



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

NV Relicensure Package (90 Hours)

“Your courses fit my needs perfectly.”

This online PD course package contains classes to help teachers in Nevada address the required renewal hours to renew a teaching license. The NV Relicensure Package includes 18 self-study courses (5 hours each) for a total of 90 hours of professional development.

1. Apps for Education
2. Curriculum Development
3. Cultural Competency and Responsive Teaching
4. Classroom Collaboration
5. Differentiation for Gifted Learners in the Classroom
6. English Language Learners in the Classroom
7. Examining and Evaluating Student Work
8. Formative Assessment
9. Inquiry-based Learning
10. Language Acquisition
11. Project Management for Students through Project-based Learning
12. Reading Across the Curriculum
13. Research-based Instructional Strategies
14. Rubrics in Teaching and Learning
15. Student-centered Learning
16. Student Portfolios
17. Understanding ADHD
18. Virtual Field Trips



18 Online Courses (5 hours each) = 90 TOTAL Hours
Includes FREE PD Tracker



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Apps for Education

"I love using apps in the classroom. This class gave me some great ideas."

- Melissa M.

Integrate Ruben Puentedura's SAMR model with Alan November's work on Transformative Learning to find the best apps to educate YOUR students. The integration of apps into education, may seem like a natural product of the times. However, successfully impacting students' learning, requires a whole new level of teachers' engagement and effort.

Teachers will be equipped to go beyond using an app merely because someone else has recommended it and fully examine the true learning potential.

To this end, teachers must take into account specifics, including logistics, ability to manage, content access, sound and image quality, all while evaluating individual apps. A comprehensive App Evaluation Framework, specially designed for the classroom context is presented for teachers' critical consideration of educational apps before deciding to introduce them to students. With an integrated approach, teachers can successfully consider an apps' connections with curriculum content and ability to amplify existing learning levels, while evaluating systematically their transformative learning capability.



Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content and Teachers Facilitate Learning.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Apps for Education

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Considerations, Content and Components

- Choose apps that encourage students to engage in a greater degree of independent thought
- The key skills in Bloom's Taxonomy and how they can be applied while considering an app for educational use
- Using November's Digital Learning Farm to empower students with targeted apps
- The use of apps to teach the various "multiple intelligences" in Garner's learning theory
- Specific skills and literacies essential for effective teaching and learning in the 21st century and choosing apps that promote their development
- Essential content and components to look for in apps, before integrating them into teaching

LESSON 2: Logistics and Fluency

- Common logistics concerns with using apps, and how to address and anticipate them
- The importance of achieving fluency in app usage to ensure better learning potential
- Essential phases in app fluency to measure against an app's performance

LESSON 3: Learning with Apps

- Transitioning from using apps to "substitute" traditional teaching, to a more transformational approach
- Ways to enhance students' learning through Puentedura's SAMR models
- The integration of November's three phases to ensure rigorous app evaluation
- The use of concrete evidence of students' learning as the ultimate decider on the future use of an app

LESSON 4: Sample Evaluation and Recommendations

- Evaluation of an app against all the considerations discussed in the course to find one with optimal teaching potential
- Recommended apps, across iOS, Android and Windows platforms, for the following classroom purposes: Storytelling, Photography, Visualization and Mind Mapping, Note Taking, Book Creators, Screen Casting, Word Clouds, Photo Collages, Drawing, Video, Audio Recording



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Classroom Collaboration

"I liked that there were lots of practical, usable ideas and not just theory. I found myself opening my planbook to add in ideas I found in these lessons!"

- Justin B.

Implement collaborative learning in classrooms and develop successful learners. This framework enables teachers to recognize characteristics of collaborative classrooms, be aware of student and teacher roles, and practice group activities as an essential part of the classroom. Teachers are introduced to school-wide policy reforms in place today that promote collaboration and group activities.

Teachers are also provided with ideas and strategies to accommodate learners, including students with special needs. The practical examples, real-life experiences, and templates in this online course provide teachers a structure to use in their own classrooms.



