



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: January 18, 2023

To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Human Resources Directors, Deans and Directors of Educator Preparation Programs

From: Christopher Irving, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Field Support and Services

## New Law Regarding Certification Performance Assessment Requirements

On Friday, December 16, 2022, Governor Phil Murphy signed [S896 w/GR](#) into law, which prohibits the State Board of Education from requiring completion of a Commissioner-approved performance-based assessment for certification. The law shifts the responsibility of determining the performance assessment for program completion to educator preparation programs (EPP) beginning with Spring 2024 program completers. The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) intends to promulgate regulations, offer guidance, and provide support to educator preparation programs as they implement the law. In the meantime, as the law takes effect immediately, the NJDOE will begin implementation in accordance with the following general guidelines. This guidance is general and captures the most common candidate scenarios; eligibility for certification is determined on a case-by-case basis by the NJDOE.

### Candidates Currently Enrolled in Educator Preparation Programs

Approved New Jersey EPPs may identify a temporary measure of pedagogical skills in lieu of the Commissioner-approved performance assessment currently required for program completion. Prior to nominating Certificate of Eligibility (CE) and Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS) candidates for certification, EPPs must notify the NJDOE of any changes in program completion requirements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:9-3.2(c). Additional information for this process will be provided to EPPs by the Office of Recruitment, Preparation and Certification.

### Certificate of Eligibility through Reciprocity (CE-R) Candidates Seeking Standard Certification

Provisional teachers holding a CE-R will be exempt from the performance assessment and may be eligible for a standard certificate upon completion of all other standard certification requirements pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B.

### CEAS Candidates

The following candidates seeking a CEAS will be exempt from the performance assessment and may be issued the CEAS provided they meet all other certification requirements:

- Reciprocity candidates pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-8.8;
- Out-of-state program completers; and
- Candidates who have met all other requirements of an approved New Jersey EPP.

### Contact Information

Email questions concerning performance assessment requirements to [rpr@doe.nj.gov](mailto:rpr@doe.nj.gov).

c: Members, State Board of Education  
NJDOE Staff  
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network  
Garden State Coalition of Schools  
NJ LEE Group