

Public Notice

Education

State Board of Education

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking

New Jersey Educator Preparation Programs

State Board of Examiners and Certification

N.J.A.C. 6A:9A-4.3 and 6A:9B

Petitioner: Jill M. Caccia.

Take notice that on January 30, 2023, the New Jersey State Board of Education (State Board) received two petitions for rulemaking from the above petitioner, requesting the State Board of Education create new rules at N.J.A.C. 6A:9A-4.3(d)1 and 6A:9B to allow the test of basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills (Praxis Core) to replace the State test of subject matter knowledge for elementary education for candidates seeking a basic skills teaching certificate.

The petitioner seeks to create a new regulation at N.J.A.C. 6A:9A-4.3(d)1, which allows certificate of eligibility with advanced standing (CEAS) educator preparation programs to determine how a candidate admitted to a program that starts before the academic year 2015-2016 is required to demonstrate acceptable levels of proficiency in the use of the English language, both oral and written, and mathematics. Candidates admitted to a CEAS educator preparation program in, or after, the academic year 2015-2016 are required to have achieved a minimum score established by the Department of Education (Department) on a Commissioner-approved test of basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills. The petitioner also seeks to create a new rule at N.J.A.C. 6A:9B, which sets forth the rules governing the licensure of educators or candidates required to be certified.

The petitioner's request states that a candidate who holds a State certificate and completed a teaching program should be eligible for a certificate and have the basic knowledge of reading/writing and mathematics to teach basic skills for elementary school (kindergarten to grade eight).

The petitioner's request states that the petitioner has a 3.8 grade point average (GPA), holds a CEAS in social studies, is trying to acquire a basic skill certificate, and passed the Praxis Core exam, which, the petitioner contends, is identical to the State test of subject matter knowledge for elementary education. The petitioner's request also states that the petitioner is working with the Office of Recruitment, Preparation, and Certification to earn the basic skills certificate. The petitioner's request further states that the petitioner has a CEAS in social studies for kindergarten through grade 12 and has been an aide in a third grade classroom to assist teachers in diversifying instruction and help students with reading, writing, and mathematics.

The request also states that the petitioner's intent is to see the State change the requirements for the basic skills certificate to enable certificate holders to teach basic skills in kindergarten through grade eight after showing that they are capable of doing so without having to take the State test of subject matter knowledge for elementary education. The petition also states that the requested changes would help alleviate the State's teaching shortage and assist children to achieve their highest level of academic needs.

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.2, the Department shall subsequently mail to the petitioner, and file with the Office of Administrative Law, a notice of action on the petition.