PORTUGUESE CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY
(ENDORSEMENT CODE: 1574)

TO AVOID DELAYS: After applying online, please submit ALL necessary documentation 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 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 Portuguese 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 a Portuguese teacher, current regulations require that applicants complete a minimum of 30 credits in a coherent sequence in the subject field of Portuguese. 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 Portuguese include Portuguese language and culture. Related courses may be accepted depending on the course description/content. Please provide a course description if a course is not taken from the Portuguese Department. Courses in pedagogy/education are not accepted towards the subject matter preparation. The final determination as to which courses will be counted towards Portuguese 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 4 year college/university transcript.

Testing Requirements
- Basic Skills Assessment Requirement (choose one)
  All candidates applying for their initial CE must pass a Commissioner-approved test of basic skills. Scores must be presented directly from Educational Testing Service to the NJ Department of Education. Only official scores are accepted. The New Jersey Department of Education code (R7666) and your Social Security number must appear on your test score report in order to be accepted. Please submit a copy of your test score report if you have taken the appropriate exams.

  OR

  Score in the top one-third percentile on the SAT, ACT, or GRE for the year the test was taken. Official score reports must be sent directly from the testing agency.

- Oral Proficiency Interview
  The Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) in Portuguese 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.

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.

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT IS MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES CURRENTLY IN EFFECT. REQUIREMENTS, PASSING TEST SCORES, AND FEES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.
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.