2-.177, 505-2-.178, 505-2-.179, 505-2-.181, 505-2-.182, 505-2-.183, 505-2-.184, 505-2-.185, 505-2-.186, 505-2-.187, 505-2-.188, 505-2-.189, and 505-2-.190; (2) adopt the current rules in Chapter 505-2- Certification, effective January 1, 2026, as follows: 505-2-.11, 505-2-.42, 505-2-.153, 505-2-.159, 505-2-.160, 505-2-.161, 505-2-.162, 505-2-.165, 505-2-.166, 505-2-.167, 505-2-.168, 505-2-.169, 505-2-.170, 505-2-.174, 505-2-.175, 505-5-.176, 505-2-.177, 505-2-.178, 505-2-.179, 505-2-.181, 505-2-.182, 505-2-.183, 505-2-.184, 505-2-.186, 505-2-.187, 505-2-.188, 505-2-.189, 505-2-.190, 505-2-.196, and 505-2-.197; and (3) amend the current rule in Chapter 3- Educator Preparation Rules, effective January 1, 2026, as follows: 505-3-.82.

On December 11, 2025, the Commission adopted the aforementioned rules, effective January 1, 2026.

These adopted rules may be downloaded in their entirety from the GaPSC website at <http://www.gapsc.com/Commission/Rules/home.aspx> by clicking on the titles of the rules. Presentation of rules in this format is permissible under O.C.G.A. § 50-13-2.

### **Certification**

#### **505-2-.11. International Exchange Certificate**

This newly adopted rule updates the title of the educator ethics assessment and includes the addition of a conditional two-year extension.

#### **505-2-.42. Clearance Certificate**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and updates assessment titles.

#### **505-2-.153. Educational Leadership Certificate**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and updates assessment titles and dates.

#### **505-2-.159. Birth through Five Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting, corrects certificate titles, adds field of eligibility, and corrects the in-field statement to reflect it is an in-field endorsement.

**505-2-.160. Career Exploration (PECE) Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.161. Career and Technical Instruction (CTI) Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.162. Coaching Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.165. Culinary Arts Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.166. English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.167. Gifted In-Field Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting, corrects certificate titles, and clarifies that the field cannot be waived through strategic waiver and charter.

**505-2-.168. Intervention Specialist Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate types.

**505-2-.169. K-5 Mathematics Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.170. K-5 Science Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.171. Middle Grades Endorsement**

This rule is rescinded as Georgia no longer offers GaPSC-approved programs in this field and individuals qualifying for Middle Grades must complete specific concentration requirements for the fields of Middle Grades Language Arts, Middle Grades Mathematics, Middle Grades Reading, Middle Grades Science and Middle Grades Social Science along with passing the required content exam and aligned literacy assessment.

**505-2-.174. Safety and Driver Education Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.175. Special Education Deaf Education Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.176. Special Education Physical and Health Disabilities Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.177. Special Education Preschool Ages 3-5 Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.178. Special Education Transition Specialist Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.179. Special Education Visual Impairment Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.181. Teacher Leader Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.182. Teacher Support and Coaching Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting, corrects certificate titles, and corrects the in-field statement to reflect it is a strengthened and enhanced competency endorsement.

**505-2-.183. Work-Based Learning Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.184. Dual Immersion Elementary Education Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.185. Autism Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.186. STEM Education Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.187. Dramatic Writing Micro-Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.188. Personalized Learning Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.189. Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.190. Urban Education Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule adjusts formatting and corrects certificate titles.

**505-2-.196 STEAM Education Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule creates an endorsement that will strengthen and enhance educators' competencies in Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) content, instructional planning, and assessment for teaching students in the field(s) and grade levels of their base certificate(s).

**505-2-.197. STEAM Education Micro-Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule creates an endorsement that will strengthen and enhance educators' competencies in Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) content, instructional planning, and assessment for teaching students in the field(s) and grade levels of their base certificate(s).

## **Educator Preparation**

### **505-3-.82. Birth Through Kindergarten Endorsement**

This newly adopted rule allows educators certified in the field of Special Education General Curriculum Elementary Education (P-5) to add the endorsement. Currently, only those certified in Elementary Education may add the endorsement. Minor wording changes are also included for clarification.