



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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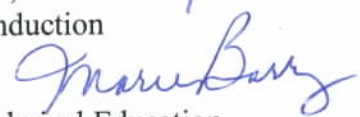
KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

CHRISTOPHER D. CERF
Acting Commissioner

September 12, 2011

To: Chief School Administrators

From: Robert R. Higgins, Ph.D., Director 
Office of Certification/Induction

Marie Barry, Director 
Office of Career and Technical Education

Subject: Career and Technical Education Alternate Route Teacher Formal Instruction Pilot

The Office of Certification/Induction, in partnership with the Office of Career and Technical Education, is continuing the statewide *Career and Technical Education Alternate Route Teacher Formal Instruction Pilot Program*, which launched in January 2011. As a reminder, all career and technical education alternate route teachers must enroll in this teacher preparation program during their provisional teaching year. This program was established in order to fulfill the requirements of *N.J.A.C. 6A:9-8.3(b)4*, which requires provisional teachers who are holders of a career and technical education Certificate of Eligibility to complete “a minimum of 200 hours of formal instruction in a state-approved career and technical education professional education program that is aligned with the Professional Standards for Teachers and that includes the essential knowledge and skills regarding the delivery of career and technical education programs.”

The pilot program is designed to:

1. Promote the integration of coherent and rigorous academic content standards and career and technical education curricula;
2. Encourage applied learning that contributes to the academic and career and technical knowledge of CTE students;
3. Provide CTE teachers with the knowledge and skills needed to work with and improve instruction for special populations;
4. Assist CTE teachers in accessing and utilizing student data and data from assessments;
5. Increase the knowledge of academic and industry standards of CTE teachers;
6. Encourage CTE teachers who do not hold a college degree to continue their formal education; and
7. Increase the number of teachers that meet teacher certification or licensure requirements.

The pilot program is delivered in two stages. Stage I begins the certification process for provisional teacher candidates. Teacher candidates will have opportunities to examine, learn, and be ready to implement effective teaching practices in a career and technical education program classroom setting. Teacher candidates will understand and begin to apply curriculum theory, strategies for instruction, classroom management techniques, and differentiated instruction through classroom activities. In addition, guided observations of teacher candidates by Stage I instructional staff will occur in each teacher candidates' home school. Within the context of Stage I, experiences will be provided to help the teacher candidates develop the tools, skills, knowledge, and dispositions needed to be an effective teacher and to succeed in career and technical education program classrooms throughout the state of New Jersey. Forty-five hours of instruction, including online sessions and three full-day Saturdays, are included in Stage I.

The early sessions of Stage II will give the teacher candidate a viable support system as well as a reflective environment in which to share experiences and move the provisional teacher candidate process forward. Teacher candidates will focus in greater depth on many of the topics introduced in Stage I. Specifically, the principles of effective instruction and the exploration of effective implementation strategies within the context of career and technical education programs, as well as the importance of literacy across the curriculum, will be a focus of Stage II. Stage II of the curriculum represents 140 hours of instruction, including online coursework, six Cohort Saturdays, and development of a comprehensive portfolio. In addition to the 140 hours, a total of 15 hours will be dedicated to a capstone conference activity and assessment. Teacher candidates completing this college-level coursework will have the option of obtaining associate-level college credit and teacher certification or teacher certification only.

All new provisional career and technical education teacher candidates beginning alternate route formal instruction in January 2011 and thereafter will be enrolled in this pilot program. For more information regarding the pilot program, visit the New Pathways website at Brookdale Community College at: <http://alternateroute.brookdalecc.edu>.

CTE candidates will be registered in the Provisional Teacher Program via fax to 609-984-3356.

S:CTE Alternate Route/Correspondence/CTE Alt Rte Announcement to Districts 2011
RH/MB/AF

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