

SENATE, No. 2830

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED AUGUST 17, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

SYNOPSIS

Requires educator preparation program to report passing rates of students who complete certain tests and to disseminate information on test fee waiver programs, and permits collection of student fee for certain testing costs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/19/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning educator preparation programs and
2 supplementing chapter 26 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. Each educator preparation program shall annually report
9 to the Department of Education on the first-time and overall test
10 pass rates of candidates for an instructional certificate, for each test
11 required for instructional certification.

12 b. Each educator preparation program shall annually publish
13 the first-time and overall test pass rates of its students on its
14 website.

15 c. Each educator preparation program shall annually
16 disseminate information to its students on the availability of fee
17 waivers for tests required for instructional certification.

18 d. Each educator preparation program shall include in its
19 student fees a separate fee to be applied towards the cost of the
20 student completing the tests required for instructional certification.
21 Testing fees for students preparing for employment as an educator
22 in a subject area in which there is a shortage of teachers in the State,
23 as determined by the department, shall be paid by the educator
24 preparation program.

25 e. As used in this act, a “test required for instructional
26 certification” means Praxis Core tests, or their successor tests, and
27 Praxis Subject Assessments, or their successor tests.

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29 2. The department shall annually compile the test pass rates of
30 candidates for an instructional certificate submitted pursuant to
31 subsection a. of section 1 of this act into a comparative profile of all
32 educator preparation programs. The profile shall be made available
33 for public inspection on the department’s website.

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35 3. The test pass rates submitted to the department pursuant to
36 subsection a. of section 1 of this act shall be included within the
37 documentation required for the Commissioner of Education’s
38 periodic review of educator preparation programs.

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40 4. This act shall take effect in the first full academic year
41 following the date of enactment.

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44 **STATEMENT**

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46 This bill requires each educator preparation program to annually
47 report to the Department of Education on the first-time and overall
48 test pass rates of candidates for an instructional certificate, for each

1 test required for instructional certification. Under the bill, each
2 educator preparation program must:

- 3 • annually publish the first-time and overall test pass rates of
4 its students on its website;
- 5 • annually disseminate information to its students on the
6 availability of fee waivers for tests required for instructional
7 certification; and
- 8 • include in its student fees a separate fee to be applied
9 towards the cost of the student completing the tests required
10 for instructional certification.

11 The bill provides that testing fees for students preparing for
12 employment as an educator in a subject area in which there is a
13 shortage of teachers in the State, as determined by the department,
14 must be paid by the educator preparation program.

15 The bill also requires the department to annually compile the test
16 pass rates of candidates for an instructional certificate submitted
17 pursuant to the bill's provisions into a comparative profile of all
18 educator preparation programs. The profile must be made available
19 for public inspection on the department's website.

20 Finally, the bill provides that the test pass rates submitted to the
21 department pursuant to the bill's provisions be included within the
22 documentation required for the Commissioner of Education's
23 periodic review of educator preparation programs.