

Regulatory Impact Analysis

Rule Topic:	Educator Enrollment Fee – Rule Readoption
Rule Citation:	15A NCAC 01S .0101
DEQ Division:	Office of Environmental Education and Public Affairs
Staff Contact(s):	Lisa Tolley, Program Manager, lisa.tolley@deq.nc.gov , 919-707-8125
Impact Summary:	State government: None Local government: None Private entities: None Environment: None Substantial economic impact: No
Authority:	N.C.G.S. 143B-285.21; 143B-285.22; 143B-285.23; 150B-19(5)(d)

1. Necessity for Rule Amendments

The Office of Environmental Education and Public Affairs within the Department of Environmental Quality proposes minor amendments to 15A NCAC 01S .0101 as part of the rule readoption process required by G.S. 150B-21.3A. This statute mandates that state agencies review existing rules every 10 years to assess their necessity and either readopt or repeal each rule. Rule 15A NCAC 01S .0101 remains necessary and is proposed for readoption with minor clarifications to administrative processes.

2. Purpose of Rules

The purpose of Rule 15A NCAC 01S .0101 is to establish fees and application procedures for enrollment in the North Carolina Environmental Education Certification Program. This program recognizes professional development in environmental and natural sciences, enhancing the ability of educators and organizations to provide quality curriculum, programs and resources that benefit local communities.

3. Regulatory Baseline

For this analysis, the regulatory baseline is the existing version of Rule 15A NCAC 01S .0101.

4. Summary of Proposed Rule Amendments

- Update the name of the division from “Office of Environmental Education” to “Office of Environmental Education and Public Affairs.”
- Specify application form details: applicant name, employer (or school/workplace), teacher status, grades/subjects taught (if applicable), and NC teaching license status.
- Clarify payment as a non-refundable check or money order.
- List the address to which payment and application is to be submitted.

5. Impact Analysis

Applicants seeking enrollment in the North Carolina Environmental Education Certification Program -- primarily educators, nonformal teachers, and professionals in environmental or natural sciences -- are subject to this rule. These individuals submit the required application and one-time \$50 non-refundable fee. No fiscal or environmental impacts are expected, as the readoption maintains current requirements without substantive changes. The minor updates improve clarity but are not anticipated to produce measurable effects, additional costs, or changes in behavior. The fee amount remains unchanged.

1 **15A NCAC 01S .0101 IS PROPOSED FOR READOPTION AS FOLLOWS:**

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3 **15A NCAC 01S .0101 FEES**

4 (a) For enrollment in the North Carolina Environmental Education Certification Program an applicant shall submit
5 to the Office of Environmental Education and Public Affairs an enrollment application, provided by the Office of
6 Environmental ~~Education~~, Education and Public Affairs, accompanied by a one-time money order or non-refundable
7 check fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

8 (b) The application shall be submitted on a form provided by the Environmental Education Certification Program
9 that includes:

10 _____ (1) Applicant's Name

11 _____ (2) Applicant's Employer

12 _____ (2) Name of school or workplace, if different from applicant's employer;

13 _____ (3) State whether the applicant is a classroom teacher, a nonformal teacher or neither;

14 _____ (4) If the applicant is a classroom teacher, identify the grade(s) and subject(s) he or she has taught;

15 _____ (5) If the applicant is licensed to teach in NC.

16 (c) The application and fee shall be submitted to NCDEQ Environmental Education, 1601 Mail Service Center,
17 Raleigh, NC 27699-1601.

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19 *History Note: Authority G.S. 143B-285.21; 143B-285.22; 143B-285.23; 150B-19(5)(d);*

20 *Eff. January 1, 2009;*

21 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. November*
22 *12, 2014;*

23 *Readopted Eff. Xxxxxx, 2026.*

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