

# MIDDLE SCHOOL WITH SUBJECT MATTER SPECIALIZATION: WORLD LANGUAGE GRADES 5-8 POLISH STANDARD CERTIFICATE (ENDORSEMENT CODE: 1176)

**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 Polish in all public schools in Grades 5-8.

## 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.

## Certification

- Regulations for certification require that applicants hold an Elementary School or N-12 subject matter endorsement in order to be eligible for Middle School with Subject Matter Specialization. Issuance of the Middle School with Subject Matter Specialization certificate will be contingent upon eligibility and/or issuance of the Elementary School or N-12 subject matter endorsement.

## Subject Matter Preparation

- Current regulations for certification require that applicants complete a minimum of 15 credits in the subject area that you want to be certified in. Courses in educational pedagogy do not count towards the subject matter requirement. All credits must appear on a regionally accredited 2 OR 4 year college/university transcript.

## Oral Proficiency Interview

- The Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) in Polish with a score of "Advanced Low" or higher is required. You must possess linguistic competency in the designated world language as demonstrated on a Department-approved, nationally recognized test of oral language proficiency for spoken language, reading/writing proficiency for classical languages or receptive/expressive proficiency for American Sign Language. Information regarding this test may be found on the Language Testing International [website](#) or by calling Language Testing International by phone at (914) 963-7110.

## 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.

### **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 [Record of Professional Experience form](#) which must be filled out by your employer:

The New Jersey Department of Education will make the final determination as to whether or not the experience meets NJ [reciprocity regulations](#).

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.

### **Course Requirement in the Characteristics of Child and Early Adolescent Development**

- A course in "Child and Early Adolescent Development," or its equivalent, that appears on a regionally accredited 2 or 4 year college or university transcript is required. Acceptable courses include "Adolescent Psychology/Development" and "Lifespan Development". A course titled "Child Psychology" will **not** be accepted unless it covers the development of adolescents between the ages of 11-14.

### **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.**