



INTERSTATE TEACHER MOBILITY COMPACT

The Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact (ITMC) Frequently Asked Questions

How does the ITMC work?

The ITMC utilizes a different model than other interstate occupational licensure compacts. Compact Member states submit licenses that are eligible for the compact and meet a set of criteria outlined in the legislation. To be eligible, a license must require a bachelor's degree and completion of a state-approved program for teacher licensure like a teacher preparation program at a college or university. Further, for a license to be eligible under the compact it must be unencumbered (i.e., not restricted, probationary, provisional, substitute or temporary.)

Teachers holding a compact eligible license can apply for licensure in another member state and receive the closest equivalent license without submitting additional materials, taking state-specific exams, or completing additional coursework.

What are the requirements for a teacher to use the ITMC?

In the ITMC model, the only requirements for a teacher to use the compact are that they hold an eligible license and go through the receiving state's background check process. Teachers are not required to produce transcripts or undergo additional examinations to receive a license.

How are military spouses treated differently in the ITMC?

Due to the mobility patterns of military spouses, the barriers to receiving a license that would be considered unencumbered under the compact are much higher. Teachers meeting the definition of an eligible military spouse will be able to use a temporary or provisional license for the purposes of the compact.

How are Career and Technical Education Teachers included in the compact?

Since Career and Technical Education Teaching Licenses often do not require a bachelor's degree as a requirement for licensure, the compact allows these licenses to be considered eligible without that requirement.

How does the ITMC support special education and English Language Learning teachers?

The ITMC definition of teacher is crafted broadly to include teachers in disciplines like special education and ELL. As long as the teacher holds an eligible, unencumbered license, they will be covered under the compact.

How does the ITMC affect state teacher licensing laws?

Maintaining state sovereignty is one of the cornerstones of the ITMC. The compact does not alter member states' ability to regulate the teaching profession or teacher licensure. Member states do take on some responsibility to grant licenses to out-of-state teachers but any standing pathways to teacher licensure within the state will remain in place.

How is the ITMC governed?

The ITMC is governed by an intergovernmental agency known as the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact Commission, or Commission. The Commission is made up of one commissioner from each member state who is the principal administrative officer of the state licensing authority (State Department or Board of Education) or their designee. The Commission holds regular, public meetings and has the ability to create rules and bylaws to effectuate the compact. The Commission's powers and duties are covered in Article VII of the model legislation.

How can a state or jurisdiction join the ITMC?

Each state's legislature must enact the ITMC language into law to become a member of the Compact.