



# PI 34 AND LICENSURE

## PI 34 Resources: Student WEA & WEAC

**Student WEA Fall PDS –**  
See descriptor on page 3

**Quality Educator Interactive (QEI)** - A web-based PDP template. Free to Student WEA members & UW students. Go to [gei.wisconsin.edu](http://gei.wisconsin.edu) for more information.

**Chapter Meetings:** Contact your chapter president ([www.student-wea.org](http://www.student-wea.org)) for a schedule of meetings and topics.

**Wisconsin Education Association Council (WEAC):** WEAC Conventions and conferences provide various PI34 trainings. Go to [www.weac.org](http://www.weac.org) for more information.

**Department of Public Instruction (DPI):** Download forms and information about licensing by going to <http://dpi.wi.gov/tepd/index.html>

## What if...

- I can't secure a teaching job. I work retail and substitute teach for a year. I get a teaching contract the next year. Where am I on the timeline?

*In this example, you may complete a PDP in as few as three years or up to five full years. If you wish to have the full five years, apply for a renewal of your Initial Educator license. Once you complete the PDP, you can then apply for your Professional Educator license.*

- I don't land a teaching job until year four of my license. If I can't submit a completed PDP with only two years of teaching experience, what happens?

*In this example, you would be granted another five-year initial educator license to give you more time to gain experience and complete your PDP. However, you could finish and move to the Professional Educator level before the entire five years of the second five-year Initial Educator license lapses. The DPI's intent is to not penalize educators who are unable to obtain a position but to grant more quality time to complete a PDP.*

- I start teaching right away, but I wait until year five to verify my PDP. My PDT decides that revisions are needed and does not verify my plan.

*In this example, you would be granted a one year extension. The one-year would give you more time to make any corrections or appeal if you are at an impasse with your team. See PI 34.17 (1)(c) for more info on this one-year extension. It is important to note that Initial Educators must work with a team to approve their PDP goals at the beginning of year two.*

- I get my first teaching job in Illinois and move back into Wisconsin to teach my third year. Where am I on the PDP timeline?

*In this example, you would have years 3-5 to complete your PDP. It is possible to start the PDP while in Illinois, however. You can journal and reflect your first year, regardless of which state you are located. If you needed more time, you would apply for another five-year license, similar to the scenario above. Additionally, it is possible to work on your PDP while teaching out-of-state as long as you have your goal approved and the PDP verified by a Wisconsin DPI-trained PDP team (e.g. through the QEI, License Renewal Support Center (LRSC) or Wisconsin PDP).*

- I decide to raise a family and my license expires before I ever get a chance to teach? Where am I on the timeline?

*In this example, you would renew your Initial Educator License for another five years so you have more time to complete your PDP.*



## Bottom Line:

The renewal process isn't just about moving through the initial educator stage for the sake of moving through it; professional educators should use that time as an opportunity to learn and grow. If that means you need another five-year initial educator license to create a meaningful PDP, that is the DPI's recommendation. If you ultimately want to have a career as a teacher, do all you can to position yourself to secure a job teaching and immediately start working on the PDP process. This is your chance to grow and test what you have learned in "school" and see how it plays out in your profession and the classroom.

## Special Points of Interest:

- What is PI 34?
- What should I know about PI 34 now?
- What is PDP and PDT?
- PDP Timeline for Initial Educators
- PI 34 Scenarios

## What is PI 34?

In February 2000, the Wisconsin Legislature's education committee approved new Department of Public Instruction (DPI) rules for teacher preparation and licensure. This is what we refer to as PI 34. Anyone obtaining certification after August 31, 2004 must follow these new rules. Those licensed prior to this date have the option of utilizing moving between either systems.

## What Should I Know About PI 34 now?

PI 34 is based on a performance and competency system that requires teaching skills be developed and demonstrated throughout the teacher preparation program. For you as a student enrolled in a school of education program, this now includes you passing the Praxis 2 content exam in addition to student teaching and completing a portfolio that demonstrates and exhibits your knowledge, skills and dispositions identified in the ten Wisconsin Teacher Standards.

Upon completion of an approved school of education program, the DPI will issue a five-year nonrenewable license to all newly certified beginning teachers, pupil services personnel, and/or administrators. This is called the initial educator license.

