

## OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

To: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs  
From: Hillary Risler, Esq., Legislative Analyst  
Date: April 5, 2021  
Subj: **LD 350, “An Act To Increase the Number of Courses Regarding Autism Spectrum Disorder that Count toward Special Education Certification” (Crafts)**

---

### SUMMARY

This bill allows for up to 3 courses related to autism spectrum disorder to count toward professional teacher certification with an endorsement for special education.

### TESTIMONY

- **Proponents:**
  - More children are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), which demonstrates a necessary shift in educational programming and teacher skills if the State is to meet the needs of the students
  - This bill wouldn't require additional courses, but would make it possible for a study of ASD to be a greater part of a special educator's training for certification purposes.
- **Opponents:** None
- **Neither For Nor Against:**
  - Suggestion to amend the bill to use a broader term, such as Developmental Disabilities, which includes ASD, because such a specific label may limit the potential such required courses could bring students
  - It's not clear from the bill which endorsements this change would affect in regards to age levels
  - Any language about course requirements for specific endorsements should be addressed through DOE rulemaking, which is in progress, not through statute

### COMMITTEE REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- What are the courses available?
  - Sam Warren, UMS Director of Government and Community Relations memorandum regarding current UMS courses and graduate certificate programs in autism spectrum disorders is available here:  
<https://legislature.maine.gov/testimony/resources/EDU20210322Warren132609026730078838.pdf>
- Update on the DOE's current Chapter 115 Rulemaking

### PRELIMINARY FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

- No fiscal impact

July 12, 2018

## Requirements for Teacher of Students with Disabilities Endorsement Birth to Age 5 (282)

**You will be eligible for a conditional certificate if you have completed 9 credits of coursework toward this endorsement.**

**You will be eligible for a conditional certificate through the transitional pathway if you are already a teacher and you have completed 9 credits of coursework toward this endorsement.**

**If you complete all requirements, you will be issued a five-year professional certificate.**

<b>NOTE: The number in ( ) indicates the number of semester hours required.</b>		
<b>Section A:</b>		
1. Bachelor's degree conferred		
2. Special education (Courses may not include severe, deaf, blind, American Sign Language, or gifted and talented. We will accept one autism course and one applied behavioral analysis course.) (24)		
3. Criminal history record check approval – based on fingerprints		
<b>Section B: Core Academic Skills for Educators/PRAXIS I</b>		
Reading	Test: #5712	Score 156
Writing	Test: #5722	Score 162
Mathematics	Test: #5732	Score 150
Composite		Score 468
<b>Section C: PRAXIS II</b>		
Special Education: Preschool/Early Childhood: CK Test Code 5691 Score159		

**If this requirements list is more than two years old, please contact the certification office, as the requirements may have changed.**

Courses must be 100 level or higher from a four-year accredited college offering a bachelor's degree, with the following exception: a maximum of six semester hours of Section A may be met through CLEP Exam(s) with a minimum score of 60 on subject examinations for courses you have not taken through a four-year accredited college. Required semester hours shall consist of non-duplicative coursework: examples: only one English Composition course or only one Algebra I course.

Fingerprint schedule on web site [www.identogo.com](http://www.identogo.com)

Register at [www.ets.org/praxis/me/requirements](http://www.ets.org/praxis/me/requirements)

Applicants for initial teacher certification must achieve a composite score of 468 on the three sections of the Core Academic Skills for Educators, with no single score on any section being more than three points lower than the required score above. A graduate degree can substitute for PRAXIS I requirements.

Applicants for certificates requiring bachelor's degrees may use passing scores on either the Pre-Professional Skills Test/PPST or the Core Academic Skills for Educators until 8-31-18. As of 9-1-18, all applicants must meet passing scores on the Core Academic Skills for Educators exams.

Applicants for #282 Teacher/Disabled Children (birth to age 5) may meet a passing score on either PRAXIS II Test Code 0690 or PRAXIS II Test Code 0691/5691 until 8-31-17. As of 9-1-17, all applicants must meet a passing score on test 0691/5691.

