

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2619**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**219th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman Jasey**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes alternate route to expedite certification of teachers at early college high school programs.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/9/2021)**

1 AN ACT concerning early college high school teachers 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. The State Board of Education shall authorize an alternate  
9 route to expedite the certification of persons who are qualified by  
10 education and experience to teach grades seven through 12 at an  
11 early college high school program. The alternate route shall consist  
12 of a three-tiered certificate program. The standards established by  
13 the State board shall include at a minimum:

14 (1) for receipt of an early college high school certificate of  
15 eligibility, the candidate shall:

16 (a) Hold an advanced degree from a regionally accredited  
17 college or university in a field related to the subject area to be  
18 taught, as determined by the State board;

19 (b) Have experience teaching students at any grade level,  
20 including postsecondary students; and

21 (c) Pass the appropriate State test of subject-matter knowledge.

22 (2) for receipt of an early college high school provisional  
23 certificate, the candidate shall provide proof that an early college  
24 high school intends to employ the candidate in a teaching position.

25 (3) for receipt of an early college high school standard  
26 certificate, the candidate shall successfully complete at least four  
27 school years of teaching at the early college high school.

28 b. The certification provided pursuant to this section may be  
29 used only for employment at an early college high school and shall  
30 not satisfy the requirements for employment in any other public  
31 school.

32 c. As used in this section, “early college high school program”  
33 means a partnership between a school district and an institution of  
34 higher education that allows participants to simultaneously  
35 complete requirements toward earning a State-endorsed high school  
36 diploma and have the opportunity to earn credits that are  
37 transferable to the institution of higher education in the partnership  
38 as part of an organized course of study toward a postsecondary  
39 degree at no cost to the participant or participant’s family.

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41 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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46 An early college high school program is a partnership between a  
47 school district and an institution of higher education that allows  
48 participants to simultaneously complete requirements toward

1 earning a State-endorsed high school diploma and have the  
2 opportunity to earn credits that are transferable to the institution of  
3 higher education in the partnership as part of an organized course of  
4 study toward a postsecondary degree at no cost to the participant or  
5 participant's family. This bill would require the State Board of  
6 Education to authorize an alternate route to expedite the  
7 certification of persons to teach grades seven through 12 at an early  
8 college high school. The alternate route will consist of a three-  
9 tiered certificate program, similar to the alternate route provided for  
10 teachers at charter schools in the State.

11 Under the standards established for the early college high school  
12 alternate route:

- 13 • Receipt of an early college high school certificate of  
14 eligibility will require the candidate to, at a minimum:  
15 hold an advanced degree from a regionally accredited  
16 college or university in a field related to the subject area  
17 to be taught; have experience teaching students at any  
18 grade level, including postsecondary students; and pass  
19 the appropriate State test of subject-matter knowledge;  
20 and
- 21 • Receipt of the provisional certificate will require the  
22 candidate to, at a minimum, provide proof that an early  
23 college high school intends to employ the candidate in a  
24 teaching position; and
- 25 • Receipt of the standard certificate will require the  
26 candidate to, at a minimum, successfully complete at least  
27 four school years of teaching at the early college high  
28 school.

29 The bill provides that certification under the early college high  
30 school alternate route may be used only for employment at an early  
31 college high school and will not be permitted to satisfy the  
32 requirements for employment in any other public school.