

[Third Reprint]

SENATE, No. 896

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 27, 2022

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SYNOPSIS

Prohibits State Board of Education from requiring completion of performance-based assessment as condition of eligibility for certificate of eligibility with advanced standing or certificate of eligibility.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Budget Committee on June 27, 2022, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/29/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning performance-based assessments for teacher
2 candidates and supplementing chapter 26 of Title 18A of the
3 New Jersey Statutes.

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

7
8 ³**[1.** a. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the
9 contrary, the State Board of Education shall not require a candidate
10 for a certificate of eligibility with advanced standing ¹or a
11 certificate of eligibility¹ to complete a Commissioner of Education
12 approved performance-based assessment, including, but not limited
13 to, the edTPA, as a condition of eligibility for a certificate of
14 eligibility with advanced standing ¹or a certificate of eligibility. An
15 educator preparation program ²**[shall] may**² require candidates to
16 complete a performance-based assessment approved by the educator
17 preparation program. The performance-based assessment approved
18 by the educator preparation program shall meet requirements set by
19 the ²**[Commissioner of Education**¹**]** commissioner approved
20 professional education accreditation body of the educator
21 preparation program².

22 b. ¹**[An]** A certificate of eligibility with advanced standing¹
23 educator preparation program¹, or a certificate of eligibility
24 educator preparation program¹, shall not consider whether a
25 candidate has completed a Commissioner of Education approved
26 performance-based assessment when making a determination as to
27 whether to recommend a candidate for certificate of eligibility with
28 advanced standing certification ¹or certificate of eligibility
29 certification¹ to the Commissioner of Education.

30 c. As used in this section ¹**[**, “certificate”**]**:
31 “Certificate of eligibility” means ²**[a]** an instructional²
32 certificate with lifetime validity issued by the State Board of
33 Examiners to candidates who meet degree, academic, and
34 applicable test requirements for teacher certification.

35 “Certificate¹ of eligibility with advanced standing” means ²**[a]**
36 an instructional² certificate with lifetime validity issued by the State
37 Board of Examiners to candidates who meet degree, academic, and
38 test requirements for teacher certification and complete an educator
39 preparation program.³

40
41 ³1. a. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the
42 contrary, the State Board of Education shall not require a candidate
43 for a certificate of eligibility with advanced standing or a certificate

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:

¹Senate SED committee amendments adopted March 7, 2022.

²Assembly AED committee amendments adopted May 19, 2022.

³Assembly ABU committee amendments adopted June 27, 2022.

1 of eligibility to complete a Commissioner of Education approved
2 performance-based assessment, including, but not limited to, the
3 edTPA, as a condition of eligibility for a certificate of eligibility
4 with advanced standing, a certificate of eligibility, or a standard
5 certificate. An educator preparation program may require
6 candidates to complete a performance-based assessment approved
7 by the educator preparation program. The performance-based
8 assessment approved by the educator preparation program shall
9 meet requirements set by the commissioner approved professional
10 education accreditation body of the educator preparation program.

11 b. A certificate of eligibility with advanced standing educator
12 preparation program, or a certificate of eligibility educator
13 preparation program, shall not consider whether a candidate has
14 completed a Commissioner of Education approved performance-
15 based assessment when making a determination as to whether to
16 recommend a candidate for certificate of eligibility with advanced
17 standing certification or certificate of eligibility certification to the
18 Commissioner of Education.

19 c. Notwithstanding any provision of this section or of any law,
20 rule, or regulation to the contrary, a person who earned a certificate
21 of eligibility with advanced standing or a certificate of eligibility
22 during the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, or 2021-2022 school years, and
23 who was unable to complete a Commissioner of Education
24 approved performance-based assessment due to abrupt changes in
25 teaching placements or modalities, asynchronous virtual learning
26 environments, school district policies, or other restrictions or
27 disruptions caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency, shall
28 be exempt from the requirement to complete a performance-based
29 assessment as a condition of earning a standard certificate.

30 d. As used in this section:

31 “Certificate of eligibility” means an instructional certificate with
32 lifetime validity issued by the State Board of Examiners to
33 candidates who meet degree, academic, and applicable test
34 requirements for teacher certification.

35 “Certificate of eligibility with advanced standing” means an
36 instructional certificate with lifetime validity issued by the State
37 Board of Examiners to candidates who meet degree, academic, and
38 test requirements for teacher certification and complete an educator
39 preparation program.

40 ”Standard certificate” means a permanent instructional certificate
41 issued by the State Board of Examiners to persons who meet all
42 instructional certificate requirements.³

43

44 2. This act shall take effect immediately.