SOCIAL STUDIES CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY
(ENDORSEMENT CODE: 2300)

This endorsement authorizes the holder to teach social studies in all public schools. Social studies includes American history, European history, world history, government, political science, sociology, geography, anthropology and economics.

Degree Requirement

- A minimum of a bachelor's degree is required from a regionally accredited college/university.

Cumulative GPA Requirement

- New Jersey requires that candidates for certification achieve a cumulative **GPA of at least 3.0 when a GPA of 4.00** equals an A grade for students graduating on or after **September 1, 2016** (**2.75 for those graduating before September 1, 2016**) 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 there are GPA Flexibility Rules where a high praxis score may offset a GPA that is lower than 3.0, but higher than 2.75.

Subject Matter Preparation

- For certification as a Social Studies teacher, current regulations for certification require that applicants complete a minimum of 30 credits in a coherent sequence in the subject field of Social Studies. A coherent sequence requires that at least 12 credits are completed at the advanced level of study (junior, senior or graduate level). Within the 30 credits, the candidate must complete a minimum of 15 semester hour credits in history to include a minimum of one course in American History and one course in World History. Related courses may be accepted depending on the course description/content. Please provide a course description if a course is not taken from the History Department. Courses in pedagogy/education are not accepted towards the subject matter preparation. The final determination as to which courses will be counted towards the subject matter is based on professional and content standards found in the NJ Licensing code. **All credits must appear on a regionally accredited 2 or 4-year college/university transcript.**

Testing Requirements

- **Praxis II Test Requirement**
  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.**

- **Basic Skills Assessment Requirement (choose one)**
  All candidates applying for their initial CE must pass a Commissioner-approved test of basic skills. 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 exams.**

  <u>OR</u>

  Score in the top one-third percentile on the SAT, ACT, or GRE for the year the test was taken. Official score reports must be sent directly from the testing agency.

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Physiology and Hygiene Requirement

- This requirement may be completed by choosing one of the following options:
  1.) Present evidence of basic military training
  2.) Complete a course such as biology, health or nutrition that appears on a regionally accredited 2 or 4-year college/university transcript
  3.) Complete an online test. You must have a tracking number and an application on file to take this test.

Fee Requirement

- No checks or money orders will be accepted
- Please make the payment online
- Please notify your examiner after payment has been made.
- If your application expires after six months, you will be charged a fee of $70.
- All fees, including money left on file, are nonrefundable

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