

1 exam to demonstrate academic competence. The Board shall not issue provisional
2 certificates for ~~principals and assistant principals~~ principals.

3 The Board shall issue a one-year provisional assistant principal's certificate to an
4 employee of a local board only if (i) the local board determines there is a shortage of
5 persons who hold or are qualified to hold a principal's certificate, and (ii) the employee
6 enrolls in an approved program leading to a masters degree in school administration
7 before the provisional certificate expires. The Board shall extend the provisional
8 certificate for a total of no more than two additional years while the employee is
9 completing the program."

10 Section 2. G.S. 115C-289(b) reads as rewritten:

11 "(b) All persons employed as assistant principals in State-allotted positions, or as
12 assistant principals in full-time positions regardless of funding source, in the public
13 schools of the State or in schools receiving public funds, shall, in addition to other
14 applicable requirements, be required either to hold or be qualified to hold a principal's
15 certificate or a provisional assistant principal's certificate in compliance with applicable
16 law and in accordance with the regulations of the State Board of Education. It shall be
17 unlawful for any board of education to employ or keep in service any assistant principal
18 who neither holds nor is qualified to hold a principal's certificate or a provisional
19 assistant principal's certificate in compliance with applicable law and in accordance with
20 the regulations of the State Board of Education. Persons who hold a provisional assistant
21 principal's certificate and who are employed as assistant principals shall be employed
22 under G.S. 115C-287.1(h)."

23 Section 3. G.S. 115C-287.1 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

24 "(h) An individual who holds a provisional assistant principal's certificate and who
25 is employed as an assistant principal under G.S. 115C-284(c) shall be considered a school
26 administrator for purposes of this section. Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section,
27 a local board may enter into one-year contracts with a school administrator who holds a
28 provisional assistant principal's certificate. If the school administrator held career status
29 as a teacher in the local school administrative unit prior to being employed as an assistant
30 principal and the State Board for any reason does not extend the school administrator's
31 provisional assistant principal's certificate, the school administrator shall retain career
32 status as a teacher unless the school administrator voluntarily relinquished that right or is
33 dismissed or demoted under G.S. 115C-325. Nothing in this subsection or G.S. 115C-
34 284(c) shall be construed to require a local board to extend or renew the contract of a
35 school administrator who holds a provisional assistant principal's certificate."

36 Section 4. This act is effective when it becomes law.