Standards:

This course aligns to all of the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Classroom Collaboration

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction to Collaborative Learning

- What is Collaborative Learning?
- Why should students collaborate?
- Collaboration vs. Traditional Approach
- Benefits and Importance of collaborative learning
- Overview on Effective Collaboration in the Classroom
- Alignment of collaboration to State Standards
- The Collaborative Learning Model

LESSON 2: Collaborative Tools and Strategies

- Characteristics of a collaborative teacher
- Grouping Strategies
- Designing grouping assignments
- Collaborative Learning Techniques
- Web Tools for Collaboration
- Examples of Collaborative Projects
- Interactions in a Collaborative Classroom
- Activities that students can collaborate on
- Around the world collaboration
- Resources for collaboration

LESSON 3: The Collaborative Classroom

- Characteristics of a Collaborative Classroom
- Student and Teacher Roles in a Collaborative Classroom
- Preparing for Collaborative Activities
- Examples of Classroom Collaboration
- Collaborative Learning Spaces
- Managing today's classroom

LESSON 4: Assessment, Accommodations, and Challenges

- Collaborative Assessment
- Approaches to Collaborative Assessment
- Challenges in a collaborative classroom
- Conflict Resolution
- School-wide policies to promote collaboration



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Cultural Competency and Responsive Teaching

“Major points well presented and very interesting to go through.”

- Fleta C.

Teachers deepen their understanding of their own frames of reference, potential bias, and impact on expectations for and relationships with students, students’ families and school communities.

This course demonstrates responsive teaching in the classroom by helping teachers consider, connect with, and build competence in meeting the many learning needs of all students while addressing culturally diverse classrooms that are sensitive and equitable to learners across languages, genders, religions, cultural backgrounds, and special needs.

Designed to meet state requirements for cultural competency and responsiveness training including but not limited to all of the following topics: racial, cultural, and socioeconomic groups; American Indian and Alaskan native students; religion; systemic racism; gender identity, including transgender students; sexual orientation; language diversity; and individuals with disabilities and mental health concerns while deepening teachers’ understanding of their own frames of reference, the potential bias in these frames, and their impact on expectations for and relationships with students, students’ families, and the school communities.

Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, and Learning Environments.

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, and Diverse Learners.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**





Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Cultural Competency and Responsive Teaching

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Cultural Competency

- Defining Culture and Cultural Competency
- Cultural Beliefs and Values
- Impact of Culture on Behavior

LESSON 2: Bias

- Definition, types and identification of bias
- Assumptions, Perspectives, Self-Perceptions

LESSON 3: Culturally Responsive Classrooms

- Impact of culture on teaching and learning
- Brain roles in learning
- Teaching styles and student impact
- Building rapport with students

LESSON 4: Culturally Responsive Teaching

- Diversity in the classroom
- Understanding diversity: origin, religion, gender, language, special needs and mental health
- Cohesive Classrooms and School Communities
- Collaborating with Families



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Curriculum Development

"This was a very informative course and I can very easily use the skills I learned in my classroom."

- Lauren H.

Educators can make a difference in strengthening the curriculum. The resources, examples and templates included in this online course, guide teachers to plan, develop, integrate and evaluate curriculum more effectively. This information can empower teachers so that they feel more confident to implement interactivities. Effective curriculum is a foundation for students to be successful learners.

Standards:

This course aligns to all of the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Teachers Know Content and Teachers Facilitate Learning.



Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Curriculum Development

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Curriculum Development
- Curriculum vs. Syllabus
- Effective Curriculum
- Curriculum Development
- The Curriculum Development Process
- Curriculum Planning

LESSON 2: Developing a Standard-based Curriculum

- Standard-Based Curriculum
- Yearlong Curriculum
- Elements of a Long-term scope and sequence of curriculum
- Types of Curriculum Maps
- Backwards Planning
- Creating a Unit Plan
- Components of the Unit Plan
- Effective Lesson Planning
- Preparing a Lesson Plan

LESSON 3: Curriculum Integration

- Curriculum and levels of Integration
- Approaches of Integration
- Interdisciplinary Curriculum
- Benchmark descriptors of interdisciplinary curriculum
- Models of Curriculum Integration
- Implications of Implementing an integrated curriculum

LESSON 4: Curriculum Evaluation

- What is Curriculum Evaluation?
- Need for Evaluation
- Types of Curriculum Evaluation
- Models of Curriculum Evaluation
- Criteria for Evaluation
- Phases of Curriculum Evaluation
- Tools for Evaluation



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Differentiation of Gifted Learners in the Classroom

“This was an excellent session on accommodating the various learning styles.”

