

# ASSEMBLY, No. 5520

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 5, 2023

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY**

**District 27 (Essex and Morris)**

**Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman McKnight**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes emergency teacher certificate in certain circumstances.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/15/2023)

1 AN ACT concerning emergency teacher certification and  
2 supplementing chapter 26 of Title 18A of the New Jersey  
3 Statutes.

4  
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
6 *of New Jersey:*

7  
8 1. a. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule, or  
9 regulation to the contrary, a chief school administrator, or a  
10 designee, may apply to the executive county superintendent for an  
11 emergency instructional certificate for a candidate in a high-need  
12 field including, but not limited to, bilingual/bicultural education and  
13 special education if the chief school administrator, or a designee,  
14 can demonstrate the inability to locate a suitable certified candidate  
15 due to unforeseen shortages or other extenuating circumstances.  
16 The executive county superintendent may approve the application if  
17 it is determined that there are no suitable certified candidates to fill  
18 the position.

19 b. To be eligible to receive an emergency instructional  
20 certificate pursuant to subsection a. of this section, a teaching  
21 candidate shall, at a minimum:

22 (1) be enrolled in an educator preparation program at a  
23 regionally accredited four-year institution of higher education in the  
24 State;

25 (2) have a bachelor's degree; and

26 (3) have achieved a passing score on any applicable subject  
27 matter knowledge exams.

28 c. The certificate shall be renewable annually up to a maximum  
29 of two times at the request of the chief school administrator and  
30 approval of the executive county superintendent. Renewal shall be  
31 predicated upon demonstration of progress toward successful  
32 completion of coursework and tests required for the issuance of a  
33 certificate of eligibility, certificate of eligibility with advanced  
34 standing, or a standard certificate. A candidate serving under an  
35 emergency instructional certificate shall be employed under  
36 emergency certification for no more than a total of three years in  
37 any one high-need field regardless of the number of school districts  
38 in which the candidate serves.

39 d. The Department of Education shall publish on its internet  
40 website a list of the high-need fields eligible to receive an  
41 emergency instructional certificate pursuant to subsection a. of this  
42 section. The State Board of Education shall annually reevaluate the  
43 list of high-need fields eligible to receive an emergency  
44 instructional certificate pursuant to subsection a. of this section.

45  
46 2. a. An emergency instructional certificate issued pursuant to  
47 this act shall be valid for employment only in the school district  
48 requesting the emergency instructional certificate.

