



Changes to Alternate Route/CE Educator Preparation Programming Requirements

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

Background

On November 4, 2015, the State Board of Education adopted updates to Certificate of Eligibility (CE) candidates. The goal of this effort is to support novice teachers who can drive student success in the classroom starting on day one, building upon requirements for entry into the teaching profession adopted by the State Board last year. *Please note that in response to the request of preparation program providers, the Department will now refer to what is commonly called “alternate route” as “CE educator preparation programs.”*

Overview of Changes

The first chart below lists changes adopted in June 2014. The following charts outline key changes from the November 2015 regulatory package.

CE-EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM (EPP) ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Previous Requirements	Requirements Adopted June 2014	Effective Date
Basic Skills Attainment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proficiency not assessed 	Proficiency Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Candidates must pass a Commissioner-approved basic skills assessment of Math and Language Arts^[1] Requirement waived for candidates who score in the top third percentile on any of the following tests in the given year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ SAT ✓ ACT ✓ GRE For more information, see Cut Scores for Basic Skills Requirement Exemption	9/1/2015 Currently in Effect
Lower Minimum Entry GPA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.75 GPA Exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Hold a GPA between 2.75 and 2.5 and exceed the passing score on the appropriate State test of subject matter by at least 10% 	Higher Minimum Entry GPA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.0 GPA Exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Hold a GPA between 2.75 and 3.00 and graduated before 9/1/2016 ✓ Hold a GPA between 3.00 and 2.75 and exceed the passing score on the appropriate State test of subject matter by at least 10% ✓ Programs may sponsor candidates with GPAs between 3.00 and 2.75 GPA as long as the candidate is employed when participating in the program. Sponsored candidates can make up no more than 10% of the CE preparation program’s annual accepted candidates For more information, see GPA Requirements for Teacher Preparation and Certification	9/1/2016

¹ This document provides an overview of requirements. For all official matters, such as issues brought before the Board of Examiners, concerned parties should rely on [regulatory requirements at N.J.A.C. 6A:9, 9A, 9B, and 9C](#) as the final authority.

[1] Currently Approved: Praxis Pre-Professional Skills Test (Praxis I), Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators (Praxis Core)



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Please note that all of the following requirements are effective starting with school year 2017-18, with the exception of the terminology change and accreditation (as noted).

Program Entry:

Previous Requirements	New Requirements "Effective 2017-2018"
Not Cohort-Based <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programs free to admit individual candidates throughout the year 	Cohort-Based <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programs must accept candidates in a cohort at a specific interval²

Pre-Service / Pre-Professional Experience:

Note: Typical progression = Certificate of Eligibility (CE), Provisional Certification, Standard Certification

Previous Requirements	New Requirements "Effective 2017-2018"
Shorter Duration with Limited Specificity Around Practical Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 hours of pre-service required to obtain the CE During pre-service, candidates must demonstrate knowledge of basic pedagogical skills including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom management Lesson planning Introduction to Common Core State Standards and Professional Standards for Teachers Assessment of pupil progress 	Longer Duration with Greater Specificity Around Practical Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 hours of pre-professional experience (instead of 24) required before provisional certification, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 hours of coursework 20 hours of clinical experience, including at least 10 hours of planning and delivering instruction via individual or co-teaching model 15 hours left to discretion of the program
Responsibility Assigned to Individual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual teacher candidates are responsible for obtaining 24 hours of pre-service to obtain a CE Candidates may select different programs for pre-service and in-service programming 	Responsibility Shifts to Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programs responsible for providing 50 hours pre-professional programming to candidates prior to full-time professional teaching Program that provides in-service programming also responsible for pre-professional programming

In-Service:

Previous Requirements	New Requirements "Effective 2017-2018"
Shorter Duration Over Unspecified Time Span <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specification about program length Minimum of 200 hours or equivalent credit hours for all teachers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers with the elementary school (K-6 and N-8) CE must complete an additional 45 hours of study in teaching mathematics and 45 hours of study in teaching literacy 	Longer Duration and Clarified Time Span <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 2 years in duration Minimum of 350 hours or equivalent credit hours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All teachers, regardless of endorsement, must complete requirement above

² A "cohort" is a group of candidates accepted to start an educator preparation program at or around the same time.



Program Transfers:

Previous Requirements	New Requirements "Effective 2017-2018"
No Rule About Transferring Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none">No requirements specified in regulations	New Rule About Transferring Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none">Programs, at their discretion, may accept up to 100 hours of formal instruction from another approved program for transfers or candidates seeking dual certification

Program Completion:

Previous Requirements	New Requirements "Effective 2017-2018"
Program Completion Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none">200-290 hours required dependent on endorsement area	Expanded Program Completion Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none">Candidates must complete the minimum hours of instruction (350 or equivalent)Candidates must pass a Commissioner-approved performance assessment

Program Accreditation:

Previous Requirements	New Requirements "Effective 2017-2018"
No Accreditation Requirement	Accreditation Required by 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Programs must achieve accreditation by 2022, allowing 2 years for restructuring and 5 years to become accredited

For More Information

- Visit the [educator preparation web page](#).
- View the [broadcast memo](#) explaining the rationale for the regulatory updates.
- To share questions or comments, please email rpr@doe.state.nj.us.