

Graduates—State Normal College—Teaching—Life Certificates.

Graduates of State Normal College at Dillon who receive elementary certificates are required to teach thereafter for

36 months and finish training required by section 1092, as amended, before being eligible for elementary life certificate.

Miss Elizabeth Ireland,
State Superintendent of Public Instruction,
Helena, Montana.

May 20, 1931.

My dear Miss Ireland:

You have requested an opinion as to how long the graduates of the State Normal College at Dillon must teach on the diploma that they receive from that institution this June before they are eligible to receive a life certificate.

Subdivision (b) (1) of paragraph 5 of section 1092, as amended by chapter 131, laws 1923, and further amended by chapter 147, laws 1931, provides that:

“A diploma of the Montana State Normal College at Dillon, or the Eastern Montana Normal School at Billings, or any other normal school that may hereafter be established under the control of the State Board of Education, shall constitute an elementary state certificate, valid for six (6) years from date in grades one (1) to nine (9) inclusive.”

The same section provides for elementary life certificates as follows:

“Such candidates for elementary life certificates must be holders of elementary state certificates in full force and effect, and must present satisfactory evidence of at least thirty-six (36) months of successful teaching experience in Montana during the life of a Montana elementary state certificate and satisfactory evidence of having secured eight quarter credits of approved academic and professional training obtained subsequent to the issuance of the elementary state certificate. This advanced professional and academic training must be taken in a fully accredited higher institution that meets the approval of the State Board of Educational Examiners.”

From these two sections it appears that it was the intention of the legislature to issue elementary state certificates upon graduation from the Normal College and that the recipient of such certificate should thereafter teach for thirty-six months and in addition finish the training required by subsection 6 before securing an elementary life certificate.

Very truly yours,

L. A. FOOT,
Attorney General.