July 12, 2018

## Requirements for Teacher of Students with Disabilities Endorsement K-8 (282)

**You would be eligible for a conditional certificate if you have completed 9 credits of coursework toward this endorsement.**

**You would be eligible for a conditional certificate through the transitional pathway if you are already a teacher and you have completed 9 credits of coursework toward this endorsement.**

**If you complete all requirements, you will be issued a five-year professional certificate.**

<b>NOTE: The number in ( ) indicates the number of semester hours required.</b>		
<b>Section A:</b>		
1. Bachelor's degree		
2. Special education (Courses may not include severe, deaf, blind, American Sign Language, or gifted and talented. We will accept one autism course and one applied behavioral analysis course.) (24)		
3. Criminal history record check approval – based on fingerprints		
<b>Section B:</b>		
Student teaching (will be waived upon one school year of successful teaching in Maine under a valid certificate )		
<b>Section C: Core Academic Skills for Educators/PRACTICE I</b>		
Reading	Test: #5712	Score 156
Writing	Test: #5722	Score 162
Mathematics	Test: #5732	Score 150
Composite		Score 468
<b>Section D: PRACTICE II</b>		
Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications Test Code 5354 Score 151		
<b>Section E: Principles of Learning and Teaching</b>		
<b>PLT</b> Test Code 5622 Score 160 OR Successful completion of a state-approved teacher education program		

**If this requirements list is more than two years old, please contact the certification office, as the requirements may have changed.**

Courses must be 100 level or higher from a four-year accredited college offering a bachelor's degree, with the following exception: a maximum of six semester hours of Section A may be met through CLEP Exam(s) with a minimum score of 60 on subject examinations for courses you have not taken through a four-year accredited college. Required semester hours shall consist of non-duplicative coursework: examples: only one English Composition course or only one Algebra I course.

Fingerprint schedule on web site [www.identogo.com](http://www.identogo.com)

Register at [www.ets.org/praxis/me/requirements](http://www.ets.org/praxis/me/requirements)

Applicants for initial teacher certification must achieve a composite score of 468 on the three sections of the Core Academic Skills for Educators, with no single score on any section being more than three points lower than the required score above. A graduate degree can substitute for PRAXIS I requirements.

Applicants for certificates requiring bachelor's degrees may use passing scores on either the Pre-Professional Skills Test/PPST or the Core Academic Skills for Educators until 8-31-18. As of 9-1-18, all applicants must meet passing scores on the Core Academic Skills for Educators exams.

Applicants for #282 Teacher of Disabled Students (K-8, 7-12) may meet a passing score on either PRAXIS II Test Code 0353 or PRAXIS II Test Code 0354/5354 until 8-31-15. As of 9-1-15, all applicants must meet a passing score on test 0354/5354.

Applicants for certificates requiring the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) PRAXIS exam for Kindergarten to Grade 8 may meet a passing score on either PLT Test Code 0522 or PLT Test Code 0622/5622 until 8-31-16. As of 9-1-16, all applicants must meet a passing score on test 0622/5622.

July 12, 2018

## Requirements for Teacher of Students with Disabilities Endorsement Grades 7-12 (282)

**You will be eligible for a conditional certificate if you have completed 9 credits of coursework toward this endorsement.**

**You will be eligible for a conditional certificate through the transitional pathway if you are already a teacher and you have completed 9 credits of coursework toward this endorsement.**

