



NJDOE News

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State Board Proposes [Regulation Change](#) to Increase Teacher Supply

The State Board of Education today proposed changes to state regulations that would add flexibility to current eligibility requirements for teacher candidates. The changes, if adopted, will allow teacher candidates to apply for teaching certificates if their grade point average (GPA) is at least 2.50.

The board will consider the proposal as part of a process that will include public comment. The earliest the proposal would reach adoption level is November 2002.

"The proposed amendments expand the state's ability to bring new teachers into New Jersey classrooms without compromising quality," said Commissioner of Education William L. Librera.

"The amendments create opportunities for excellent teachers from outside New Jersey who would have otherwise been precluded from teaching to become part of the teaching force," Commissioner Librera continued. "The proposed amendments also reduce barriers to employment while recognizing the value of successful and experienced teachers."

The proposed regulations add flexibility to current code requirements for teachers to have an overall college grade point average of 2.75. The current code has restricted the Department of Education from issuing teaching certificates to many talented teacher candidates, including applicants who were experienced teachers in other states.

All teacher candidates who graduate prior to September 1, 2004 must achieve a minimum 2.50 GPA. Graduates on or after September 1, 2004 must meet the 2.75 GPA. Out-of-state candidates who are experienced teachers but who lack the required GPA would be allowed to submit their out-of-state teaching certificate and documentation of three years successful teaching under the certificate.

[Attached is a memo from the Commissioner explaining the proposal in detail.](#)