

CHAPTER 393

AN ACT concerning educator preparation programs 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:26-30 Report to the Department of Education, first-time, overall test pass rates, instructional certificate.

1. a. Each educator preparation program shall annually report to the Department of Education on the first-time and overall test pass rates of candidates for an instructional certificate, for each test required for instructional certification.

b. Each educator preparation program shall annually publish the first-time and overall test pass rates of its students on its website.

c. Each educator preparation program shall annually disseminate information to its students on the availability of fee waivers for tests required for instructional certification.

d. Each educator preparation program shall include in its tuition and fees bill an optional lab fee that a student may opt to pay and which shall be applied towards the cost of the student completing the tests required for instructional certification.

e. As used in this act, a “test required for instructional certification” means Praxis Core tests, or their successor tests, and Praxis Subject Assessments, or their successor tests.

C.18A:26-31 Annual compilation of test pass rates.

2. The department shall annually compile the test pass rates of candidates for an instructional certificate submitted pursuant to subsection a. of section 1 of this act into a comparative profile of all educator preparation programs. The profile shall be made available for public inspection on the department’s website.

C.18A:26-32 Test pass rates required for educator preparation program review.

3. The test pass rates submitted to the department pursuant to subsection a. of section 1 of this act shall be included within the documentation required for the Commissioner of Education’s periodic review of educator preparation programs.

C.18A:26-33 Test fee waivers for low-income students.

4. Any policy or contract entered into after the effective date of P.L.2021, c.393 (C.18A:26-30 et seq.) by the State, or any political subdivision thereof, regarding a test required for instructional certification shall provide for the dissemination of fee waivers to low-income students.

As used in this section:

"Annual adjusted gross income" means:

(1) for a dependent student, the annual adjusted gross income of the student's parent or legal guardian, as reported on the student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid or other financial aid form; and

(2) for an independent student, the annual adjusted gross income of the student and, if applicable, the spouse of the student, as reported on the student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid or other financial aid form, and

“Low-income student” means a student with an annual adjusted gross income of \$65,000 or less.

5. This act shall take effect in the first full academic year following the date of enactment.

Approved January 18, 2022.