

SENATE, No. 2831

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED AUGUST 17, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Senator JAMES BEACH

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Diegnan and Pou

SYNOPSIS

Grants reciprocity to teachers with certain out-of-state certificates.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/24/2020)

1 AN ACT granting reciprocity to teachers with certain out-of-state
2 certificates and supplementing chapter 26 of Title 18A of the
3 New Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. The State Board of Examiners shall issue an instructional
9 certificate of eligibility to an out-of-state candidate who:

10 a. (1) holds the equivalent of a valid certificate of eligibility or
11 a valid provisional certificate issued by another state in a subject or
12 grade level also offered in New Jersey; or (2) holds an emergency
13 certificate issued by another state in an appropriate subject or grade
14 level;

15 b. has passed a subject-matter test to receive his out-of-state
16 endorsement or passed the appropriate New Jersey subject-matter
17 test;

18 c. has passed a performance assessment that is approved by the
19 state in which the certificate was issued, or, if the out-of-state
20 candidate did not take or pass a state-approved performance
21 assessment, the candidate shall pass a New Jersey approved
22 performance assessment; and

23 d. has at least one year of effective teaching experience as
24 documented by a letter from the candidate's former supervisor,
25 principal, or employing school district's human resource officer.

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27 2. If the out-of-state candidate has not completed an approved
28 educator preparation program the candidate shall enroll in a New
29 Jersey approved educator preparation program and complete any
30 remaining college credits or coursework prior to the issuance of a
31 standard instructional certificate.

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33 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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36 STATEMENT

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38 This bill authorizes the State Board of Examiners to issue a
39 certificate of eligibility to teaching candidates, including alternate
40 route candidates, who hold the equivalent of a certificate of
41 eligibility or a provisional certificate from another state. The bill
42 also authorizes the board to issue a certificate of eligibility to a
43 candidate who holds an emergency certificate issued by another
44 state.

45 In order to be eligible for the certificate of eligibility, a candidate
46 must (1) hold the equivalent of a valid certificate of eligibility or a
47 provisional certificate from another state in a subject or grade level
48 also offered in New Jersey. The candidate may also hold an

1 emergency certificate issued by another state in an appropriate
2 subject matter or grade level; (2) have passed a subject-matter test
3 to receive the out-of-state endorsement or passed the appropriate
4 New Jersey subject-matter test; (3) have passed a performance
5 assessment that is approved by the state in which the certificate was
6 issued, or, if the out-of-state candidate did not take or pass a state-
7 approved performance assessment, the candidate must pass a New
8 Jersey approved performance assessment; and (4) have at least one
9 year of effective teaching experience as documented by a letter
10 from the candidate's former supervisor, principal, or employing
11 school district's human resource officer.

12 Under the bill, if the out-of-state candidate has not completed an
13 approved educator preparation program the candidate will enroll in
14 a New Jersey approved educator preparation program and complete
15 any remaining college credits or coursework prior to the issuance of
16 a standard instructional certificate.