**If you complete all requirements, you will be issued a five-year professional certificate.**

<b>NOTE: The number in ( ) indicates the number of semester hours required.</b>		
<b>Section A:</b>		
1. Bachelor's degree conferred		
2. Special education (Courses may <b>not</b> include severe, deaf, blind, American Sign Language, or gifted and talented. We will accept one autism course and one applied behavioral analysis course.) (24)		
3. Criminal history record check approval – based on fingerprints		
<b>Section B:</b>		
Student teaching (will be waived upon one school year of successful teaching in Maine under a valid certificate )		
<b>Section C: Core Academic Skills for Educators/PRAXIS I</b>		
Reading	Test: #5712	Score 156
Writing	Test: #5722	Score 162
Mathematics	Test: #5732	Score 150
Composite		Score 468
<b>Section D: PRAXIS II</b>		
Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications Test Code 5354 Score 151		
<b>Section E: Principles of Learning and Teaching</b>		
PLT Test Code 5624 Score 157 OR Successful completion of a state-approved teacher education program		

**If this requirements list is more than two years old, please contact the certification office, as the requirements may have changed.**

Courses must be 100 level or higher from a four-year accredited college offering a bachelor's degree, with the following exception: a maximum of six semester hours of Section A may be met through CLEP Exam(s) with a minimum score of 60 on subject examinations for courses you have not taken through a four-year accredited college. Required semester hours shall consist of non-duplicative coursework: examples: only one English Composition course or only one Algebra I course.

Fingerprint schedule on web site [www.identogo.com](http://www.identogo.com)

Register at [www.ets.org/praxis/me/requirements](http://www.ets.org/praxis/me/requirements)

Applicants for initial teacher certification must achieve a composite score of 468 on the three sections of the Core Academic Skills for Educators, with no single score on any section being more than three points lower than the required score above. A graduate degree can substitute for PRAXIS I requirements.

Applicants for certificates requiring bachelor's degrees may use passing scores on either the Pre-Professional Skills Test/PPST or the Core Academic Skills for Educators until 8-31-18. As of 9-1-18, all applicants must meet passing scores on the Core Academic Skills for Educators exams.

Applicants for #282 Teacher of Disabled Students (K-8, 7-12) may meet a passing score on either PRAXIS II Test Code 0353 or PRAXIS II Test Code 0354/5354 until 8-31-15. As of 9-1-15, all applicants must meet a passing score on test 0354/5354.

Applicants for certificates requiring the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) PRAXIS exam for Secondary Grades 7-12 or Vocational (Career & Technical Education) Grades 9-12 may meet a passing score on either PLT Test Code 0524 or PLT Test Code 0624/5624 until 8-31-16. As of 9-1-16, all applicants must meet a passing score on test 0624/5624.

## **SECTION 2: TEACHERS AND EDUCATIONAL SPECIALISTS: SPECIAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATES AND ENDORSEMENTS**

### **2.1 Endorsement 282: Teacher of Children with Disabilities**

- A. **Function:** This endorsement on a teacher certificate allows the holder to teach children with disabilities and to consult with teachers, children, and parents. The endorsement specifies the applicable grade levels: birth to school age 5, kindergarten through grade 8, or grades 7 through 12.
- B. **Eligibility:** Applicants shall meet eligibility requirements specified in Part I. In addition, eligibility for this endorsement shall be established by one of two pathways. Individuals who are not eligible through either pathway may be eligible for a conditional certificate, in accordance with 2.1.B.3, below, and Part I Section 5.4 of this rule.

#### **1. Endorsement Eligibility Pathway 1**

- (a) Graduated from a Maine program approved for teachers of children with disabilities birth to school age 5, kindergarten through grade 8, or grades 7 through 12, together with formal recommendation of the preparing institution;
- (b) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;
- (c) Passed content area assessment, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13; and
- (d) Passed Basic Skills Test in reading, writing, and mathematics, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13.

