



Ohio Revised Code

Section 3311.79 Applicants for teacher positions in municipal school districts.

Effective: October 1, 2012

Legislation: House Bill 525 - 129th General Assembly

(A) When assigning teachers to schools of a municipal school district prior to the start of a school year, teachers may apply for open positions. All applicants shall be considered. Applicants may be interviewed by a building level team comprised of the building principal, a representative of the district teachers' labor organization, a parent, a staff member in the same job classification as the posted position, and any other members mutually agreed upon by the principal and the labor organization representative. When openings occur, the principal and labor organization representative shall mutually select the members of the building level team. Interviews by the building level team shall not be delayed due to the unavailability of duly notified team members. The team shall make recommendations whether to assign a teacher to an open position in the building based on how suitably the teacher's credentials fulfill the needs of the particular school. For this purpose, the building level team shall consider the following credentials:

- (1) The level of license issued under section 3319.22 of the Revised Code that the teacher holds;
- (2) The number of subject areas the teacher is licensed to teach;
- (3) Whether the teacher is a highly qualified teacher, as defined in section 3319.074 of the Revised Code;
- (4) The results of the teacher's performance evaluations conducted under section 3311.80 of the Revised Code;
- (5) Whether the teacher has recently taught and been evaluated in the subject areas the teacher would teach at the school;
- (6) Any specialized training or experience the teacher possesses that are relevant to the open position;



(7) Any other credentials established by the district chief executive officer or a building level team.

(B) The building level team shall make its recommendations to the district chief executive officer or the chief executive officer's designee for the chief executive officer's or designee's final approval of the assignment.

(C) In the event that open positions in one or more school buildings have not been filled through the procedures set forth in divisions (A) and (B) of this section, or if the building level team has not been able to reach a consensus on a candidate, by ten days prior to the first work day for teachers of the school year, the district chief executive officer or the chief executive officer's designee shall assign teachers to any of those open positions based on the best interests of the district. In making an assignment under this division, the chief executive officer or the chief executive officer's designee shall take into consideration all input from the building level team members.

(D) In the event that a position opens after the first student day of the school year, the building level team interview and recommendation procedures set forth in divisions (A) and (B) of this section shall be used to fill the open position. If any positions remain open, or if the building level team has not been able to reach a consensus on a candidate, after a reasonable period of time as determined by the chief executive officer or the chief executive officer's designee, the chief executive officer or the chief executive officer's designee shall assign teachers to any of those open positions based on the best interests of the district. In making an assignment under this division, the chief executive officer or the chief executive officer's designee shall take into consideration all input from the building level team members.

(E) In the event it becomes necessary to assign, reassign, or transfer a teacher, whether voluntarily or involuntarily on the part of the teacher, for the purpose of promoting the best interests of the district, the chief executive officer or the chief executive officer's designee shall first meet with the teacher, the principals of the affected buildings, and a representative of the district teachers' labor organization. The assignment, reassignment, or transfer shall not be delayed due to the unavailability of the meeting participants who have been duly notified.

(F) The district chief executive officer or a building level team shall not use seniority or continuing contract status as the primary factor in determining any teacher's assignment to a school.



(G) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code, the requirements of this section prevail over any conflicting provisions of a collective bargaining agreement entered into on or after the effective date of this section. However, the board and the teachers' labor organization shall negotiate regarding the implementation of this section, including the processes by which each building level team conducts its interviews and makes recommendations, consistent with this section.