

P.L.2015, CHAPTER 111, *approved September 18, 2015*
Senate, No. 165 (*First 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:

6
7 1. The State Board of Education shall authorize a teacher
8 leader endorsement to the instructional certificate. To be eligible
9 for the teacher leader endorsement an applicant shall ¹ [

10 a. Complete] complete¹ a program of study ¹ [equivalent to, at
11 a minimum, 12 graduate credits or 180 clock hours, or a
12 combination thereof,]¹ with an approved provider ¹ [of a program
13 of study]¹ for the teacher leader endorsement ¹ [; and

14 b. Complete five years of full-time teaching under a valid
15 provisional or standard certificate, or a combination thereof, issued
16 by the State Board of Examiners]¹ .

17
18 2. a. There shall be established an 11-member Teacher Leader
19 Endorsement Advisory Board in the Department of Education. The
20 members of the advisory board shall be appointed by the
21 Commissioner of Education as follows: one officer or employee of
22 the department; four members upon the recommendation of the
23 New Jersey Education Association; one member upon the
24 recommendation of the American Federation of Teachers-New
25 Jersey; two members upon the recommendation of the New Jersey
26 Principals and Supervisors Association; one member upon the
27 recommendation of the New Jersey Association of School
28 Administrators; one member upon the recommendation of the New
29 Jersey School Boards Association; and one member upon the
30 recommendation of the New Jersey Association of Colleges for
31 Teacher Education. ¹ [The member who is an officer or employee
32 of the department shall be a non-voting member of the advisory
33 board.]¹

34 b. Members of the advisory board, other than the member who
35 is an officer or employee of the department, shall serve for a three-
36 year term; except that of the initial appointees, the member
37 appointed upon the recommendation of the New Jersey Association

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:

¹Assembly floor amendments adopted June 25, 2015.

1 of Colleges for Teacher Education, one of the members appointed
2 upon the recommendation of the New Jersey Principals and
3 Supervisors Association, and one of the members appointed upon
4 the recommendation of the New Jersey Education Association shall
5 serve for a term of three years; the members appointed upon the
6 recommendation of the American Federation of Teachers-New
7 Jersey and the New Jersey Association of School Administrators,
8 and one of the members appointed upon the recommendation of the
9 New Jersey Education Association shall serve for a term of two
10 years; and the member appointed upon the recommendation of the
11 New Jersey School Boards Association, one of the members
12 appointed upon the recommendation of the New Jersey Principals
13 and Supervisors Association, and two of the members appointed
14 upon the recommendation of the New Jersey Education Association
15 shall serve for a term of one year.

16 c. The advisory board shall organize no later than two months
17 following the effective date of ¹**[this section]** P.L. _____, c. (C.)
18 (pending before the Legislature as this bill)¹, and shall elect a chair
19 and a vice-chair from among its members.

20 d. The advisory board shall, no later than six months following
21 its organization, ¹or as it deems necessary,¹ make recommendations
22 to the ¹**[Department]** Commissioner¹ of Education and the State
23 Board of Education regarding ¹the requirements to be eligible to
24 receive the teacher leader endorsement and¹ the program of study
25 for the teacher leader endorsement. The recommendations shall be
26 aligned with the teacher leader model standards set forth in
27 subsection f. of this section. The recommendations regarding the
28 program of study may include, but need not be limited to, field
29 experiences and additional coursework acquired beyond the
30 standards.

31 e. The advisory board shall meet at least monthly until it makes
32 its initial recommendations to the ¹**[department]** commissioner and
33 the State board¹ regarding ¹the requirements to be eligible to
34 receive the teacher leader endorsement and¹ the program of study
35 for the teacher leader endorsement. The advisory board shall
36 continue to meet as necessary to make recommendations regarding
37 necessary adjustments to the program of study for the teacher leader
38 endorsement ¹**[and to]** ¹, ¹ assess outcomes associated with the
39 various providers of the programs of study for the teacher leader
40 endorsement ¹, ¹ and consider emergent research and best practices in
41 teacher leadership¹.

42 f. Pursuant to the teacher leader model standards, a teacher
43 with the teacher leader endorsement shall be prepared to:

44 (1) Foster a collaborative culture to support educator
45 development and student learning, which shall include