#### **2. Endorsement Eligibility Pathway 2**

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;
- (b) Completed a minimum of 24 semester hours in special education;
- (c) Passed content area assessment, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13;
- (d) Passed Basic Skills Test in reading, writing, and mathematics, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13;
- (e) Passed pedagogical knowledge and skills assessment at the appropriate grade level kindergarten through grade 8, or grades 7 through 12, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13, or successful completion of an approved alternative professional studies program; and
- (f) Completed one academic semester or a minimum of 15 weeks of full-time student teaching, or a combination of part-time and full-time student teaching in an amount equivalent to 15 weeks in this endorsement area at the specified grade level kindergarten through grade 8, or grades 7 through 12. This requirement shall be waived upon completion of one full year of successful teaching under a targeted need certificate, a conditional certificate, or a transitional endorsement in this endorsement area at the specified grade level.

NOTE: Parts 2.1.B.2(e) and (f) above do not apply to this endorsement for birth to age 5.



**3. Conditional Certificate for this Endorsement**

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule; and
- (b) Completed a minimum of nine semester hours in special education.

## 2.2 Endorsement: Kindergarten through Grade 12 Teacher

- A. **Function:** This endorsement on a teacher certificate allows the holder to teach students kindergarten through grade 12 in one of the following endorsement areas: 291 teacher of blind or visually impaired students, 292 teacher of deaf or hearing impaired students, or 286 teacher of severely impaired students.
- B. **Eligibility:** Applicants shall meet eligibility requirements specified in Part I. In addition, eligibility for this endorsement shall be established by one of two pathways. Individuals who are not eligible through either pathway may be eligible for a conditional certificate, in accordance with Section 2.2.B.3, below, and Part I Section 5.4 of this rule.

### 1. Endorsement Eligibility Pathway 1

- (a) Graduated from a Maine program approved for the education of kindergarten through 12 teachers, together with a formal recommendation from the preparing institution for the endorsement being sought;
- (b) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;
- (c) Completed an approved course for "Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular Classroom";
- (d) Passed content area assessment, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13; and
- (e) Passed Basic Skills Test in reading, writing, and mathematics, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13.

### 2. Endorsement Eligibility Pathway 2

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;
- (b) Completed a minimum of 24 semester hours in the areas relevant to the kindergarten through 12 endorsement area being sought;
- (c) Completed an approved course for "Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular Classroom";
- (d) Passed content area assessment in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13;
- (e) Passed Basic Skills Test in reading, writing and mathematics in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13;
- (f) Passed content area methods course or content area methods assessment;
- (g) Passed pedagogical knowledge and skills assessment at the appropriate grade level, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13, or successful completion of an approved alternative professional studies program; and
- (h) Completed one academic semester or a minimum of 15 weeks of full-time student teaching, or a combination of part-time and full-time student teaching in an amount equivalent to 15 weeks in the endorsement area at the specified grade level. This requirement shall be waived upon completion of one full year of successful teaching under a targeted need certificate, a conditional certificate, or a transitional endorsement in the endorsement area at the specified grade level.

**3. Conditional Certificate for this Endorsement**

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule; and
- (b) Completed a minimum of 24 semester hours in the areas relevant to the endorsement being sought.

## 2.3 Endorsement 515: Adapted Physical Education Teacher

- A. **Function:** This endorsement on a teacher certificate allows the holder to teach adapted physical education kindergarten through grade 12.
- B. **Eligibility:** Applicants shall meet eligibility requirements specified in Part I. In addition, eligibility for this endorsement shall be established by one of three pathways. Individuals who are not eligible through any of these pathways may be eligible for a conditional certificate, in accordance with Section 2.3.B.4, below, and Part I Section 5.4 of this rule.

### 1. Endorsement Eligibility Pathway 1

- (a) Graduated from a Maine program approved for the education of adapted physical education teachers, together with a formal recommendation of the preparing institution;
- (b) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule; and
- (c) Passed Basic Skills Test in reading, writing, and mathematics, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13.

### 2. Endorsement Eligibility Pathway 2

- (a) Hold a valid Maine provisional or professional teaching certificate with a kindergarten through 12 physical education endorsement;
- (b) Completed a supervised practicum in adapted physical education; and
- (c) Completed an approved course for "Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular Classroom."

