

[First Reprint]

## **ASSEMBLY, No. 5291**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

## **219th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED JANUARY 27, 2021

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO**

**District 20 (Union)**

### **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 reported by the Assembly Education Committee on December 9, 2021, with amendments.



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

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

7  
 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 <sup>1</sup>**[student fees a separate fee to]** tuition and fees bill an optional lab  
 20 fee that a student may opt to pay and which shall<sup>1</sup> be applied  
 21 towards the cost of the student completing the tests required for  
 22 instructional certification. <sup>1</sup>**[Testing fees for students preparing for**  
 23 **employment as an educator in a subject area in which there is a**  
 24 **shortage of teachers in the State, as determined by the department,**  
 25 **shall be paid by the educator preparation program.]<sup>1</sup>**

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

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

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

40  
 41 <sup>1</sup>4. Any policy or contract entered into after the effective date of  
 42 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) by  
 43 the State, or any political subdivision thereof, regarding a test  
 44 required for instructional certification shall provide for the  
 45 dissemination of fee waivers to low-income students.

**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:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AED committee amendments adopted December 9, 2021.

1       As used in this section:

2       "Annual adjusted gross income" means:

3       (1) for a dependent student, the annual adjusted gross income of  
4       the student's parent or legal guardian, as reported on the student's  
5       Free Application for Federal Student Aid or other financial aid  
6       form; and

7       (2) for an independent student, the annual adjusted gross income  
8       of the student and, if applicable, the spouse of the student, as  
9       reported on the student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid  
10       or other financial aid form, and

11       "Low-income student" means a student with an annual adjusted  
12       gross income of \$65,000 or less.<sup>1</sup>

13

14       <sup>1</sup>**[4.] 5.**<sup>1</sup> This act shall take effect in the first full academic  
15       year following the date of enactment.