


**New Temporary  
Certifications and  
Flexibilities for Candidates  
Impacted by the COVID-19  
Public Health Emergency**

PAA-October 1, 2020  
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***There will be no renewal of any  
of these temporary measures  
beyond those described above  
under any circumstances.***



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**NJDOE “Waiver” of Certification Requirements**

- Provides certification flexibility to candidates seeking **initial** instructional/administrative certs during the public health crisis
- Defers certain certification assessment requirements until July 31, 2021.
- Candidates seeking certificates that require passage of content knowledge and/or basic skills tests (e.g. Praxis) may be eligible for a temporary certificate that allows candidates to enter the workforce **before passing the test(s).**



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- Between June 30, 2020 and the lifting of the public health emergency, candidates may apply for a Temporary Certificate of Eligibility (CE).
- Educators with Temporary CEs can be hired and can work under the Temporary CE.
- All Temporary CEs will expire on July 31, 2021.
- **To maintain certification and employment eligibility without interruption, candidates must complete all required certification assessments and reapply for a typical CE or Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS) by July 31, 2021.**

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### Temporary CE holders

- Who pass the applicable required test(s) will be eligible for a typical CE or CEAS
- Instructional candidates with a Temporary CE will have their fees waived for conversion of the Temporary CE to the typical CE or CEAS if they reapply before their Temporary CE expires on July 31, 2021.

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### Waiver creates/allows additional assessment requirement flexibilities in the following ways:

- Educator Preparation Programs may admit candidates who have met all requirements other than the basic skills requirement.
- Candidates must complete the requirement before graduation and recommendation for a Certificate of Eligibility/Advanced Standing
- Charter School CE candidates are eligible for a temporary certificate and may defer assessment passage until no later than July 31, 2021.

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- Foreign teachers:
  - may obtain an emergency limited certificate
  - defer assessment passage by July 31, 2021
- Educational Interpreter Endorsement (sign language interpreting)
  - obtain an emergency educational services certificate
  - defer assessment passage until no later than July 31, 2021.

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- CE/Career and Technical Education Endorsement
  - Provisional license will expire during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency
  - May be granted an additional 2 year provisional period to complete the basic skills test requirement.
- CE/Speech Language Specialist Endorsement
  - Provisional license will expire during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency
  - May be granted an additional 2 year provisional period to complete the assessment requirement

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- After a Temporary CE holder is employed
  - After registered by the employing school district, a temporary provisional certificate (Temporary Provisional) will be issued.
- Time spent working under a Temporary Provisional plus any requirements completed under a Temporary Provisional, will count towards the candidate's overall provisional period and may count towards tenure.

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### Temporary CE and Temporary Provisional Certificate

- Candidates met all requirements: CE or Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing, not yet passed the basic skills test and/or test of subject matter knowledge are eligible for the Temporary CE.
- This Group of candidates:
  - candidates who completed a program or have not completed a program (typical CE candidates).
- Candidates only apply for Temporary CE if they are not eligible for the typical CEAS or

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### Temporary CE Requirements

- Temporary CE, meet all requirements for the Certificate of Eligibility for subject area endorsement, other than the subject matter knowledge and basic skills test(s), at the time of application.
- Requirements Temporary CE may include:
  - Bachelor's degree.
  - Pass the Physiology and Hygiene Exam.
  - Required overall cumulative Grade Point Average.
  - Required content course credits for endorsement sought.

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### Temporary Provisional Certificate Requirements

- Hold a Temporary CE.
- Enroll/completion of a preparation program.
- 50 hours of preservice as per educator preparation program requirements.
- Attain of employment at a New Jersey school.
- District will enroll candidate into the provisional teacher process in Provisional Licensure Registration Management System (PLRMS).

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- Temporary CE and the Temporary Provisional Certificate expire on July 31, 2021. NO Renewal
- Temporary CE and Temporary Provisional Certificate holders must meet all requirements for a typical CE or CEAS to convert a Temporary CE and Temporary Provisional Certificate to a typical CE or CEAS and typical Provisional Certificate prior to July 31, 2021.

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### Service Under a Temporary Provisional Certificate

- Time employed by NJ school district under a Temporary Provisional Certificate and completion of mentoring requirement counts toward standard cert requirements only if candidate completes the required test(s) and is issued a CE or CEAS and Provisional Certificate before July 31, 2021.
- This time may also be applied toward tenure.

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### If I Don't Past Test by 7/31/21

- Temporary CE candidates who do not pass the assessments and apply for certification before July 31, 2021 when their certification expires **must start the certification process over and seek a regular CE.**
- Candidates must pay for the new CE if they do not convert before July 31, 2021.
- Candidates can complete their preparation program at the discretion of the program.

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- NJDOE expanded flexibilities regarding the performance assessment (edTPA) certification requirement.
- Performance assessment requirement will also be waived for candidates who seek reciprocity with New Jersey for a CEAS and who completed at least one section of the performance assessment between January 1, 2020 and June 30, 2020.



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**Key Steps/Actions**

- Districts can hire educators holding a Temporary Instructional or Administrative CE.
- Districts should register teachers holding a Temporary CE into the provisional teacher process.



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**Key Steps/Actions**

Direct potential hires to the COVID-19 guidance page for information on the following:

- Temporary Instructional Certificate Guidance
- Temporary Administrative Certificate Guidance
- Updated guidance on the waiver of the performance assessment (edTPA)
- Other flexibilities related to certification requirements and required assessments

Contact information



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- Questions about the regulatory waiver?
  - [certification.outreach@doe.nj.gov](mailto:certification.outreach@doe.nj.gov)
- General questions about certification?
  - [licensing.requests@doe.nj.gov](mailto:licensing.requests@doe.nj.gov)
- **Covid 19 Resource Page/Cert Summary:**
  - <https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teachersresources/eppcert.shtml>
  - <https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teachersresources/instructionalCEtemp.shtml>
- Broadcast Memo
  - <https://www.nj.gov/education/broadcasts/2020/jun/30/New%20Temporary%20Certifications%20and%20Flexibilities%20for%20Candidates%20Impacted%20by%20the%20COVID-19%20Public%20Health%20Emergency.pdf>



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**Resources: Pandemic Certifications**

- 20 minute NJDOE Emergency Certification Webinar
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AyD8I1OmEI>
- 15 minute NJDOE Webinar for Certification Part 1 Candidates during Pandemic
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVAMiMv9t7Y&feature=youtu.be>
- 15 minute NJDOE Webinar for Administrator Certification during the Pandemic
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KIZDmytdBHU&feature=youtu.be>



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**Resources: NJDOE Pre-service Teacher Internships**

- <https://www.njacte.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Placing-and-Supporting-Clinical-Interns-Fall-2020-Toolkit.pdf>



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