# Middle School with Subject Matter Specialization: English Language Arts Grades 5–8 Standard Certificate (Endorsement Code: 1106)

**Note:** this document is made in accordance with the rules currently in effect. Requirements, passing test scores, and fees are subject to change without notice.

This endorsement entitles the holder to teach English Language Arts in grades five through eight in all public schools. This endorsement does not permit the holder to teach the subject matter specialization in grades 9 through 12.

## Degree Requirement

A minimum of a bachelor’s degree is required from an accredited college or university.

## Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement

New Jersey requires that candidates for certification achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 when a GPA of 4.00 equals an A grade for students graduating on or after September 1, 2016 (2.75 for those graduating before September 1, 2016) in a baccalaureate degree program, higher degree program or a state-approved post- baccalaureate certification program with a minimum of 13 semester-hour credits.

Please note that there are GPA Flexibility Rules where a high praxis score may offset a GPA that is lower than 3.0, but higher than 2.75.

## Certification

Regulations for certification require that applicants hold an Elementary School or N–12 subject matter endorsement in order to be eligible for Middle School with Subject Matter Specialization certificates. Issuance of the Middle School with Subject Matter Specialization certificate will be contingent upon eligibility and issuance of the Elementary School or N–12 subject matter endorsement.

## Subject Matter Preparation

Current regulations for certification require that applicants complete a minimum of 15 credits in the subject area that you want to be certified in. Courses in educational pedagogy do not count towards the subject matter requirement. All credits must appear on an accredited two- or four-year college or university transcript.

## Testing Requirements

### Praxis II Test Requirement

Official scores must be presented directly from Educational Testing Service to the New Jersey Department of Education. Only official scores are accepted. The New Jersey Department of Education code (R7666) and your Social Security number must appear on your test score report in order to be accepted. Please submit a copy of your test score report if you have taken the appropriate exam.

## Professional Teacher Preparation

Current regulations for certification require that applicants complete a coherent sequence of study in professional education which may be completed in a provisional teacher program or an approved teacher preparation program. This is to advise that courses presented by the applicant in professional education must be a coherent sequence of courses that culminates in supervised clinical practice.

## State Teaching Certificate

Please submit a copy of an out-of-state teaching certificate that is equivalent to a New Jersey Standard Instructional Certificate. Holders of a New Jersey Standard Instructional Certificate do not need to send in a copy of their certificate.

## Record of Professional Experience

Please submit the Record of Professional Experience form which must be filled out by your employer:

The New Jersey Department of Education will make the final determination as to whether or not the experience meets New Jersey reciprocity regulations.

**Note:** Holders of a New Jersey standard instructional certificate do not need to send in the above form with the exception of those who hold a standard Teacher of the Handicapped certificate.

## Course Requirement in the Characteristics of Child and Early Adolescent Development

A course in “Child and Early Adolescent Development,” or its equivalent, that appears on an accredited two- or four-year college or university transcript is required. Acceptable courses include “Adolescent Psychology or Development”. A course titled “Child Psychology” will not be accepted unless it covers the development of adolescents between the ages of 11–14.

## Physiology and Hygiene Requirement

This requirement may be completed by choosing one of the following options:

1. Present evidence of basic military training.
2. Complete a course such as biology, health or nutrition that appears on an accredited two- or four-year college or university transcript
3. Complete an online test. You must have a tracking number and an application on file to take this test.

## Fee Requirement

* No checks or money orders will be accepted.
* Please make the payment online.
* Please notify your examiner after payment has been made.
* If your application expires after six months, you will be charged a fee of $70.
* All fees, including money left on file, are nonrefundable.