

SENATE, No. 1501

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 27, 2014

Sponsored by:

Senator CHRISTOPHER "KIP" BATEMAN

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

Senator DAWN MARIE ADDIEGO

District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Allen

SYNOPSIS

Requires State Board of Education regulations regarding school nurse certification to include certain minimum eligibility requirements.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/6/2014)

S1501 BATEMAN, ADDIEGO

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1 AN ACT concerning school nurse certification and supplementing
2 chapter 40 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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7 1. State Board of Education regulations prescribing the
8 requirements for eligibility for an educational services certificate
9 with a school nurse endorsement shall, at a minimum, require that a
10 candidate for the endorsement:

11 a. is licensed as a registered nurse pursuant to the provisions of
12 P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et seq.);

13 b. holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited
14 college or university;

15 c. completes either a Department of Education-approved
16 college curriculum for the preparation of school nurses or a
17 program of studies, with a minimum of 30 semester hour credits,
18 that includes study in subject areas determined by the State board
19 and clinical experience in a school nurse office; and

20 d. completes a college-supervised school nurse practicum
21 experience, a portion of which shall be completed in a school nurse
22 office and a portion of which shall be completed in a classroom.
23 The practicum experience may count toward the minimum 30
24 semester hour credit requirement.

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26 2. State Board of Education regulations prescribing the
27 requirements for eligibility for an educational services certificate
28 with a school nurse/non-instructional endorsement shall, at a
29 minimum, require that a candidate for the endorsement:

30 a. is licensed as a registered nurse pursuant to the provisions of
31 P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et seq.);

32 b. holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited
33 college or university; and

34 c. completes either a Department of Education-approved
35 college curriculum for the preparation of school nurses or a
36 program of studies, with a minimum of 21 semester hour credits,
37 that includes study in subject areas determined by the State board
38 and clinical experience in a school nurse office.

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40 3. Nothing in this act shall be construed to limit the authority
41 of the State Board of Education to prescribe additional eligibility
42 requirements for a school nurse endorsement or a school nurse/non-
43 instructional endorsement.

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45 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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State Board of Education regulations at N.J.A.C.6A:9-13.3 and 13.4 govern school nurse certification. The State board recently adopted amendments to these provisions, which reduced credit requirements for a school nurse endorsement from 30 to 21 semester hour credits, and reduced credit requirements for a non-instructional school nurse endorsement from 21 to 15 semester hour credits. The amendments also eliminated the requirement that a candidate for a school nurse endorsement complete a minimum of 6 credits in a college-supervised school nurse practicum, half of which is completed in a school nurse office and the balance of which is completed in a classroom.

This bill codifies the previous requirements at N.J.A.C.6A:9-13.3 that a candidate for a school nurse endorsement must complete a minimum of 30 semester hour credits that includes study in subject areas determined by the State board and clinical experience in a school nurse office, in addition to holding a license as a registered nurse and a bachelor's degree. The bill also codifies the previous requirement that a candidate for a school nurse endorsement must complete a college-supervised school nurse practicum experience in a school nurse office and a classroom. With regard to non-instructional school nurses, the bill codifies the previous requirements at N.J.A.C.6A:9-13.4 that a candidate for a non-instructional school nurse endorsement must complete a minimum of 21 credits that includes study in subject areas determined by the State board and clinical experience in a school nurse office, in addition to holding a license as a registered nurse and a bachelor's degree.

The bill provides minimum requirements for school nurse certification and does not limit the authority of the State board to prescribe additional eligibility requirements for a school nurse endorsement or a school nurse/non-instructional endorsement.