

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES:
EDUCATOR TERM CONTRACTS

DCB
(LEGAL)

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| REQUIREMENTS CERTIFICATE | A person who desires to teach in a public school shall present the person's certificate for filing with the District before the person's contract with the Board is binding. <i>Education Code 21.053(a)</i> [See DCB(LOCAL) for listing of term contract positions] |
| PROBATIONARY CONTRACT PREREQUISITE | Except as provided below, before a term contract may be issued, the employee must be employed under a probationary contract. |
| EXCEPTION FOR PRINCIPAL OR CLASSROOM TEACHER | The District may employ a person as a principal or classroom teacher under a term contract if the person has experience as a public school principal or classroom teacher, respectively, regardless of whether the person is being employed by the District for the first time or whether a probationary contract would otherwise be required under Section 21.102. <i>Education Code 21.202</i> [See DCA] |
| EMPLOYMENT POLICIES | Except as provided by Education Code 21.352(c), the Board's employment policies, which must include reasons for not renewing a term contract at the end of a school year, must require a written evaluation of each term contract employee at annual or more frequent intervals. <i>Education Code 21.203</i> [See DFBB and DN series] |
| CONTRACT TERMS | A term contract must be in writing and include the terms of employment prescribed by Education Code Chapter 21, Subchapter E; the Board may include other provisions in a term contract that are consistent with that subchapter. Each term contract is subject to the approval of the Board. The Board shall provide each "teacher," as that term is defined in Education Code 21.201, with a copy of the teacher's contract. |
| COPY OF POLICIES | The Board shall also provide each teacher a copy of the Board's employment policies upon the teacher's request. If the District has an Internet Web site, the District shall place the Board's employment policies on that Web site. At each school in the District, the Board shall make a copy of the Board's employment policies available for inspection at a reasonable time on request. <i>Education Code 21.204(a)-(d)</i> |
| MAXIMUM DURATION | Once the probationary period has been completed, the duration of a term contract may not exceed five school years. <i>Education Code 21.205</i> |
| PROPERTY INTEREST | There is no property interest in a term contract beyond its term. <i>Education Code 21.204(e)</i> |

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Term contracts governed by Chapter 21 of the Education Code (educator term contracts) shall be provided to:

1. SBEC certified employees serving full-time as principals, assistant principals, teachers, counselors, diagnosticians, librarians, and athletic directors; and
2. Full-time nurses.