

# ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY WITH ADVANCED STANDING (ENDORSEMENT CODE: 1475)

**TO AVOID DELAYS:** After applying online, please email any transcripts, letters, forms, copies of out-of-state certification or other required documents to [certapplication@doe.nj.gov](mailto:certapplication@doe.nj.gov). Electronic transcripts must be sent directly from your university, college, clearinghouse or school. Please include your tracking number in the subject line of all correspondence with our office.

**This endorsement entitles the holder to teach English as a Second Language (ESL) in all public schools.**

## **Degree Requirement**

- A minimum of a bachelor's degree is required from a regionally accredited college/university.

## **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.

## **English Language Proficiency Tests**

- You must present evidence of passing oral and written English language proficiency tests (OPI & WPT). These tests must be passed with a score of "Advanced Low" or higher. Information regarding these tests may be found on the Language Testing International website or by calling Language Testing International by phone at 1-800-486-8444. (Exceptions: Candidates for certification who pass the Department-approved basic skills test will be exempt from taking the written English language proficiency test (WPT) requirement.)

## **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.

## **Teacher Performance Assessment**

- Candidates seeking initial certification must pass a Commissioner-approved performance-based assessment of teaching if they graduated on or after September 1, 2017. The *Verification of Program Completion* form needs to be completed in its entirety by your college/university.

## **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 a regionally accredited 2 or 4-year college/university transcript
  - 3.) Complete an online test. You must have a tracking number and an application on file to take this test. Once completed, please email us at [Licensing.Requests@doe.nj.gov](mailto:Licensing.Requests@doe.nj.gov) stating that the test has been taken. You will need to include your name and tracking number in the email.

## **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

**You cannot complete the entire application process online. After applying online, please email all necessary documentation to [certapplication@doe.nj.gov](mailto:certapplication@doe.nj.gov). Electronic transcripts must be sent directly from your university, college, clearinghouse or school. Please include your tracking number in the subject line of all correspondence with our office.**

If the above requirements have been met, then you may complete the online application in the Teacher Certification Information System (TCIS).