– Don G.

This course examines some of the challenges facing gifted learners and offers easily implemented accommodations and success strategies. By understanding the unique learning needs of children who are considered “gifted,” participants will indirectly meet the individual needs of all learners.

Through this course educators and parents can make greater sense of gifted and talented education by learning about identification, instruction and assessment of these students while exploring related topics, issues and resources geared towards our gifted population.



Standards:

This course aligns to all of the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Differentiation of Gifted Learners in the Classroom

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Characteristics

- Who gifted learners are
- Types of gifted learners including academic, linguistic, and artistic learners
- Qualities of gifted learners

LESSON 2: Personal, Social and Cognitive Needs

- Needs of gifted learners, especially personal, social and intellectual needs
- Differentiation and how it can be implemented including aspects process and assessment
- Independent learning and curriculum compacting and how these can be used for gifted learners

LESSON 3: Special Populations

- Twice exceptional students and how these students require additional support
- Indicators of twice exceptionality and strategies that can be used to teach this special population

LESSON 4: Practical Strategies

- Several practical strategies that can be used while working with gifted learners and special populations
- Pre-assessment in teaching gifted learners
- Strategies such as H.O.T.S, Morning Minute, Learning contracts and tiered instruction



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: English Language Learners in the Classroom

"I feel better prepared to serve English Language Learners."

– Peggy P.

Facilitate optimal learning in the classroom by helping English Language Learners feel validated. This online PD course includes a range of strategies and activities that lead to interactions which benefit the four language skill areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

The Sheltered Instruction (SI) model is presented along with ways to apply this model when teaching English Language Learners. The importance of working collaboratively and ensuring the involvement of parents to enhance learning is emphasized with corresponding strategies. Through a range of research-based findings, teachers are equipped to engage students in "higher order thinking skills" and design a sufficiently challenging curriculum.



Standards:

This course aligns to all of the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: English Language Learners in the Classroom

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Welcoming English Language Learners

- Create an environment of acceptance
- Understand the backgrounds of English Language Learners
- Establishing an open channel of communication with parents

LESSON 2: Accommodating a New Culture

- Identify the educational needs of English Language Learners
- Avoiding assumptions
- Conversational and cross-cultural skills
- Comparing cultures and value systems

LESSON 3: Collaboration and Connection

- Approaches for mainstream teachers to effectively serve English Language Learners
- The Sheltered Instruction (SI) model
- Four language skill areas

LESSON 4: Curriculum and Lessons

- Engaging students in “higher order thinking skills” (HOTS)
- Methods of simplification and expansion



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Examining and Evaluating Student Work

“This course helped me design and carry out fair evaluations.”

- Anna V.

21st century students must have more than just textbook knowledge. Evaluating student learning goes beyond merely grading papers. Both schools and teachers need to intentionally move toward assessing students' understanding, and then use this insight to enhance teaching and learning practices.

The wealth of resources and classroom examples provided here enable teachers to enhance existing evaluation practices. Calling for a shift in approach, the course lays out effective and dynamic methods by which teachers can assess student work. These help ensure that educational focus remains entirely on both teacher and student development.



The course recommends expanding these best practices by “Examining Student Work” through a process of intentional reflection with other teachers. Through encouragement to engage with other teachers and learn from shared insights, teachers are equipped with useful resources to successfully implement this process.

Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Environments, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Examining and Evaluating Student Work

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Evaluating Student Work

- Meaning of assessment and why it is needed for growth
- Considering criticism of assessment methods
- What constitutes a well-designed assessment?
- Tools of holistic assessment

LESSON 2: Effective Grading Process

- The key to consistent assessment
- Learning to grade group work
- Practical tips for handling complaints
- Creating rubrics to assist the grading process

LESSON 3: Examining Student Work

- Introduction to examining student work and research that supports it
- Drawing teachers into an inquiry-based learning experience
- Examining student work to change practice
- Turning apprehensions into learning opportunities

LESSON 4: Planning, Process and Takeaways

- Planning and carrying out ESW meetings
- Choosing appropriate student work samples
- Facilitating collaborative work
- Using protocols for smooth functioning



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Formative Assessment

***“Finally, formative assessments are easily explained.
Thank you.***

Your information on rubrics was amazing.”

– Lisa L.



Three years ago Brian Creasman became principal of a “low performing” high school and was confronted with these two questions. A high school classified as “low performing” obviously is not a title any teacher, administrator, student or parent wants for their school.

Out of everything (curriculum alignment, effective instructional strategies, etc.) Mr. Creasman learned that for an assessment to be effective, it should also be formative. Keep in mind that effective formative assessments result in instruction that meets the needs of each student. Formative assessments allow teachers to respond to the needs of the student quickly, however more importantly it allows the student to shape instruction. The formative assessment program there continues and is constantly changing for the better.

Take the next step. Learn about and implement formative assessments in your school to discover and demonstrate for yourself, your students and your community what happens when *a school moves in this direction and you know students are truly learning.*

Standards:

This course aligns to all of the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Formative Assessment

Course Outline

LESSON 1: The Essentials

- Concepts behind and purpose of Formative Assessment
- Practical strategies that may be used to implement formative assessment
- Commonly used formative assessments, including teacher observation, questioning, rubrics, essays and peer assessment
- Benefits of each strategy and how they can be used effectively

LESSON 2: Nuts and Bolts

- The process of formative assessment
- Concepts behind goal mastery
- The importance of feedback, reports, visual depiction and celebration in formative assessment
- Designing lesson plans that integrate formative assessment

LESSON 3: Making Connections

- The role of assessment in standards-based education
- Formative and summative assessments, and the difference between the two



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Inquiry-based Learning

“I love how this course caters to student curiosity, and lets the kids lead the class.”

– Guadalupe R.

Preparing teachers for 21st century students requires a close look at what it means to teach and learn in increasingly networked, technology-rich, digital classrooms. Schools and teachers need to thoughtfully and intentionally design learning environments and tasks in which teachers explore issues that are relevant while developing pedagogies that are effective for a knowledge era. Utilizing new images and acquiring new expertise facilitates meaningful learning with technology.

This course offers a framework for teachers to plan lessons that promote Inquiry-based Learning (IBL). Starting with explaining a need for such a shift in education, the course shows how an IBL classroom works. Through multiple classroom examples, teachers are able to understand what specific and new roles they play and how to encourage student initiative, while ensuring that the focus remains on productive matters. The Inquiry-based Learning course details some models that teachers can adapt to meet specific needs of their class, as well as to monitor and enhance the learning of their students. Teachers learn practical and dynamic ways of evaluating their students' progress while also incorporating technology for better results.



Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Inquiry-based Learning

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction to IBL

- The need of an Inquiry Based Learning (IBL) approach and knowing the constituents involved
- Academic research that supports IBL
- Differences between IBL and traditional education
- Define roles of teachers and students

LESSON 2: Inquiry-based Learning Model

- The need for a model to apply the IBL approach
- Various models developed by academicians
- Practical applications of the inquiry model for teaching lessons
- The emotional trajectory of an inquiry process

LESSON 3: Designing IBL

- The foundations for IBL through effective lesson plans and activities
- Ways to classify students based on their understanding and experience with IBL
- Manage the dynamic classroom environment
- Principles and methods of assessing students

LESSON 4: Enhancing the IBL Classroom

- Creation of a support system for effective inquiry-based learning
- Use of technology to enhance the IBL experience
- Technology as a tool for professional development
- Web tools that can help at different stages of inquiry



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Language Acquisition

"I learned information that I will use to teach English Language Learners."

– Patricia F.

Delve into theories of the language acquisition process, and uncover practical ways for teachers to help English Language Learners understand lesson content.

Through the strategies and information provided in this course, teachers are equipped to meet students at their specific stage of language learning and create aligned activities thus helping students achieve higher levels of linguistic fluency.

