

**Teacher of the Deaf or Hard of Hearing with Sign Language
Communication STANDARD CERTIFICATE
(ENDORSEMENT CODE: 2423)**

Please print this page before you apply.

This endorsement entitles the holder to teach **deaf or hard of hearing students using sign language communication strategies** in all public schools.

In order to be eligible for the Standard Certificate, you will need to meet the following:

Instructional Certification

- Deaf or Hard of Hearing: Sign Language Communication certificate is not a standalone certificate. You need to hold a CEAS or standard NJ instructional certificate with an endorsement appropriate to the subject or grade level to be taught. If you have not yet applied for instructional certification, please see the NJ DOE website at <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/certandend.htm> for details and a listing of instructional endorsements.

Praxis II Test Requirement

- **There is no Praxis test requirement for this certificate.**

Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI)

- Current regulations require applicants for the Teacher of Deaf or Hard of Hearing: Sign Language Communication endorsement to achieve a score of intermediate or above on the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI). This test was formerly known as the Sign Communication Proficiency Interview (SCPI). Testing information can be obtained from the New Jersey School for the Deaf, West Trenton, by contacting Kim Arrigo at kim.arrigo@mksd.org. The Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI) is offered by a team of professionals trained to administer the assessment. Inquire on fee for assessment.

Professional Teacher Preparation

- Current regulations for certification require that applicants complete a State-approved Teacher of the Deaf or Hard of Hearing: Sign Language Communication program that culminates in student teaching. When you apply, please attach the verification of program completion form available under "Forms and Documents" on our website.

Out-of-State Teaching Certificate

- Please submit a copy of an out-of-state teaching certificate that is equivalent to a NJ Standard Instructional Certificate. Holders of a NJ Standard Instructional Certificate do not need to send in a copy of their certificate.

Record of Professional Experience

- Please submit the following form which must be filled out by your employer:
<http://www.state.nj.us/education/educators/license/forms/ROPE.pdf>

The New Jersey Department of Education will make the final determination as to whether or not the experience meets NJ reciprocity regulations:

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/educators/license/out/reciprocity.htm>

Please note: Holders of a NJ standard instructional certificate do not need to send in the above form with the exception of those who hold a standard *Teacher of the Handicapped* certificate.

Fee Information

- The current cost of the certificate is \$95.
- **No checks or money orders will be accepted**
- Please make the payment online at <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/epay.htm>.
- **Please notify your examiner after payment has been made.**
- If you apply and are denied, you will be charged a fee of \$70.
- **All fees, including money left on file, are nonrefundable**

Online Certificate Information

- All information about certificates is now available online, including certificate name, certificate ID number, date of issuance, and expiration date if applicable. Instructions to view this information can be found at www.state.nj.us/education/educators/license/tcis/instructions.pdf.
- In order to make certification information available more quickly, this information will appear on our website in lieu of the issuance of paper certificates. Additionally, the move to electronic certificates will save costs associated with printing and mailing, as many of our neighboring states have discovered. **Therefore, as of May 15, 2015, paper certificates will no longer be issued.**

IF YOU HAVE MET THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS, [CLICK HERE](#) TO APPLY ONLINE.

Applicant Checklist:

You cannot complete the entire application process online. After applying online, please submit ALL necessary documentation together IN A SINGLE PACKET to the NJ DOE in order to complete your application. Please put your tracking number or Social Security number on all documents that you send to our office. For this particular certificate, you will need to send in the following:

- Oath of allegiance/verification of accuracy form. (Available here: <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/forms/verify.pdf>)
- Official transcripts noting degree conferral and all other relevant transcripts. If possible, please have transcripts sent to you first and then forward them in the sealed envelope(s) together with any other documents.
- Verification of Program Completion. (Not necessary if student teaching is clearly noted on transcripts.) (Available here: <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/forms/college1.pdf>)
- Copies of your Praxis test score report (Not necessary if you have not taken the Praxis test. See above for details.)
- Out-of-State teaching certificate. (See above for details).
- Letter of teaching experience. (See above for details).
- Fee of \$95 paid online.