

## TEACHING CERTIFICATE FOR QUALIFIED MILITARY VETERANS

Phone: (517) 373-8080  
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

**House Bill 4913 as introduced**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Andrew Beeler**  
**Committee: Military, Veterans and Homeland Security**  
**Complete to 10-26-21**

Analysis available at  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 4913 would amend the Revised School Code to waive the typical teacher certification requirements for *qualified military veterans* and require the superintendent of public instruction to issue a teaching certificate to those individuals as long as they meet certain education requirements.

*Qualified military veteran* would mean an individual who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, including the reserve components, and who was honorably discharged.

Currently, in order to obtain a teaching certificate in Michigan, applicants must meet all of the following requirements:<sup>1</sup>

- Complete an approved teacher preparation program.
- Complete the required courses in diagnosing and remediating reading disabilities.
- Complete a course in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and hold valid certification in those topics.
- Pass the appropriate Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) content examinations.

There are several pathways for meeting those requirements, including the traditional route of completing those requirements as part of a bachelor's degree at an approved Educator Preparation Program; an expedited route for those who have already completed a bachelor's degree (but still requiring additional coursework and passage of the MTTC content examinations); and an alternative route, which allows an applicant to be employed as a teacher under an interim certificate as long as the applicant has completed a bachelor's degree and already passed the MTTC content examinations. Additionally, those seeking to teach career and technical education (CTE) may have different requirements that substitute work experience for educator training.

The bill would provide alternate requirements for qualified military veterans. In those cases, the applicant would have to meet the following requirements:

- Have successfully completed a course in first aid and CPR and foreign body airway obstruction management approved by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and hold valid certification in those topics (or have a waiver based on physical limitations).
- Have earned a bachelor's degree from a degree- or certificate-granting public or private college or university, junior college, or community college located in the United States.

---

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Becoming\\_a\\_Michigan\\_Teacher\\_605459\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Becoming_a_Michigan_Teacher_605459_7.pdf)

- Provide documentation as prescribed by MDE showing certification issued by any branch of the armed forces or a reserve branch, Michigan National Guard, or U.S. Department of Defense allowing him or her to train service members.

Under the bill, the superintendent of public instruction could not require any additional requirements as a condition for issuing a teaching certificate to a qualified military veteran who met the requirements described above.

MCL 380.1531

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The bill would create costs for the state and would have no fiscal impact on local school districts, intermediate school districts (ISDs), or public school academies (PSAs).

MDE would incur an indeterminate cost increase for administrative resources to allow the granting of teaching certificates to qualified military veterans.

Legislative Analyst: Jenny McInerney  
Fiscal Analysts: Samuel Christensen  
Jaqueline Mullen  
Emily Hatch

---

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.