

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD**

Statutory Authority: 14 Delaware Code, Section 122(d) (14 **Del.C.** §122(d))
14 **DE Admin. Code** 1509

FINAL

REGULATORY IMPLEMENTING ORDER

1509 Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designation

I. SUMMARY OF THE EVIDENCE AND INFORMATION SUBMITTED

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to reauthorize regulation 14 **DE Admin. Code** 1509 Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designation. It is necessary to review this regulation in order to comply with the 5 year regulation review process. No changes have been deemed necessary. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designation.

Notice of the proposed reauthorization of the regulation was published in the Delaware *Register of Regulations* on October 1, 2012. The notice invited written comments. No comments were received.

II. FINDINGS OF FACTS

The Professional Standards Board and the State Board of Education find that it is appropriate to reauthorize this regulation to comply with changes in statute.

III. DECISION TO ADOPT THE REGULATION

For the foregoing reasons, the Professional Standards Board and the State Board of Education conclude that it is appropriate to reauthorize the regulation. Therefore, pursuant to 14 **Del.C.** §1205(b), the regulation attached hereto as Exhibit "A" is hereby reauthorized. Pursuant to the provision of 14 **Del.C.** §122(e), the regulation hereby reauthorized shall be in effect for a period of five years from the effective date of this order as set forth in Section V. below.

IV. TEXT AND CITATION

The text of the regulation reauthorized shall be in the form attached hereto as Exhibit "A", and said regulation shall be cited as 14 **DE Admin. Code** 1509 of the *Administrative Code of Regulations* of the Professional Standards Board.

V. EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDER

The effective date of this Order shall be ten (10) days from the date this Order is published in the Delaware *Register of Regulations*.

APPROVED BY THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD THIS 1ST DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2012

Kathleen Thomas, Chair

Chris Kenton

Michael Casson

David Kohan

Joanne Christian

Jill Lewandowski

Samtra Devard

Wendy Murray

Stephanie DeWitt

Mary Pinkston

Marilyn Dollard

Whitney Price

Karen Gordon

Shelley Rouser

Cristy Greaves

Jacque Wisnauskas

IT IS SO ORDERED this 15th day of November, 2012.

Department of Education

Mark Murphy, Secretary of Education

Approved this 15th day of November, 2012

State Board of Education

Teri Quinn Gray, Ph.D., President
Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President
G. Patrick Heffernan
Barbara B. Rutt

Gregory Coverdale
Terry M. Whittaker, Ed.D.
Randall L. Hughes

1509 Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designation

1.0 Content

This regulation shall apply to the issuance of a Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designation to a candidate for an Initial License who meets the criteria set forth by the Mid Atlantic Regional Teachers Project, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1210.

2.0 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this regulation, shall have the following meaning unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“**Department**” means the Delaware Department of Education.

“**License**” means a credential which authorizes the holder to engage in the practice for which the license is issued.

“**Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designation**” means a designation of excellence for new teachers which enables them to teach in Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

“**Met the Highest Standard**” means achieved the highest grade or score awarded by the institution.

“**Standard Certificate**” means a credential issued to certify that an educator has the prescribed knowledge, skill or education to practice in a particular area, teach a particular subject, or teach a category of students”.

3.0 Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Requirements

An applicant for an Initial License who meets the requirements for an Initial License and who also meets the criteria set forth by the Mid Atlantic Regional Teachers Project shall have a Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designation affixed to the Initial License, upon receipt of a recommendation from the candidate’s teacher preparation program that the candidate be awarded the designation of Meritorious New Teacher Candidate.

3.1 Criteria for the Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designation are:

3.1.1 Verbal Skills

3.1.1.1 Scores in the upper quartile of students nationally at the time the test was taken on the verbal portion of the SAT, ACT, or GRE.

3.1.2 Content Knowledge

3.1.2.1 Elementary Education (Grades pre K to 6):

3.1.2.1.1 A minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA in an undergraduate professional education program, or a minimum 3.7 cumulative GPA in a graduate professional education program; and

3.1.2.1.2 Scores in the upper quartile of students nationally at the time the test was taken in math, science, social studies, and English language arts in the PRAXIS II Content Knowledge for Elementary Teachers test or Elementary Education: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment test.

3.1.2.2 Middle School Education (Grades 6 to 8):

3.1.2.2.1 A minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA in an undergraduate academic major or a minimum 3.7 cumulative GPA in a graduate program in the subject area in which a standard certificate is sought; and

3.1.2.2.2 Scores in the upper quartile of students nationally at the time the test was taken on the PRAXIS II test in the applicant’s specialty area.

3.1.2.3 Secondary Education (Grades 9 to 12):

- 3.1.2.3.1 A minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA in an undergraduate academic major or a minimum 3.7 cumulative GPA in a graduate program in the subject area in which a standard certificate is sought.
- 3.1.2.3.2 Scores in the upper quartile of students nationally at the time the test was taken on the PRAXIS II test in the applicant's specialty area.
- 3.1.3 Professional Preparation and Recommendation:
 - 3.1.3.1 Completion of a state approved teacher preparation program, of traditional or alternative format, with a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA in an undergraduate professional studies program, or a minimum 3.7 cumulative GPA in a graduate professional education program.
 - 3.1.3.2 Completion of a minimum of 400 hours of supervised clinical experience, of which at least 300 hours are directed instructional student teaching. Clinical experience may occur within any state approved model, including total immersion experiences as teachers of record.
 - 3.1.3.3 Met the highest standard of both the university supervisor and the cooperating teacher on the institution's formal student teacher or immersion component of the required clinical experience.
 - 3.1.3.4 Met the highest standard on the institution's professional preparation assessment.
 - 3.1.3.5 Received a recommendation by the teacher preparation program that the candidate be awarded the designation of Meritorious New Teacher Candidate.

4.0 Expedited Application

Applicants for initial licensure and the Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designation who completed teacher preparation in Delaware will be given expedited consideration of their application by the Delaware Department of Education.

5.0 License from Other Jurisdiction Honored

A Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designation issued to a licensee from one of the participating jurisdictions who has less than three (3) years of teaching experience, shall be honored by the Department. The applicant shall be issued a Delaware Initial License pursuant to 14 **DE Admin. Code** §1510 with a Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designation and any Delaware Standard Certificate for which the candidate qualifies.

6.0 This Designation Shall be Valid for the Duration of the Individual's Initial License

8 DE Reg. 446 (09/01/04)

16 DE Reg. 625 (12/01/12) (Final)