



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: May 17, 2019
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: All New Jersey Educators
From: Linda P. Eno, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Academics and Performance

Teacher Leader Endorsement Regulations Adopted

Since 2015, New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has collaborated with the [Teacher Leader Endorsement Advisory Board](#) and other key stakeholders to develop regulations for a teacher leader endorsement. Teacher leadership is important and has been shown to positively impact teachers' job satisfaction, which is a major predictor of retention, and to contribute to a pipeline of quality educators within the profession.

As another critical step in supporting educators, on April 17, 2019, the State Board of Education adopted teacher leader endorsement regulations. These regulations, (*N.J.A.C. 6A:9A-6*; *N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-11A*) summarized below, detail the requirements for teacher leader candidates and for related preparation programs. The regulations are meant to complement and enhance opportunities for teacher professional growth. Districts will maintain discretion over teacher leadership roles. The endorsement is not required to fill a teacher leadership role; it merely provides an optional credential for educators.

Effective May 1, 2019, teacher leader endorsement regulations (*N.J.A.C. 6A:9A-6*; *N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-11A*) provide that a teacher leader candidate must:

- Demonstrate at least four years of teaching experience;
- Successfully complete a teacher leader preparation program with an approved provider; and
- Pass a Commissioner-approved performance assessment.

Additionally, teacher leader preparation programs must:

- Be reviewed and approved by the Commissioner; and
- Include embedded, clinical experiences with mentors who are high-quality instructional leaders.

In the coming months, more information will be provided regarding the requirements for becoming a program provider as well as regarding opportunities for teachers to obtain a teacher leader endorsement. For information, please contact teachpd@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
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Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
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