The techniques presented cover the acquisition and mastery of literacy skills for students including reading, writing and dialogue, as well as understanding and supporting English Language Learners at a deeper level.



Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Language Acquisition

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction to Language Acquisition

- Considering how language is acquired
- Distinction between learning and acquiring a language
- Rules of Language
- Two types of language acquisition -Basic Interpersonal Communication Skills (BICS) and Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency (CALP); and their classroom implications
- The meanings and need for Comprehensible Input and Interactionism in the classroom
- Age related considerations in the acquisition of a language and related pronunciations

LESSON 2: The Acquisition Process

- The stages of language acquisition and the characteristics, duration and strategies of each; The Silent Period, Early Production, Speech Emergence, Intermediate Proficiency, Advanced Proficiency
- Reception and production of oral language vs. reception and production of written language
- Reciprocity between oral skills and written skills in second languages

LESSON 3: Literacy Skills - Reading

- Why Literacy skills are essential to school success
- "Balanced Literacy" approach and its principles
- Choosing appropriate texts
- The Language Experience Approach for early reading development with first Language Learners
- Context-based activities that can be used with emergent readers in diverse classrooms
- Top-down approaches to reading and phonics for a balanced literacy program

LESSON 4: Writing and Dialogue

- Shared or modeled writing to benefit writers at early stages
- Free writing vs. a structured writing approach, and using a balanced approach of both
- Dialogue journals, to foster on going written conversation between two students or between the teacher and a student
- Process writing stages – Prewriting, Drafting, Peer Review, Revising and Publishing
- Using Instructional Conversation (IC) effectively and ensuring authenticity



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Project Management for Students through Project-based Learning

"I had so much fun with this course!"

– Sarah S.

Project management encompasses a range of skills that are highly prized in the world today and include – research, collaboration, communication, leadership, problem-solving and cooperation.

For the education system to truly fulfill its purpose of preparing students for a world that requires a mastery of such skills, teachers must be able to find ways to integrate project management training into their classrooms without disrupting the curricular learning.

Keeping in view the challenges this poses, teachers are presented with project-based learning, as a means to successfully develop students' needed skills, while simultaneously keeping the focus on topics within the curriculum. The integration of projects into classroom teaching is based on the finding that, often the best way students learn is by doing. Teachers are provided with a range of examples and strategies, along with an in-depth view into the effective use of projects, and understanding of how they can influence student growth at every stage.



Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Project Management for Students through Project-based Learning

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Importance of Project Management

- Exploring new concepts and strategies to enable students connect with real-world situations
- Research findings of Project Based Learning
- Real learning versus test performance
- Guidelines for teachers working with the Project Based Learning system

LESSON 2: Planning for Successful Project Based Learning

- Basic guidelines to consider before selecting a project
- Ensuring authentic learning for students
- Effective technology use during a project
- Developing classroom culture

LESSON 3: Stages of Successful Implementation

- Stages of projects with examples for implementing
- Scaffold learning
- Existing project opportunities
- Common challenges and unexpected changes during a project

LESSON 4: Resources and Engagement

- Project examples with management skills to execute them
- Integrating technology in project management
- Importance of community connect for successful implementation of the project
- Funding sources and online databases that teachers can approach for grants



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Reading Across the Curriculum

“This was a great course for me to take. It has inspired me to do a few things differently in my classroom.”

– Marcie E.

Reading is an essential component of learning. **Often when students struggle within a specific subject matter it is because of poor reading instruction and underdeveloped reading skills.**

This course teaches research-based and classroom proven reading instruction techniques that can be used across all content areas and grade levels to improve student achievement. The course prepares teachers to become better instructors. It suggests new ideas on motivating students to read more, and improve reading comprehension. The course provides a large number of tools, exercises and additional resources that the teacher can use to practice skills learned in the lessons.



Dive into the world of reading instruction and strategies and get geared up to make your students proficient readers.

