

CHAPTER 311

AN ACT concerning certain training for prospective teachers and supplementing chapter 26 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

C.18A:26-2.31 Mandatory culturally responsive teaching training for certification.

1. a. Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, all candidates for teaching certification who have completed an educator preparation program at a commissioner-approved educator preparation program provider shall have satisfactorily completed a course or training on culturally responsive teaching.

b. All commissioner-approved educator preparation program providers shall review and update their educator preparation programs to implement the requirements of this section and submit the revisions to the Department of Education for approval.

c. As used in this section, “culturally responsive teaching” means a pedagogy that recognizes the importance of including students’ cultural references in all aspects of learning, and which uses research-based teaching strategies that make meaningful connections between what students learn in school and their cultures, languages, and experiences.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved December 21, 2021.