

Public Notice

Education

State Board of Education

Notice of Action on Petition for Rulemaking

State Board of Examiners and Certification

Requirements for Certificates of Eligibility (CE)

N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-8.3

Petitioner: Angelo Marocco.

Take notice that on April 24, 2019, the New Jersey State Board of Education (State Board) received a petition for rulemaking from the above petitioner, requesting the State Board of Education amend N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-8.3 to eliminate the grade point average (GPA) requirement for a candidate to be eligible for a certificate of eligibility (CE) in instructional areas.

The petitioner specifically requested the State Board adopt amendments to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-8.3 to delete the requirement for a candidate to have a 3.0 GPA to be eligible for a CE. Instead, the petitioner stated that the rules should allow anyone who has a bachelor's degree from an accredited higher education institution to be eligible for a CE and to enroll in an educator preparation program.

The GPA requirement has been a necessary component of certification in the State of New Jersey for more than 35 years. Educator preparation programs, as part of their accreditation requisites, require accepted students to maintain a specific GPA to participate in programs leading to certification. Moreover, the GPA requirement is necessary for issuance of not only a CE but, rather, is required for other types of certificates, including the standard certificate and the certificate of eligibility with advanced standing (CEAS). Elimination of the GPA requirement from the CE alone would be inconsistent with the regulatory structure.

Any consideration of the requested amendment or a similar change would need to occur through a deep analysis process during which the requirements for all certificates and endorsements are considered. The Department of Education already has initiated this more thorough review, which is anticipated to conclude in 2020.

Therefore, the petitioner's request is hereby denied.