### 3. Endorsement Eligibility Pathway 3

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;
- (b) Completed a minimum of 12 semester hours from the following: anatomy and physiology, kinesiology, physiology of exercise, motor development, or motor learning;
- (c) Completed a minimum of three semester hours in adapted physical education;
- (d) Completed a minimum of three semester hours in assessment of adapted physical education;
- (e) Completed a supervised practicum in adapted physical education;
- (f) Completed an approved course for "Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular Classroom"; and
- (g) Passed Basic Skills Test in reading, writing, and mathematics, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13.

### 4. Conditional Certificate for this Endorsement

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule; and

- (b) Completed a minimum of 12 semester hours from the following: anatomy and physiology, kinesiology, physiology of exercise, motor development, motor learning, adapted physical education, or assessment of adapted physical education.

## 2.4 Endorsement 690: Gifted/Talented Teacher

- A. **Function:** This endorsement on a teacher certificate allows the holder to teach gifted/talented students kindergarten through grade 12.
- B. **Eligibility:** Applicants shall meet eligibility requirements specified in Part I. In addition, eligibility for this endorsement shall be established by one of three pathways. Individuals who are not eligible through any of these pathways may be eligible for a conditional certificate, in accordance with Section 2.4.B.4, below, and Part I Section 5.4 of this rule.

### 1. Endorsement Eligibility Pathway 1

- (a) Graduated from a Maine program approved for the education of gifted/talented teachers, together with a formal recommendation from the preparing institution for the endorsement being sought;
- (b) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;
- (c) Completed an approved course for "Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular Classroom";
- (d) Passed content area assessment, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13; and
- (e) Passed Basic Skills Test in reading, writing, and mathematics, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13.

### 2. Endorsement Eligibility Pathway 2

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;
- (b) Holds a valid Maine provisional or professional teaching certificate with a K-3, K-8, 5-8, 7-12, or K-12 endorsement;
- (c) Completed a minimum of 12 credits of approved study in gifted/talented coursework, including a minimum of 6 semester hours from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule; the remaining credits may be earned through a combination of Continuing Education Units, in-service clock hours, or clock hours for summer institutes/workshops;
- (d) Completed an approved course for "Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular Classroom";
- (e) Passed content area assessment, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13; and
- (f) Passed pedagogical knowledge and skills assessment at the appropriate grade level, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13, or successful completion of an approved alternative professional studies program.

### 3. Endorsement Eligibility Pathway 3

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;
- (b) Completed a minimum of 24 semester hours in gifted/talented coursework;
- (c) Completed an approved course for "Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular Classroom";
- (d) Passed content area assessment, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13;

- (e) Passed Basic Skills Test in reading, writing and mathematics, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13;
- (f) Passed pedagogical knowledge and skills assessment at the appropriate grade level, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13, or successful completion of an approved alternative professional studies program; and
- (g) Completed one academic semester or a minimum of 15 weeks of full-time student teaching, or a combination of part-time and full-time student teaching in an amount equivalent to 15 weeks in this endorsement area at the specified grade level. This requirement shall be waived upon completion of one full year of successful teaching under a targeted need certificate, a conditional certificate, or a transitional endorsement in this endorsement area at the specified grade level.

**4. Conditional Certificate for this Endorsement**

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule; and
- (b) Completed a minimum of 24 semester hours in gifted/talented coursework.

## 2.5 Certificate 079: Special Education Consultant

- A. **Function:** This certificate allows the holder to serve in kindergarten through grade 12 as a special education consultant in a public school, an approved private school, or an approved special education program. A special education consultant is one who provides educational assessments, consultation, and interventions for the purpose of identification, programming, or placement of special education students. Services are limited to the holder's areas of training and expertise. This certificate does not authorize a person to serve as a school psychologist.
- B. **Eligibility:** Applicants shall meet eligibility requirements specified in Part I. In addition, eligibility for this certificate shall be established by one of two pathways. Individuals who are not eligible through either pathway may be eligible for a conditional certificate, in accordance with Section 2.5.B.3, below, and Part I Section 5.4 of this rule.

