

P.L. 2023, CHAPTER 180, *approved November 27, 2023*  
Senate, No. 1553 (*Fourth Reprint*)

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

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 <sup>4</sup>**[**1. a. The State Board of Education shall authorize the issuance  
8 of an alternative certificate of eligibility with advanced standing to a  
9 teacher candidate who meets all other eligibility requirements for a  
10 certificate of eligibility with advanced standing, except <sup>1</sup>for<sup>1</sup> the  
11 requirement to achieve a minimum passing score on an appropriate  
12 State test of subject matter knowledge and all other alternative  
13 requirements or exceptions to achieving a passing score on an  
14 appropriate State test of subject matter knowledge.

15 b. The holder of an alternative certificate authorized pursuant to  
16 subsection a. of this section shall be eligible to receive a standard  
17 certificate from the State Board of Education upon completion of four  
18 years of continuous employment as a teacher in <sup>1</sup>**[**the State's public  
19 schools**]** a school district, charter school, renaissance school project,  
20 or an approved private school for students with disabilities<sup>1</sup>, provided  
21 that the teacher completes all applicable requirements for the standard  
22 certificate.**]**<sup>4</sup>

23  
24 <sup>4</sup>**[**2.**]** <sup>1</sup>1.<sup>4</sup> a. The State Board of Education shall authorize the  
25 issuance of an alternative certificate of eligibility to a teacher  
26 candidate who meets all other eligibility requirements to receive a  
27 certificate of eligibility, except <sup>1</sup>for<sup>1</sup> the requirement to achieve a  
28 minimum score on a Commissioner of Education-approved test of  
29 basic reading, writing, and mathematical skills and all other alternative  
30 basic skills requirements or exceptions <sup>4</sup>**[**; or the requirement to  
31 achieve a minimum passing score on an appropriate State test of  
32 subject matter knowledge and all other alternative requirements or  
33 exceptions to achieving a passing score on an appropriate State test of  
34 subject matter knowledge**]**<sup>4</sup>.

35 b. The holder of an alternative certificate authorized pursuant to  
36 subsection a. of this section shall be eligible to receive a standard  
37 certificate from the State Board of Education upon completion of four  
38 years of continuous employment as a teacher in <sup>1</sup>**[**the State's public  
39 schools**]** a school district, charter school, renaissance school project,

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Senate SED committee amendments adopted May 9, 2022.

<sup>2</sup>Senate floor amendments adopted June 16, 2022.

<sup>3</sup>Assembly AED committee amendments adopted February 9, 2023.

<sup>4</sup>Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted February 23, 2023.

1 or approved private school for students with disabilities<sup>1</sup>, provided that  
2 the teacher completes all applicable requirements for the standard  
3 certificate.

4  
5 <sup>4</sup>~~3.~~ 2.<sup>4</sup> A teaching staff member issued a certificate pursuant  
6 to section 1 <sup>4</sup>~~or 2~~<sup>4</sup> of this act shall not be required to meet any  
7 additional qualifications towards the acquisition of tenure other than  
8 those specified by law for all candidates for tenure. Employment  
9 accrued using an alternative certificate of eligibility <sup>4</sup>~~or an~~  
10 alternative certificate of eligibility with advanced standing<sup>4</sup> shall  
11 be applied in the same manner towards eligibility for tenure as  
12 employment accrued using a certificate of eligibility <sup>4</sup>~~or certificate~~  
13 of eligibility with advanced standing<sup>4</sup>.

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15 <sup>4</sup>~~4.~~ 3.<sup>4</sup> <sup>2</sup>~~The State Board of Education shall adopt rules and~~  
16 regulations pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,”  
17 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), Within 30 days after the  
18 effective date of this act, and notwithstanding the provisions of the  
19 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
20 seq.) to the contrary, the State Board of Education shall,  
21 immediately upon filing proper notice with the Office of  
22 Administrative Law, adopt rules and regulations<sup>2</sup> necessary to  
23 effectuate the provisions of this act. <sup>3</sup>~~The rules and regulations~~  
24 adopted pursuant to this section shall expire five years after the  
25 effective date of this act.<sup>2</sup><sup>3</sup>

26  
27 <sup>4</sup>~~5.~~ 4.<sup>4</sup> This act shall take effect immediately <sup>3</sup>~~and the State~~  
28 Board of Education shall cease to authorize the issuance of  
29 alternative certificates five years after the effective date of this  
30 act.<sup>2</sup><sup>3</sup>

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35 Permits State Board of Education to authorize alternative  
36 teaching certificate.