

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY WITH ADVANCED STANDING (ENDORSEMENT CODE: 1505)

TO AVOID DELAYS: After applying online, please submit **ALL** necessary documentation, including the oath of allegiance/verification of accuracy form, **together** in a **single packet** to the address below. If possible, please have transcripts sent to you first and then forward them in the sealed envelope(s) together with any other documents. Please include your Social Security number or tracking number in all correspondence with our office.

**NJ Department of Education
Office of Certification and Induction
PO Box 500
Trenton, NJ 08625-0500**

This endorsement entitles the holder to teach American Sign Language in all public schools.

Degree Requirement

A minimum of a bachelor's degree is required from a [regionally accredited college/university](#)

Cumulative GPA Requirement

- New Jersey requires that candidates for certification achieve a cumulative **GPA of at least 3.0 when a GPA of 4.00** equals an A grade for students graduating on or after **September 1, 2016 (2.75 for those graduating before September 1, 2016)** in a baccalaureate degree program, higher degree program or a State-approved post-baccalaureate certification program with a minimum of 13 semester-hour credits.
- Please note that there are [GPA Flexibility Rules](#) where a high praxis score may offset a GPA that is lower than 3.0, but higher than 2.75.

Subject Matter Preparation

- For certification as an **American Sign Language** teacher, current regulations require that applicants complete a minimum of 30 credits in a coherent sequence in the subject field of **ASL**. A coherent sequence requires that at least 12 credits are completed at the advanced level of study (junior, senior or graduate level). Examples of courses accepted for **ASL** include "American Sign Language"; "Interpreting ASL"; "Fingerspelling"; "Advanced ASL"; "ASL Syntax and Grammar"; "Basic Hearing Science"; and "Audiology Principles". Related courses may be accepted depending on the course description/content. Please provide a course description if a course is not taken from the **ASL** Department. Courses in pedagogy/education are not accepted towards the subject matter preparation. The final determination as to which courses will be counted towards the **ASL** subject matter is based on professional and content standards found in the NJ Licensing Code. **All credits must appear on a regionally accredited 2 or 4year college/university transcript.**

Sign Language Proficiency

- Current regulations require applicants for this endorsement to must possess linguistic competency in the designated world language as demonstrated on a Department-approved, nationally recognized test of receptive/expressive proficiency for American Sign Language.

Teacher of ASL: Proficiency Assessment Options Include:

- American Sign Language Teachers Association – Eligible ASLTA certificates include Provisional, Qualified, or Professional levels. Additional information is available at <http://www.aslta.org>.
- Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf - Eligible RID certificates include CI, CI and CT, or CDI. Additional information is available at <http://rid.org/>
- Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment – (EIPA) EIPA score of 3 or higher. Additional information is available from Silvia Coelho-Yi, Union County College. Phone: (908) 791-4952 Email: yi@ucc.edu
- Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI formerly SCPI) – requires a minimum score of advanced or above. Testing information can be obtained from the New Jersey School for the Deaf, West Trenton, (609) 530-2332, Contact: Joan Cohen-Administrative Coordinator. Information is also available on the website: <http://mksd.org>

Second Language Acquisition & Related Methodologies

- Please note that before a CEAS or *standard* certificate may be issued, a minimum of three semester-hour credits in second language acquisition theory and related methodologies offered by a [regionally accredited](#) two or four year college or university must be completed. Please choose from our list of [approved courses](#).

Professional Teacher Preparation

- Current regulations for certification require that applicants complete a coherent sequence of study in professional education which may be completed in a provisional teacher program or an approved teacher preparation program. This is to advise that courses presented by the applicant in professional education must be a coherent sequence of courses that culminates in supervised clinical practice.

Teacher Performance Assessment

- Candidates seeking initial certification must pass a Commissioner-approved [performance-based assessment of teaching](#) if they graduated on or after September 1, 2017. The [Verification of Program Completion](#) form needs to be completed in its entirety by your college/university.

Physiology and Hygiene Requirement

- This requirement may be completed by presenting evidence of basic military training, OR by completing a course such as biology, health or nutrition that appears on a regionally accredited 2 or 4 year college or university transcript, OR by completing a 35 question True/False test administered in the [county office](#) of education. Please contact a [county office](#) of education **after** you apply online.

Fee Requirement

- No checks or money orders will be accepted
- Please make the payment [online](#)
- Please notify your examiner after payment has been made.
- If your application expires after six months, you will be charged a fee of \$70.
- All fees, including money left on file, are nonrefundable

Online Certificate Information

- All information regarding applications and certifications 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 [here](#).
- In order to make certification information available more quickly, this information will appear on our website in lieu of the issuance of paper certificates. If you would like to view the status of your application, then please visit our [application status check](#).

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 on all documents that you send to our office.

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