

Elementary with Subject Matter Specialization: Science Grades 5 – 8 Standard Certificate (Middle School Science) (Endorsement Code: 1103)

Please print this page before you apply.

TO AVOID DELAYS: After applying online, please submit **ALL** necessary documentation, including the oath of allegiance/verification of accuracy form, **together** in a **single packet** to the address below. If possible, please have transcripts sent to you first and then forward them in the sealed envelope(s) together with any other documents. Please include your Social Security number or tracking number in all correspondence with our office.

**NJ Department of Education
Office of Licensure and Credentials
PO Box 500
Trenton, NJ 08625-0500**

This endorsement entitles the holder to:

- i. Teach Science in grades five through eight in all public schools. This endorsement does not permit the holder to teach the subject matter specialization in grades 9 through 12.;
- ii. Teach all core curriculum content standard subjects in grades K through five pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9-11.10.
- iii. Teach reading, writing, arithmetic and spelling, for basic skill purposes only in grades six through 12.

The following requirements must be met for certification:

Degree Requirement

- A minimum of a bachelor's degree is required from a [regionally accredited college/university](http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/usaccred.htm). (<http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/usaccred.htm>)

Cumulative GPA Requirement

- New Jersey requires that candidates for certification achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 2.75 when a GPA of 4.00 equals an A grade for students graduating on or after September 1, 2004 (2.50 for those graduating before September 1, 2004) in a baccalaureate degree program, higher degree program or a State-approved post-baccalaureate certification program with a minimum of 13 semester-hour credits. Please note that a high praxis test score may offset a GPA that is lower than 2.75 but higher than 2.50. Click on the following link for more details: <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/gpa.htm>

Elementary School Certification

- Current regulations for certification require that applicants hold an Elementary School certificate in order to be eligible for Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization Certificate (Middle School Certificate). You need to apply and be eligible for the Elementary School certificate. Issuance of the Elementary School with Subject Matter Specialization certificate will be contingent upon eligibility for the Elementary School certification.

Subject Matter Preparation

- Current regulations for certification require that applicants complete a minimum of 15 credits in the subject area that you want to be certified in. Courses in educational pedagogy do not count towards the subject matter requirement. All credits must appear on a regionally accredited 2 OR 4 year college/university transcript.

Praxis II Test Requirement

- **Test Requirement.** Please go to <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/1112.pdf> for testing details. Official scores must be presented directly from Educational Testing Service to the NJ Department of Education. Only official scores are accepted. **The New Jersey Department of Education code (R7666) and your Social Security number must appear on your test score report in order to be accepted. Please submit a copy of your test score report if you have taken the appropriate exam.**

Professional Teacher Preparation

- Current regulations for certification require that applicants complete a coherent sequence of study in professional education which may be completed in a provisional teacher program or an approved teacher preparation program. This is to advise that courses presented by the applicant in professional education must be a coherent sequence of courses that culminates in supervised student teaching.

Course Requirement in the Characteristics of Child and Early Adolescent Development

- A course in “Child and Early Adolescent Development,” or its equivalent, that appears on a regionally accredited 2 or 4 year college or university transcript is required. Acceptable courses include “Adolescent Psychology/Development” and “Lifespan Development”. A course titled “Child Psychology” will **not** be accepted unless it covers the development of adolescents between the ages of 11-14.

State Teaching Certificate

- Please submit a copy of an out-of-state teaching certificate that is equivalent to a NJ Standard Instructional Certificate. Holders of a NJ Standard Instructional Certificate do not need to send in a copy of their certificate.

Letter of Teaching Experience

- Please submit an original letter(s) from a school official(s), on school letterhead, documenting 1 year of fulltime teaching experience under a valid out-of-state license. The letter should include information about full or part-time status, specific teaching assignment and dates of employment. Holders of a NJ Standard Instructional Certificate do not need to send in a letter of teaching experience with the exception of those who hold a Standard Teacher of the Handicapped Certificate.

Physiology and Hygiene Requirement

- This requirement may be completed by presenting evidence of basic military training, OR by completing a course such as biology, health or nutrition that appears on a regionally accredited 2 or 4 year college or university transcript, OR by completing a 35 question True/False test administered in the county office of education. Please go to <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/county.htm> in order to contact a county office of education **after** you apply online.

Fee Information

- The current cost of the certificate is \$115.
- **No checks or money orders will be accepted**
- Please make the payment online at <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/epay.htm>.
- **Please notify your examiner after payment has been made.**
- If you apply and are denied, you will be charged a fee of \$70.
- **All fees, including money left on file, are nonrefundable**

IF YOU HAVE MET THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS, [CLICK HERE](#) TO APPLY ONLINE.