*****Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

### 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-4906 Telephone: (781) 338-3000 TTY: N.E.T. Relay 1-800-439-2370

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Jeffrey C. Riley  *Commissioner* |  |

**Overview of proposed changes to the Competency Review Guide**

**February 21, 2020**

Please note that this memo serves as an overview of the proposed changes to the Competency Review Guide which are currently out for public comment. The purpose of the Competency Review Guide is to assist individuals with how they may demonstrate that they have satisfied the Subject Matter Knowledge (SMK) Requirements when there is no subject matter knowledge test.

Please send comments regarding the proposed changes to the attention of Tonya Safford, [tsafford@doe.mass.edu](mailto:tsafford@doe.mass.edu) by Friday, April, 3, 2020.

Please see key proposed changes to the Competency Review Guide on the pages noted below.

Page 1 - Under the “What licenses are impacted?” section:

The Instructional Technology teacher license is not included, as the license is no longer offered as of 7/1/19. In addition, clarification has been provided via the asterisks.

Page 2 – Some unnecessary text was removed and references to sample letters and their location in the competency review was provided.

Page 3 – Under Option II:

Assistant dean and program director were added as appropriate signatories.

Under Option III:

New language was inserted to update and clarify the qualifications of a mentor for the Digital Literacy/Computer Science license.

Page 4 - Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing [Oral/Aural], under the “Coverage of” section:

New subject matter knowledge competency review requirements for this license was inserted to align with the Subject Matter Knowledge (SMK) Guidelines.

Page 5 - Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing [American Sign Language/Total Communication], under the “Coverage of” section:

New subject matter knowledge competency review requirements for this license was inserted to align with the Subject Matter Knowledge Guidelines.

Page 6/7 – under the “Computational Thinking” section:

New information regarding Department approved assessments accepted toward meeting individual DLCS competency review requirements was inserted.

Page 9 – General Science, 1-6, under the “Coverage of” section:

New subject matter knowledge competency review requirements for this license was inserted to align with the recent Subject Matter Knowledge (SMK) Guidelines.

Page 9 - History, 1-6, under the “Coverage of” section:

New subject matter knowledge competency review requirements for this license was inserted to align with the recent Subject Matter Knowledge (SMK) Guidelines.

Page 10/11 - Visually Impaired, under the “Coverage of” section:

New subject matter knowledge competency review requirements for this license was inserted to align with the recent Subject Matter Knowledge (SMK) Guidelines.

Page 13 – College/University Coursework Sample Verification Letter Template:

Expanded who could sign as indicated on page 3.