

# CERTIFICATION ALERT

Connecticut Educator Certification News from  
the Connecticut State Department of Education



## March 2020

### IN-STATE CONNECTICUT EDUCATORS: NEW ENDORSEMENT DESIGNATED AS SHORTAGE AREAS FOR THE 2020–21 SCHOOL YEAR

- **Math and Sciences Shortage Area Designations to Now Include Middle School Grades (4–8)**  
As of March 1, 2020, the Performance Office finalized its designated shortage area list for the 2020–21 school year to include Middle School Math and Middle School Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth Science, General Science, and Integrated Science. This shortage area designation will allow educators to use Public Act 19-74 to cross-endorse in these areas by passing the assigned Praxis II assessment to add the endorsement to their current certificate. Additional middle school education and content area coursework are no longer required to add the endorsement to a current certificate. **Please note:** The new middle school sciences and math endorsements designated as shortage areas for the 2020–21 school year will be issued with a July 1, 2020 effective date.
- **Special Education Shortage Area Designation to Now Include Other Teaching Areas**  
As of March 1, 2020, the Performance Office finalized its designated shortage area list to now include all Special Education endorsements versus Comprehensive Special Education, as titled before. By changing the shortage area title to Special Education, the identified shortage area list now includes: Partially Sighted, Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Blind, and Comprehensive Special Education endorsements in this designation.

#### *Public Act 19-74: An Act Concerning Minority Teacher Recruitment and Retention*

- **Cross-endorsement in an academic shortage area (Section 3):**  
Educators who hold an initial, provisional or professional level certificate in a teaching area may add another teaching endorsement (cross-endorsement) to an existing certificate in select designated shortage areas by obtaining a passing score on the appropriate subject area assessment(s). Additional coursework is no longer required. This provision only applies to middle (grades 4–8) and secondary (grades 7–12) level content area endorsements in the following designated shortage areas: Mathematics, Science, and World Languages, and Technology Education (PK–12). It does not apply to Bilingual, TESOL, Special Education, School Library Media, Middle school endorsements, or Speech Language Pathology. **Please note:** Out-of-state tests cannot be accepted.
  - **Please note:** The new middle school science and math endorsements designated as shortage areas for the 2020–21 school year will be issued with a July 1, 2020 effective date.