### 1. Certificate Eligibility Pathway 1

- (a) Graduated from a Maine approved program for special education consultation, together with the formal recommendation of the preparing institution;
- (b) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule.
- (c) Earned a master's degree, a certificate of advanced study or a doctorate from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule; and

### 2. Certificate Eligibility Pathway 2

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;
- (b) Earned a master's degree, a certificate of advanced study, or a doctorate from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;
- (c) Completed a minimum of 24 graduate semester hours in special education;
- (d) Completed a minimum of four years of successful full-time experience as a teacher of students with disabilities, or as a speech and language clinician;
- (e) Completed training in two or more areas of disability (mental retardation, hearing impairments (including deafness), visual impairments (including blindness), emotional disability, orthopedic impairments, autism, traumatic brain injury, other health impairments, or specific learning disabilities);
- (f) Passed pedagogical knowledge and skills assessment at the appropriate grade level, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13, or successful completion of an approved alternative professional studies program.

### 3. Conditional Certificate

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;



- (b) Completed a minimum of nine graduate semester hours in special education;
- (c) Completed a minimum of four years of successful full-time experience as a teacher of students with disabilities, or as a speech and language clinician; and
- (d) Completed training in two or more areas of student special needs (mental retardation, hearing impairments (including deafness), visual impairments (including blindness), emotional disability, orthopedic impairments, autism, traumatic brain injury, other health impairments, or specific learning disabilities).

## 2.6 Certificate 293: Speech and Language Clinician

- A. **Function:** This certificate allows the holder to serve as a speech and language clinician for students from birth through grade 12. A speech and language clinician is one who provides speech and language assessments, speech and language services for students with disabilities, consultative assistance for the modification and adaptation of regular education programs, and supervision of auxiliary personnel.

**NOTE:** Certification is not required for a person who holds a valid license as a speech-language pathologist under Title 32, Section 17301 and who has received approval by the Maine Department of Education.

- B. **Eligibility:** Applicants shall meet eligibility requirements specified in Part I. In addition, eligibility for this certificate shall be established by one of two pathways. Individuals who are not eligible through either pathway may be eligible for a conditional certificate, in accordance with Section 2.6.B.3, below, and Part I Section 5.4 of this rule.

### 1. Certificate Eligibility Pathway 1

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;
- (b) Earned a master's degree, certificate of advanced study, or doctorate from an accredited institution, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule, in an approved program in speech and language disorders, together with the formal recommendation of the institution;
- (c) Completed an approved course for "Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular Classroom"; and
- (d) Passed content area assessment, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13.

### 2. Certificate Eligibility Pathway 2

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule;
- (b) Earned a master's degree equivalent in speech communications or speech disorders by completing all of the following:
  - i. Completed a minimum of 21 graduate semester hours in speech disorders,
  - ii. Completed a minimum of three graduate semester hours in a speech disorders clinic or practicum; and
  - iii. Completed a minimum of an additional six graduate semester hours;
- (c) Completed an approved course for "Teaching Exceptional Students in the Regular Classroom";
- (d) Passed content area assessment, in accordance with to Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13; and
- (e) Passed pedagogical knowledge and skills assessment at the appropriate grade level, in accordance with Me. Dept. of Ed. Reg. 13, or successful completion of an approved alternative professional studies program.

**3. Conditional Certificate**

- (a) Earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, in accordance with Part I Section 4.4 of this rule; and
- (b) Completed a minimum of 12 graduate semester hours in speech communications or speech disorders.

