

P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 279, *approved November 8, 2021*

Senate, No. 3253 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning early college high school teachers 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. 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 <sup>1</sup>and shall exempt the candidate  
12 from the requirements governing a Certificate of Eligibility set forth  
13 in State Board of Education regulations<sup>1</sup>. The alternate route shall  
14 consist of a three-tiered certificate program. The standards  
15 established by the State board shall include at a minimum:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

34 c. <sup>1</sup>Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude a teacher with  
35 an instructional certificate with an appropriate instructional  
36 endorsement issued by the State Board of Examiners from teaching  
37 at an early college high school program.

38 d.<sup>1</sup> As used in this section, “early college high school program”  
39 means a partnership between a school district and an institution of

**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>Senate SED committee amendments adopted March 9, 2021.

1 higher education that allows participants to simultaneously  
2 complete requirements toward earning a State-endorsed high school  
3 diploma and have the opportunity to earn credits that are  
4 transferable to the institution of higher education in the partnership  
5 as part of an organized course of study toward a postsecondary  
6 degree at no cost to the participant or participant's family.

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8 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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