

# TEACHER OF THE BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY (ENDORSEMENT CODE: 2415)

This endorsement entitles the holder to teach the Blind or Visually Impaired in all public schools.

## Cumulative 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.

## Instructional Certification

- The Teacher of the Blind or Visually Impaired endorsement is not a standalone certificate. Candidates need to hold a CE, CEAS or standard NJ instructional certificate with an endorsement appropriate to the subject or grade level to be taught. If you have not yet applied for instructional certification, please see the NJ DOE website for details and a listing of instructional endorsements.

## Testing Requirements

- **Basic Skills Assessment Requirement (choose one)**  
All candidates applying for their initial CE must pass a Commissioner-approved test of basic skills. Scores must be presented directly from Educational Testing Service to the NJ 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 exams.**

OR

Score in the top one-third percentile on the SAT, ACT, or GRE for the year the test was taken. Official score reports must be sent directly from the testing agency.

## 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

# **BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY WITH ADVANCED STANDING (ENDORSEMENT CODE: 2415)**

This endorsement entitles the holder to teach the Blind or Visually Impaired in all public schools.

## **Cumulative 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.

## **Instructional Certification**

- The Teacher of the Blind or Visually Impaired endorsement is not a standalone certificate. Candidates need to hold a CE, CEAS or standard NJ instructional certificate with an endorsement appropriate to the subject or grade level to be taught. If you have not yet applied for instructional certification, please see the NJ DOE website for details and a listing of instructional endorsements.

## **Professional Teacher Preparation**

- Current regulations for certification require that applicants complete a State-approved Teacher Blind or Visually Impaired program that culminates in supervised clinical practice. When you apply, please attach the Verification of Program Completion form.

## **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

# **BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED STANDARD CERTIFICATE (ENDORSEMENT CODE: 2415)**

This endorsement entitles the holder to teach the Blind or Visually Impaired in all public schools.

## **Cumulative 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.

## **Instructional Certification**

- The Teacher of the Blind or Visually Impaired endorsement is not a standalone certificate. Candidates need to hold a CE, CEAS or standard NJ instructional certificate with an endorsement appropriate to the subject or grade level to be taught. If you have not yet applied for instructional certification, please see the NJ DOE website for details and a listing of instructional endorsements.

## **Professional Teacher Preparation**

- Current regulations for certification require that applicants complete a State-approved Teacher Blind or Visually Impaired program that culminates in supervised clinical practice. When you apply, please attach the Verification of Program Completion form.

## **State Teaching Certificate**

- Please submit a copy of an out-of-state teaching certificate that is equivalent to a NJ Standard Instructional Certificate. Holders of a NJ 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 NJ reciprocity regulations.

Please Note: Holders of a NJ 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.

## **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