## 2.7 Certificate 093: School Psychologist (Specialist or Doctoral)

- A. **Function:** This certificate allows the holder to serve as a school psychologist and deliver services on a contractual or employment basis to children from birth to grade 12 who are eligible to be enrolled in educational and intermediate educational units, special education programs and approved private schools. Certificate holders are identified in written title according to their level of graduate training (specialist or doctoral). The services delivered are the psychological services articulated in current Federal and Maine State Education regulations and under the domains of practice in the current Model for Comprehensive and Integrated School Psychological Services developed and published by the National Association of School Psychologists. Each certificate holder shall deliver services consistent within the competency of their training and adhere to the ethical guidelines of the National Association of School Psychologists.
- B. **Eligibility:** Applicants shall meet eligibility requirements specified in Part I for a one-year conditional school psychologist certificate. In addition, eligibility for this certificate shall be established by one of four pathways:

### 1. Certificate Eligibility Pathway 1

- (a) Hold a current Nationally Certified School Psychologist certificate issued by the National School Psychology Certification Board; and
- (b) Possess two recommendations from licensed or certified providers of school psychological services who have reviewed the professional work provided by the applicant.

### 2. Certificate Eligibility Pathway 2

- (a) Earned a graduate degree from an accredited program approved by the National Association of School Psychologists/National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, the National Association of School Psychologists, or the American Psychological Association in school psychology at the time the degree was awarded; and
- (b) Possess two recommendations from licensed or certified providers of school psychological services who have reviewed the professional work provided by the applicant.

### 3. Certificate Eligibility Pathway 3

- (a) Hold a valid license from the Maine Board of Examiners of Psychologists, and
- (b) Possess two recommendations from licensed or certified providers of school psychological services who have reviewed the professional work provided by the applicant.

#### 4. Certificate Eligibility Pathway 4

- (a) Earned a graduate degree in school psychology or an equivalent program from an accredited institution, which included a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours, with at least 3 graduate semester hours in each of the following areas:
- i. Scientific and professional ethics and standards;
  - ii. Research design and methodology;
  - iii. Psychometric theory;
  - iv. Biological bases of behavior;
  - v. Cognitive-affective bases of behavior;
  - vi. Social bases of behavior;
  - vii. Individual differences;
  - viii. Applied school psychology;
  - ix. Educational foundations

**AND**

- (b) Successful completion of a 1500-hour acceptable documented supervised internship experience, which occurred on a full-time basis over a minimum period of one school year, or on a half-time basis over a minimum period of twenty-four months. At least 50% of the supervised internship must be acquired with children in a school setting. OR Successful completion of a 1500-hour acceptable documented supervised internship experience, which occurred on a full-time basis over a minimum period of one school year, or on a half-time basis over a minimum period of twenty-four months; and a minimum of 750 clock hours of acceptable documented experience in providing psychological services to children in school system(s) and demonstrated competency in a school setting.

**AND**

- (c) Receipt of a positive recommendation from the Advisory Committee on School Psychologists.

**AND**

- (d) Two recommendations from licensed or certified providers of school psychological services who have reviewed the professional work provided by the applicant.

#### C. Renewal Requirements

1. Renewal of an initial one-year school psychologist certificate to the first three-year school psychologist certificate shall require evidence of supervision during the first year

of independent practice with a positive recommendation from the Advisory Committee. Supervision of the first year school psychologist must be in accordance with the standards established by the National Association of School Psychologists or a successor organization and provided by a person who is certified as a school psychologist and employed by or under contract with a Maine school administrative unit.

2. Renewal of a three-year school psychologist certificate will require the applicant to hold a valid Nationally Certified School Psychologist certificate issued by the National School Psychology Certification Board or a valid license issued by the Board of Examiners of Psychologists of Maine.
- D. An applicant who has met all requirements for the initial one-year certificate through one of the four pathways described in Section B above AND is able to document successful completion of supervision with a positive recommendation of the Advisory Committee during at least one year of independent practice in accordance with the standards established by the National Association of School Psychologists or a successor organization and provided by a person certified as a school psychologist shall initially be eligible for Maine's three-year School Psychologist Certificate.