



## A Handy Guide to Re-certification for Teachers

<p><b>How many points do I need to re-certify?</b></p>	<p>You need <b>180</b> recertification points every five years regardless of whether you have a Bachelor's or a Master's Degree</p>
<p><b>Has anything changed about recertification?</b></p>	<p>Yes ... it used to be that teachers with a Bachelor's degree needed 90 out of the 180 points to come from a 3 credit college graduate class. That is no longer a requirement from the VDOE. No 3 credit class is required any more, although taking one 3 credit college graduate course is still a great way to get points since classes are beneficial AND it's an efficient way to get 90 points.</p>
<p><b>Is there anything else I need?</b></p>	<p>Yes. There are several online modules that may apply such as Child Abuse, Emergency First Aid, and Virginia History. Please see the VDOE website  <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/licensure/index.shtml">http://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/licensure/index.shtml</a></p>
<p><b>What do I need to do to ensure I am able to re-certify?</b></p>	<p>Planning ahead is important. You have five years to earn 180 points. If you divide that out ... that's about 35-40 points each year. Some of those will come from activities through your school/SCS (see below) but the remainder you will need to plan to earn on your own. Keeping track EACH year and planning ahead will keep you from coming up short when it is time to re-certify.</p>
<p><b>If I am currently taking graduate courses can two of those (90 each) be counted as my 180 points?</b></p>	<p>Yes. That would be all you would need to record Two of your graduate courses and you've met the 180 point requirement.</p>
<p><b>Should I try to exceed 180 points?</b></p>	<p>It is a good idea to make sure you will have at least 180 points over the five year period, but there is no need to list a lot of extra points on any of the forms ... 180 is all you need to document ... there is no credit for listing more.</p>
<p><b>How can I earn points?</b></p>	<p>You will automatically be earning points throughout the year by participating in the opportunities for learning provided on SCS staff development days and in faculty meeting/PLC learning. Your principal is required to submit</p>

	<p>those points to the Executive Director of Instruction at the end of the school year and points are awarded. Teachers receive a document with the number of points awarded to keep for their records.</p>
<p><b>How else can I earn points?</b></p>	<p>For a complete listing of ways to earn points, please see the info at the VDOE link below. A few ideas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attending conferences &amp; workshops</li> <li>● Presenting</li> <li>● Participating in book studies or professional reading reflections</li> <li>● Working on curriculum</li> <li>● Supervising student teachers/practicum students</li> <li>● Mentoring new teachers</li> </ul>
<p><b>How do I know how many points I have?</b></p>	<p>If points are awarded through SCS, a record is kept in Instruction. You may contact Instruction at any time to receive your point total. If you achieve points in other ways, please submit them to the Executive Director of Instruction for approval and recording. <b>TEACHERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN RE-CERTIFICATION.</b> We are happy to help you by keeping records of what we award, but you are ultimately responsible for ensuring you have completed the activities necessary to meet the VDOE licensure re-certification requirements.</p>
<p><b>What happens if I come up short and don't have 180 points by the date of my license expiration?</b></p>	<p>You will not be licensed and SCS will not be able to offer you a professional teaching contract for the upcoming year. SCS notifies each teacher up for renewal in the fall of the renewal year to ensure that you are aware that you must meet the 180 point requirement by that June.</p>
<p><b>What if I have more questions?</b></p>	<p>Please see all information provided by the VDOE at the following link:  <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/licensure/index.shtml">http://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/licensure/index.shtml</a></p> <p>You may also contact the Executive Director of Instruction (Dori Walk) at 332-3940 or <a href="mailto:dwalk@staunton.k12.va.us">dwalk@staunton.k12.va.us</a></p>