

Class Change Article Clarifications

Reference to 'hours' and 'inservice hours' are 'advancement hours' and not clock hours.

Each advancement hour is earned by one of the following methods:

- Earning one credit from a credit institution (or completing the time and work required to earn one credit if a teacher decides not to purchase the credit).
- Participating in professional preparation for 10 clock hours. Hours must be completed with an accredited institution and must be acceptable. Examples of accredited institutions are: RIDE, MPS, East Bay, PLTW, Pathways, MLL endorsement, etc.
- In-Service Credit- With prior approval of the Superintendent one (1) credit hour for each ten (10) hours of professional work without compensation shall be granted to certified teachers who participate in seminars, research projects or other professional undertakings directly connected with the Middletown Public Schools and such credits shall be applicable with prejudice to Classes 2, 3, 4 and 5.
- Every 10 hours, in-service or RIDE, earned prior to 9/1/06, will earn one (1) Middletown in-service credit which will be applicable for classes 2, 3, and 4. After 9/1/06, RIDE hours earned during the school day will earn one (1) credit to 15 hours which are applicable for classes 2, 3, and 4.
- Inservice and RIDE hours earned out of the school day will earn one (1) Middletown in-service credit to 10 hours which will be applicable for classes 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Class 2:

All teachers who qualify for Class 1 and present evidence of

- **Thirty (30) hours** of professional preparation from an accredited institution beyond minimum requirements for Provisional Certification
 - Twenty-four (24) of the thirty (30) hours of professional preparation needed for entrance into Class 2 must be earned during the past ten (10) calendar years.

"30 hours" = 300 clock hours of PD or 30 college credit credits or a combination of both.

After 9/1/06, 15 RIDE clock hours earned during the school day are equivalent to one class advancement hour out of the 30 needed.

Class 3: Opportunities for Class 3 eligibility are as follows:

All teachers who qualify for Class 1 and have earned a Master's Degree from an approved institution	OR	All teachers who qualify for Class 1 and provide evidence of Forty-two (42) hours of professional preparation, of which thirty (30) are classified by the accredited granting institution as graduate level and/ or in an area or subject matter field Thirty (30) of the forty-two (42) hours needed for entrance into Class 3 must be earned during the past ten (10) calendar years.	OR	All Teachers who qualify for Class 2 and provide evidence of twelve (12) additional hours not applicable for Class 2 which were earned from an accredited granting institution as graduate level and/or in an area or subject matter. Thirty (30) of the forty-two (42) hours needed for entrance into Class 3 must be earned during the past ten (10) calendar years. The 42 hours are the 30 hours earned from Class 1 to Class 2 and the additional 12 hours provided for Class 3.
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"42 hours" = 420 clock hours of PD or 42 college credit credits or a combination of both.
After 9/1/06, 15 RIDE clock hours earned during the school day are equivalent to one class advancement hour out of the 42 needed.

Class 4:

All teachers who qualify for Class 3 and

- Provide evidence of **Thirty (30) hours** of professional preparation not applicable to the "earned Master's Degree" referred to in Class 3
 - Twenty-four (24) of the thirty (30) hours of professional preparation needed for entrance into Class 4 must be earned during the past ten (10) calendar years.

"30 hours" = 300 clock hours of PD or 30 college credit credits or a combination.

After 9/1/06, 15 RIDE clock hours earned during the school day are equivalent to one class advancement hour out of the 30 needed.

Class 5 AFTER AUGUST 15, 2011:

Any teacher with an earned Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study from an institution approved by the Rhode Island Department of Education as qualified to offer such a degree, **or any teacher with an earned Master's Degree** from an institution approved by the Rhode Island Department of Education as qualified to offer such a degree **and**:

- Provide evidence of **thirty (30) credits in addition to the Class 4 thirty (30) credits**, of which all additional thirty (30) are classified by the accredited college or university as graduate or undergraduate level credit and/or in an area or subject matter field
 - **Undergraduate level credits shall be subject to pre-approval** by the Superintendent or her designee. Such approval or denial shall be made in a timely manner
 - **All thirty (30) additional credits needed for entrance into Class 5 must be earned subsequent to the date of the granting of the first earned Master's Degree.**
- To be eligible to move to Class 5, certified staff, **hired after 9/1/06, is required to hold a Masters' degree** from an institution approved by the Rhode Island Department of Education as a qualified to offer such a degree. The parties agree that to be eligible to move to Class 5, **certified staff, hired before 9/1/06, is not required to hold a Masters' degree** from an institution approved by the Rhode Island Department of Education as a qualified to offer such a degree.