Standards:

This course aligns to all of the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Reading Across the Curriculum

Course Outline

LESSON 1: The basics of developing reading skills

- The importance and nature of the 'reading' skill
- Language development in the early years
- Implications of different levels of daily language exposure
- Understanding how the brain processes what we already know and have experienced, to develop reading skills

LESSON 2: Reading assessments and varying student levels

- The true diversity in the range of students' reading abilities
- The purpose of reading assessments and components included to assess students' phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension
- Categories of reading assessments and their suitability for varying students
- Common reading assessments and their usage

LESSON 3: Making reading 'meaningful'

- Deconstructing the nature and essential elements of meaningful reading in your classroom
- The benefits of and the need for new lesson formats to replace traditional ones, including pre-reading elements to strengthen students' understanding of the text
- Making the actual reading process interactive and thorough by using reading guides, visual imagery, inquiry charts, questions and promoting word comprehension
- Effective ways to extend the life of the text beyond the lesson through post reading, vocabulary and fluency strategies

LESSON 4: Strategies for effective lesson planning

- Scaffolding a common textbook to support varying reading levels using four steps
- Using different books, on a common topic or learning objective to meet differing needs
- Question-Answer Relationships (QARS) as a way to teach students about various questions that arise while reading a text, and ways to answer them
- Effectively approaching different structures of texts



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Research-based Instructional Strategies

"It is encouraging to see so many effective strategies backed by research. I will use these in my classroom!"

– Jennifer M.

To help students improve in academic achievement, develop an attitude of learning and acquire the skills needed for the demands of the work place and real life situations, educators must continually review, reflect on and work to improve their instructional skills.

This course provides teachers with research-based approaches and strategies that can be incorporated into classrooms. These will improve the effectiveness of teacher led instruction and encourage active student involvement in learning. These strategies and approaches are shown to have numerous benefits resulting in increased student achievement and learning.



Through this course, teachers can also have a look at their own views about teaching and learning, gaining a research-based perspective on commonly believed myths in the educational field. Teachers are also provided with useful strategies in the areas of reading, writing and math. The course is rich in examples, templates and rubrics to help teachers understand and practically use the strategies in the classroom setting.

Standards:

This course aligns to all of the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Teachers Know Content and Teachers Facilitate Learning.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Research-based Instructional Strategies

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

- The importance of education and a review of statistics of educational achievement in America
- The benefits of incorporating research proven instructional strategies in the classroom
- Myths related to learning and teaching and the truth revealed through research

LESSON 2: Teacher-focused Approaches and Strategies

- Developing Reflective Practice
- Understanding the learning process
- A look at research-based strategies focused on what the teacher can do in the classroom to improve student learning and achievement.
- Classroom application of strategies and approaches such as Daily review, Teaching in small steps, The use of cues, questions and advanced organizers, etc

LESSON 3: Active Learning

- The importance of active student participation and engagement
- Understanding student engagement and active learning
- A look at research-based strategies focused on how the teacher can encourage students to be actively involved in the classroom with the aim of improving student engagement, learning and achievement
- Activities and projects that a teacher can involve the students in, based on the strategies such as cooperative learning strategies, building thinking skills, effective note taking, etc

LESSON 4: Research-Based Strategies for Literacy and Math

- Understanding the importance of literacy
- The elements required to develop good reading skills
- Research-based strategies on improving students' reading skills and classroom applications of the same
- The importance of developing one's writing skills
- Research-based strategies on improving students' writing skills and classroom applications of the same
- The importance of math in real life situations and the need for developing one's math skills



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Rubrics in Teaching and Learning

Be consistent, yet quick, in marking all student assignments.

A rubric is much more than an assessment too. Provide quality formative and summative feedback for students at periodic intervals throughout the year by using consistency when grading student work.

Teachers use rubrics to grade a wide range of student work including: solo projects, group work, portfolios, homework assignments, book reviews, and tests.

Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.



Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Rubrics in Teaching and Learning

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction to Rubrics

- Exploring the purpose, significance and characteristics of rubrics in education
- Identifying different types of rubrics
- Learning to choose rubrics to match specific needs

LESSON 2: Design and Implementation

- Stages in designing a rubric based on required criteria
- Identifying the online resource required
- Seeking feedback and teacher assessment of one's own rubric

LESSON 3: Rubrics in Instruction

- Understanding how to use rubrics to enhance instructional effectiveness
- Integrating rubrics into different subjects
- Identifying and meeting diverse learning needs

LESSON 4: Rubrics in Assessment

- Usefulness of assessment rubrics and description of its different elements
- Role of teacher in developing and implementing assessment rubrics effectively
- Assessment rubric based on Common Core Standard and teacher self-assessment rubric



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Student-centered Learning

“This course was a great reminder to put my students first, and had some good ideas for how to do it.”

– Roberto L.

Teachers committed to real development in their students look forward to lively, stimulating and effective learning environments where their students are self-motivated, able to build on what they already know and equipped for the real-world. The Student-centered Learning approach provides a fitting framework for building such an environment that shifts focus from the basic implementation of standardized curriculum and assignments, to a more creative, organic facilitation of subject content and student activity.

This course presents resources, research-validated strategies and practical examples to equip teachers with the necessary toolkit to seamlessly turn their classrooms into student-centered environments. Some questions answered in this course include – Why is there a need for teachers and schools to change their approach to education? How does the Student-centered Learning approach compliment achieving the Common Core standards? What is the teacher’s role in this new learning environment?

This course also details principles of Student-centered Learning. It includes a comparison of teacher-led classrooms and student-centered classrooms, developing student-centered objectives, facets of understanding, practical teaching methods that can be used, and several online tools that will help achieve success.

Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**





Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Student-centered Learning

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction to Student-centered Learning

- Meaning, characteristics and principles of Student-centered Learning
- Comparison between teacher-led and student-centered approaches
- Dispelling myths regarding student-centered classrooms
- Student-centered Learning and the standards

LESSON 2: Setting Objectives and Providing Feedback in the SCL Classroom

- Developing student-centered learning objectives
- Facets of understanding
- Staying on track through learning logs
- Assessment and feedback techniques

LESSON 3: SCL Strategies for the Classroom

- Understanding the teacher's role in a student-centered classroom
- Teaching and learning methods
- Ensuring student motivation
- Classroom strategies for integrating SCL techniques

LESSON 4: Setting up for Success

- Potential of technology in key areas of learning
- Tools that enhance learning in student-centered classrooms
- Getting parents involved in learning
- Extending learning opportunities outside of school hours



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Student Portfolios

"I love the idea of having something for parents and students to look back on that represents their learning throughout the year."

– Holly W.

Successfully integrate portfolios to enhance students' development and become an essential part of teaching and learning. The practical tips and suggestions provided in this course will take teachers through the process of implementing portfolios in their classrooms, with factual information clearly linking student learning to the actual goal. Teachers will be introduced to the concept of using portfolios as assessment tools, and the advantages of their implementation to both teachers and students. The resources included show teachers how to capitalize on the students natural tendency to save work, get them to take a second look and critically analyze how they can improve future work.



Questions answered in this course include – How do teachers take on the role of 'portfolio advisors', and guide students through the process of creating and maintain portfolios? What is the relevance of a portfolio? What are the objectives of an effective portfolio? Rich in examples, considerations, suggestions and tips for teachers, this course aims to enhance the teaching and learning experience for students.

Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Student Portfolios

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Process and Benefits

- Research on student portfolios
- Portfolio benefits and their contribution to learning and development of 21st century skills
- Characteristics of the portfolio process
- Adding power to portfolios with parents as mentors
- Logistics and management of, both paper and digital, student portfolios

LESSON 2: Life Skills

- In-depth analysis of the types of student portfolios
- Primary stages of process, working and showcase portfolios, with practical examples
- Examining the role of teachers as 'portfolio advisors'
- Potential drawbacks of the portfolio process, and practical tips to overcome these
- Giving legitimacy to student portfolios by extending audience beyond the classroom

LESSON 3: Digital Portfolios

- Digital portfolios and their 21st century relevance
- Types of digital portfolios, and their practical implementation
- A systems approach to planning an impressive portfolio
- Examining the key aspects of effective implementation of digital portfolios in the classroom
- Web tools to help students create digital portfolios

LESSON 4: Portfolio Assessment

- Benefits of portfolio assessment, for both students and teachers
- Formative versus summative assessment of student work
- Brief overview of the assessment process, focus and criterion
- Implementing a scoring system with rubrics, presenting results
- Considerations for portfolio assessment



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Understanding ADHD

“I have been teaching for 13 years. After taking this class, I feel much more equipped to meet the needs of students with ADHD.”

