

TEACHER OF AGRICULTURE CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY WITH ADVANCED STANDING (ENDORSEMENT CODE: 2501)

TO AVOID DELAYS: After applying online, please email any transcripts, letters, forms, copies of out-of-state certification or other required documents to certapplication@doe.nj.gov. Electronic transcripts must be sent directly from your university, college, clearinghouse or school. Please include your tracking number in the subject line of all correspondence with our office.

This endorsement entitles the holder to teach agribusiness systems; animal systems; environmental service systems; natural resource systems; plant systems; power, structural and technical systems and related technologies 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 **Agriculture** teacher, current regulations require that applicants complete a minimum of 30 credits in a coherent sequence in the subject field of Agriculture. 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 Agriculture include animal science, plant science, forestry, natural resources, food science and horticulture. Related courses may be accepted depending on the course description/content. Please provide a course description if a course is not taken from the Agriculture 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 Agriculture subject matter is based on professional and content standards found in the NJ Certification Code. **All credits must appear on a regionally accredited 2 or 4-year college/university transcript.**

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 choosing one of the following options:
 - 1.) Present evidence of basic military training
 - 2.) Complete a course such as biology, health or nutrition that appears on a regionally accredited 2 or 4-year college/university transcript
 - 3.) Complete an online test. You must have a tracking number and an application on file to take this test. Once completed, please email us at Licensing.Requests@doe.nj.gov stating that the test has been taken. You will need to include your name and tracking number in the email.

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

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.

You cannot complete the entire application process online. After applying online, please email all necessary documentation to certapplication@doe.nj.gov. Electronic transcripts must be sent directly from your university, college, clearinghouse or school. Please include your tracking number in the subject line of all correspondence with our office.

If the above requirements have been met, then you may complete the online application in the Teacher Certification Information System (TCIS).