

# **New Jersey Administrative Code Amendments**

## **N.J.A.C. 6A:9B State Board of Examiners and Certification**

**Division of Teaching and Learning Services**  
Jorden Schiff, Ed.D , Assistant Commissioner  
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December 2025

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# Background

- September 22, 2025 - Rulemaking Petition Submitted
  - Sought amendments to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-11.8 to remove the requirement for a candidate to document 20 years of military experience
- October 2025 – Policy Review and Alignment Analysis
  - Military science endorsement required for those who teach JROTC in LEAs
  - Requirements include demonstrating 20 years of military experience and holding a valid certification authorizing employment as a military science instructor from the branch of service
  - 20-year requirement was born of alignment to federal limitation that JROTC instructors must be retired
  - 2023/2024 Federal laws expanded JROTC instructor eligibility to include *non-retired* former service members that meet individual branch requirements
- November 2025 –Granted the Petition
  - Included amendment to remove the 20-year service requirement and make additional amendments to ensure clarity and alignment with federal certification requirements.



# Rationale for Amendments: Federal Alignment

- 20 years of military service requirement reflected a correlation with military retirement eligibility, which was also reflected in federal JROTC instructor eligibility requirements
- Both FY2023 and FY2024 National Defense Authorization Act expanded instructor eligibility to non-retired former service members who meet branch-specific instructor eligibility requirements
- Retaining the New Jersey specific 20-year service requirement creates a stricter barrier to service than the federal requirements across branches
  - Inability to demonstrate 20 years of service has been the sole basis for denial of military science endorsement applications in New Jersey since 2022



# Proposed Amendments: N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-11.8

## N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-11.8 Military Science

- (a) To be eligible for the standard certificate with a military science endorsement, [the] **a** candidate shall:
  - 1. Document 20 years of military service;
  - 2. Hold] **hold a current and** valid certification [authorizing employment as a military science instructor from] **or letter of eligibility issued by the appropriate** branch of [service in which the candidate served] **the United States Military authorizing the individual to serve as a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) instructor for that branch.**
- (b) To retain this endorsement, the holder must maintain the military [employment] authorization at [(a)2] **(a)** above. The school district shall ensure that the military science teacher maintains **the** valid military [certification] **authorization**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-5.1(b).



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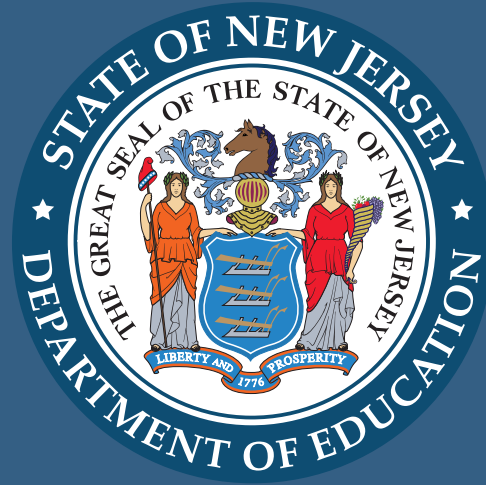
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