- 1 understanding the principles of adult learning and how to develop a
2 collaborative culture of collective responsibility;
- 3 (2) Support collaborative team structures, including professional
4 learning communities, and promote an environment of trust,
5 respect, and collegiality to advance continuous improvement in
6 instruction and student learning;
- 7 (3) Access and use research to improve practices and student
8 learning, which shall include understanding how to use research,
9 and how to model and facilitate with colleagues systematic inquiry
10 and research use as a critical component of teachers' ongoing
11 learning and development in improving teaching and learning;
- 12 (4) Promote professional learning for continuous improvement,
13 which shall include understanding the evolving nature of teaching
14 and learning, understanding established and emerging technologies
15 and the school community, and sharing this knowledge with
16 colleagues to promote, design, and facilitate job-embedded
17 professional learning aligned with school improvement goals;
- 18 (5) Facilitate improvements in instruction and student learning,
19 which shall include demonstrating and using a thorough
20 understanding of the teaching and learning processes to advance the
21 professional skills of colleagues by being a continuous learner,
22 modeling reflective practice based on student needs, and coaching
23 or working collaboratively with colleagues to ensure that
24 instructional practices are aligned to a shared mission, vision, and
25 goals;
- 26 (6) Promote the use of assessments and data for school and
27 district improvement, which shall include being knowledgeable
28 about research on current classroom- and school-based design and
29 selection of appropriate formative and summative assessment
30 methods, sharing that knowledge, and collaborating with colleagues
31 in using assessments and other data to make informed decisions
32 regarding student learning and in influencing school improvement
33 practices, district improvement practices, or both;
- 34 (7) Improve outreach and collaboration with families and
35 community, which shall include understanding the significant
36 impact that families, cultures, and communities have on educational
37 processes and student learning and working with colleagues to
38 promote ongoing systematic collaboration with families, community
39 members, business and community leaders, and other stakeholders
40 to improve the educational system and expand student learning
41 opportunities to support cultures of student success; and
- 42 (8) Advocate for student learning and the teaching and
43 education profession.
- 44 g. No later than five years following the effective date of
45 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), the
46 advisory board shall evaluate programmatic and other data collected
47 **1** by the department from the approved providers¹ pursuant to

1 subsection **1[d.] c.**¹ of section 3 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
 2 the Legislature as this bill), and make recommendations to the State
 3 board regarding non-supervisory roles and responsibilities for
 4 which a teacher leader endorsement should be required.

5
 6 3. a. **1[A New Jersey] An**¹ institution of higher education, an
 7 educational organization, or other non-profit entity, or a
 8 combination thereof, may apply to the Department of Education to
 9 offer a program of study for the teacher leader endorsement.

10 b. **1[An application to offer a program of study for the teacher**
 11 **leader endorsement shall include:**

12 (1) Documentation of the requirements for admission of a
 13 candidate into the program of study, including evidence of an
 14 instructional certificate issued by the State Board of Examiners; and

15 (2) Documentation of the program of study's instructional
 16 component, including:

17 (a) organization, timeline, and guiding principles;

18 (b) program curriculum and corresponding time allocations;

19 (c) alignment of curriculum with the teacher leader model
 20 standards as set forth in section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
 21 before the Legislature as this bill);

22 (d) alignment of learning opportunities with the teacher leader
 23 model standards as set forth in section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.)
 24 (pending before the Legislature as this bill);

25 (e) a description of the key pedagogical approaches to be used;

26 (f) the names and qualifications of program instructors;

27 (g) descriptions of other professional experiences available
 28 through the program, such as professional learning and networking
 29 opportunities; and

30 (h) the procedure and evidence for determining a candidate's
 31 eligibility for the endorsement.

32 **c.]**¹ The **1[Department] Commissioner**¹ of Education shall
 33 approve programs of study that meet the standards adopted by the
 34 State Board of Education pursuant to section 5 of P.L. , c. (C.)
 35 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

36 **1[d. The department shall collect]** **The commissioner shall**
 37 **consider the recommendations of the Teacher Leader Endorsement**
 38 **Advisory Board.**

39 **c. Any**¹ data **1collected**¹ from the approved providers of the
 40 program of study **1[regarding the number of teacher leader**
 41 **endorsements issued to teachers enrolled in the program of study,**
 42 **the effectiveness of the program of study, and such other data**
 43 **deemed appropriate by the department. The data collected]**¹ shall
 44 be provided to the Teacher Leader Endorsement Advisory Board to
 45 support the board's work. **1The data collection shall protect**
 46 **individuals' privacy, and notwithstanding the provisions of**

1 P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.), the data shall not be accessible
2 to the public.¹

3

4 4. Nothing in this act shall be construed to limit the right to
5 determine any additional compensation and release time for the
6 responsibilities of a teacher with a teacher leader endorsement, in
7 addition to any other terms and conditions of employment related to
8 these teachers, through collective negotiations.

9 5. The State Board of Education shall promulgate regulations
10 pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968,
11 c.410 (C.52:14B -1 et seq.), to:

12 a. Set standards for the program of study for the teacher leader
13 endorsement; and

14 b. Set standards for the approval of providers of programs of
15 study for the teacher leader endorsement.

16

17 6. This act shall take effect 90 days after the date of enactment.

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21

22 _____
23 Authorizes a teacher leader endorsement to the instructional
certificate.