As an initial educator you must renew your teaching license using the Professional Development Plan (PDP).

The PDP serves as the mechanism for renewal of your license. Your plan must demonstrate professional growth in two or more of the Wisconsin Teacher Standards and the impact of that growth on your students' learning. Getting acquainted with PI 34 terminology, resources, and tools prior to your first job is a great way to get a jump start on this process.

### Portfolios, Reflection, & Action Research

There is a reason for mastering these skills, in addition to knowing your content area, as part of your education program. You will need to be adept at writing goals, reflecting on your work and identifying its impact on children in your classroom, and passing the Praxis 2 content exam.

The sooner you reframe your college experience from "me doing homework" to "me as a pre-professional preparing for my career" the more proactive you can be when renewing your license once hired.

## Examples of Evidence or "Artifacts" for your PDP

Samples of pupil work

Letter of recommendation

Evidence of attendance at professional meetings, workshops, conferences, or seminars

Peer critiques of teaching

Administrative or supervisory evaluations

Journals

Diaries or published articles

Action Research projects

College, University or technical college coursework

Evidence of in-district work assignments outside the classroom

## What Is In a PDP?

The PDP requires the Initial Educator to:

- Choose two or more of the 10 teacher standards
- Write a goal based on those standards that will impact student learning and professional growth
- Write objectives and identify activities to accomplish this goal
- Complete a timeline for achieving the objectives/goal
- Include evidence of collaboration with colleagues and documentation of completed activities
- Create an assessment plan that specifies indicators of growth

## Who verifies and approves your PDP?

As an initial educator, you are responsible for developing your goals and providing evidence that you have met your goals—you control your PDP throughout the entire process. Your Professional Development Team (PDT) is responsible for reviewing and approving your professional development goals identified in your PDP. Once a majority (i.e. 2 of the 3 members) of the team verifies that you have successfully completed your PDP, you will receive a 5-year, renewable Professional Educator License. Note: The PDP cannot be verified unless you have completed at least three years of experience in your licensure category (e.g. teacher, administrator, pupil services). See back page for more information.

**PDT:** The PDT is a three-member team consisting of a teacher of the same subject or at the same grade level who is selected by you (but is NOT your designated mentor), an administrator designated by the superintendent, and a higher education (IHE) representative. All members of the team must be trained through the DPI to serve as reviewers of the PDP. It is important to note that the PDP process **is not and cannot** be used as part of the district's formal evaluation process.

### *School Districts must provide:*

- *A qualified mentor*
- *Ongoing orientation*
- *FREE support seminars*

## PDP Timeline For Initial Educators

### Year 1

- Self-reflection and work with mentor, become acquainted with Quality Educator Interactive (QEI) tool, research available PDT members (contact your local association to find out what type of support they can provide)

### Year 2

- Assemble your PDT
- Submit your plan with checklist by October 1 to PDT for approval of the goal

### Year 2-4

- Document the annual review. If major revisions are made, the educator must submit changes to the PDT to be reviewed by April 1 of that year

### Year 3-5

- Submit the complete PDP with documentation to the PDP Team between July 1 and January 15
- The PDP Team has until April 1 to verify the PDP. If there are any discrepancies, you have until June 1 to make revisions to your PDP

Many districts already utilize certain aspects of the PDP process; the concept of action research, reflective teaching and goal setting isn't new. What is new is that these skills are now linked to licensure renewal.

Not all districts are equally prepared for PI34 implementation; go to [www.weacm.org](http://www.weacm.org) to view district profiles relative to PI 34 preparedness and other benefits.

Remember, ultimately YOU are responsible for the licensure renewal process. Do your homework ahead of time and learn about the resources available to you as a Student WEA member.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

Student WEA Fall Professional Development Seminar  
Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI  
November 2-3, 2007

Student WEA Spring Professional Development Seminars  
Held regionally, locations to be determined  
Dates to be determined, either March 1, or March 8, 2008

Student WEA Representative Assembly  
Held at Outreach to Teach location, to be determined  
April 11-12, 2008

Outreach To Teach  
Location to be determined  
April 12-13, 2008

Transitions Training  
Wisconsin Dells, WI  
April 25-26, 2008