– Donna H.

Have you ever come across a child who’s always on the move? They might have had ADHD. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity disorder or ADHD is seen commonly in today’s classroom. Children with this condition are restless, find it difficult to sit, are very impulsive and have a very short attention span. On the other hand they are also very intelligent and creative.

These energetic students can often disrupt a classroom. Thus, it becomes even more important for teachers to understand what this condition is all about and learn strategies to teach a child with ADHD.



This course does just that for you. It provides a variety of tips, adaptations and strategies that you can use while working in the classroom. You will learn about classroom modifications and adaptations that will help maintain order in the classroom. You will also discover methods for communicating more clearly with special educators and parents about their children. This course helps teachers gain confidence in not only handling ADHD, but also other students who are energetic, hyperactive or have difficulty paying attention.

Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Understanding ADHD

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction

- Definition of and challenges in ADHD
- Causes of ADHD
- Strengths of students with ADHD
- Prognosis and treatment of ADHD

LESSON 2: Core Issues in ADHD

- The brain in ADHD and how the changes in the brain cause deficits
- Challenges in ADHD and strategies that may be used to overcome these, especially in the areas of attention, hyperactivity and impulsivity
- Strategies that are useful in working with students with ADHD including instruction sheets, classroom seating, movement breaks and rules
- Dealing with anger and addictive behavior in students with ADHD

LESSON 3: Associated Issues in ADHD

- Issues seen in ADHD including issues in organization, motivation and social skills
- How teachers may help students to organize their schoolwork and complete it
- How students with ADHD may be motivated
- How students with ADHD may be supported so that they build positive friendships in the classroom

LESSON 4: Accommodations

- Classroom accommodations that can help a student with ADHD to learn and perform well
- Modified seating and lighting
- How a classroom schedule and organization can support learning
- Adapting homework, visual aids and assessments in order to help a child with ADHD cope with the curriculum



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Virtual Field Trips

“This is such a fun learning opportunity to introduce to my class!”

– Karen P.

Field trips have long been considered an important element of education and rightly so. They help students connect what is being learned in class with what actually exists outside the four walls of the classroom. Such trips are useful in widening horizons of the mind and sparking further inquiry. However, the practical issues of dealing with logistics, shrinking budgets, safety concerns and constraints of resources have, more often than not, made it more difficult for teachers to include field trips in their lesson plans. This course introduces teachers to the idea of virtual field trip as a highly effective alternative for enhancing course material. This course will help teachers familiarize themselves with a tool that integrates technology in classroom instruction.



It will offer you a peek at the resources available online and the possibilities they present. You will learn what such trips entail, how to plan them, how to prepare yourself for them, and how to use them for maximum benefit with curriculum. The course will also equip you to create your own virtual field trips as well as evaluate their impact on an ongoing basis.

Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online self-study course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical resources and tools** in your classroom
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Align with your **Professional Learning Plan**
- Print, email and save your **Certificates of Completion**



Renew a Teaching License

by Professional Learning Board

ONLINE: Virtual Field Trips

Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction to Virtual Field Trips

- Meaning and relevance of virtual field trips
- Advantages of using virtual field trips for student learning
- Addressing concerns regarding use of virtual field trips
- Applicability of virtual trips across grades and subjects

LESSON 2: Planning a Virtual Field Trip

- Vital points to consider before planning a virtual trip
- Technical competence
- Types of virtual field trips
- Steps involved in planning

LESSON 3: Virtual Field Trip Resources

- Pre-designed virtual field trips
- Gathering content and images for custom-made virtual field trips
- Using sound, video and maps
- Maximizing learning opportunities

LESSON 4: Conducting a Virtual Field Trip

- Setting the stage for a virtual field trip
- Understanding teacher's role
- Tips for ensuring student participation
- Follow up for a field trip and assessing impact