



Changes to Teacher Certification Requirements¹ (N.J.A.C. 6A:9B)

Background

On November 4, 2015, the State Board of Education adopted updates to a range of teacher preparation and certification requirements. This package complements new requirements for earning the initial Certificate of Eligibility (CE) or Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS) that were adopted in June 2014.

Changes

The following tables summarize major changes from previous to new requirements. The charts on the following page provide a snapshot of all requirements for each stage of certification.

Previous Requirements	New Requirements	Effective Date
<i>Earning the CE</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Among other requirements, candidates must complete a 24-hour pre-service class in basic teaching skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 hours of pre-professional experience required before earning provisional certificate 	Candidates starting 2017-18
<i>Obtaining a Provisional Certificate to Assume Responsibilities of Certified Staff Member</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-service training required for CE, not provisional certificate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CE holders must complete 50 hours of pre-professional training (including 20 hours of clinical experience) through a CE educator preparation program 	Candidates starting 2017-18
<i>Minimum Provisional Teaching Period Before Eligible for Standard Certificate</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 1 full school year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 2 full school years 	Teachers starting 2015-16
<i>Earning the Standard Certificate</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Candidates with a CE must (among other requirements) complete CE educator preparation program of 200-290 hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Candidates with a CE must (among other requirements) complete CE educator preparation program of 350 hours or equivalent credit hours AND pass a performance assessment 	Candidates starting 2017-18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All candidates must be evaluated and recommended by building principal based on one year of observations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All candidates must be evaluated by building principal based on AchieveNJ system: candidate must earn ratings of Effective or higher within 2 of 3 consecutive years 	Teachers starting 2015-16
<i>Reciprocity with Other States</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reciprocity allows for equivalent of out-of-state CEs Candidates teaching less than 3 years under their out-of-state license must meet the GPA requirement No performance assessment for standard certification required for out-of-state candidates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reciprocity NOT allowed for CE equivalent Require evidence of effective teaching in 2 of 3 years within the last 4 to earn standard certificate through reciprocity Out-of-state candidates who can't demonstrate effective teaching as described above must pass performance assessment (NJ or home state) to earn standard cert. 	Upon adoption Teachers starting 2017-18

For More Information

- View the [broadcast memo](#) explaining the rationale for the updates.
- To share questions or comments, please email Licensing.requests@doe.state.nj.us.

¹ This document provides an overview of requirements for certification. For all official matters, such as issues brought before the Board of Examiners, concerned parties should rely on [regulatory requirements at N.J.A.C. 6A:9, 9A, 9B, and 9C](#) as the final authority.



Pathways From Initial to Standard Certification: Previous and Future States



Requirements for Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS) Educator Preparation Program (EPP) Candidates:

	CEAS	Provisional Certification*	Standard Certification
Previous State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold bachelor's or advanced degree Hold 2.75 GPA (until 8/31/16) Complete CEAS-EPP and student teaching Be recommended by program Earn subject specific endorsement (pass subject-matter test, complete subject courses) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accept offer of employment Be enrolled in district mentoring program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete district mentoring program Receive affirmative recommendation from principal based on evaluation
Future State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold bachelor's or advanced degree Hold 3.0 GPA (those graduating as of 9/01/16) Complete CEAS-EPP and student teaching Be recommended by program Earn subject specific endorsement (pass subject-matter test & complete subject-specific courses) Pass performance assessment (as of 9/01/17) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accept offer of employment Be enrolled in district mentoring program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete district mentoring program Earn 2 evaluation ratings of Effective or Highly Effective in 3 consecutive years within a 4-year provisional time period² (those starting 2015-16)

**District verifies employment, mentoring, enrollment*

Requirements for Certificate of Eligibility (CE) Candidates Enrolling in a CE Educator Preparation Program:

	CE	Provisional Certification*	Standard Certification
Previous State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold bachelor's or advanced degree Hold 2.75 GPA (until 8/31/16) Complete 24 hours of study Earn subject specific endorsement (pass subject-matter test & complete subject-specific courses) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accept offer of employment Be enrolled in district mentoring program Be enrolled in 1-year CE-EPP (200-290 hrs) and, if appropriate, matriculate in college P-3 or bilingual program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verify CE-EPP completion (200-290 hours) Complete district mentoring program Receive affirmative recommendation from principal based on evaluation
Future State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold bachelor's or advanced degree Hold 3.0 GPA (students who graduate after 9/01/16) No requirement for 24 hrs of study (those starting 2017-18) Earn subject specific endorsement (pass subject-matter test & complete subject-specific courses) Meet basic-skills requirement³ (as of 9/01/15) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accept offer of employment Be enrolled in district mentoring program Be enrolled in 2-year CE-EPP (350 hrs) and, if appropriate, matriculate in college P-3 or bilingual program Complete 50 hours pre-service (including clinical) at CE-EPP (those starting 2017-18) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verify program completion (350 hrs) Complete district mentoring program Earn 2 evaluation ratings of Effective or Highly Effective in 3 consecutive years within a 4-year provisional time period⁴ (those starting 2015-16) Pass performance assessment (those starting 2017-18)

**District verifies employment, mentoring, enrollment*

² If a teacher does not receive the 2 specified Effective or Highly Effective ratings during the provisional period, a principal may recommend the teacher receive a second provisional certificate.

³ CEAS candidates must the basic skills requirement before entering the educator preparation program.

⁴ See footnote 1 above.