



## **ADVANCED CERTIFICATION IN LANGUAGE TEACHING: ESL AND BILINGUAL/BICULTURAL EDUCATION**

**Non-degree program leading to NJ English as a Second Language certification  
and Bilingual/Bicultural certification**

- I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** The Advanced Certification in Language Teaching: English as a Second Language and Bilingual/Bicultural non-degree program is designed for individuals who possess a New Jersey Standard teaching certificate or Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS) in mathematics, science, social studies, or elementary education and who wish to earn the ESL and Bilingual/Bicultural endorsements. Candidates holding a New Jersey Certificate of Eligibility (CE) in ESL and Bilingual/Bicultural Education and who are employed as a teacher and enrolled in an alternate route educator preparation program may also apply. The program consists of six courses (18 credits) and does not, by itself, lead to an academic degree. Candidates with a CE must successfully complete both their 18-credit program and alternate route program prior to being recommended for the Bilingual/Bicultural endorsement. Candidates will be recommended for the ESL and Bilingual/Bicultural endorsements upon completion of the 18-credit program. All 18 credits in the endorsement program must be completed at Rutgers University. No transfer credits will be accepted.

The program does not lead to a degree and is usually completed exclusively through online courses. If students are interested in taking an endorsement course offered on the New Brunswick campus, they must obtain special permission from the instructor.

Students admitted to this non-degree program may apply to the Ed.M. in Language Education with Advanced Licensure in English as a Second Language (ESL) and Bilingual/Bicultural Teaching program prior to completing 12 credits and, upon acceptance, may complete both the certificate and the master's degree. It is essential to apply early because taking the courses does not guarantee acceptance to the master's program.

Applicants interested in obtaining their initial teaching certification should apply to the Ed.M. with Initial Licensure in English as a Second Language K-12 Teaching program rather than this program. Bilingual/Bicultural certification is not available as an initial certification program.

- II. APPLICATION DEADLINES:** No applications can be admitted less than two weeks before the beginning of the semester in which the program will be started. Applications must be submitted and completed at least two weeks before the beginning of the semester.
- III. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:** To be considered for admission to the program, applicants must provide the following:
1. A Statement of Program Intent
  2. An electronic copy of a New Jersey Standard Instructional Certificate or a Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS). Applicants who hold a Certificate of Eligibility (CE) must provide a letter of employment from their school district and proof of enrollment in an alternate route educator preparation program.
  3. Undergraduate transcripts
  4. Passing scores on the Oral Proficiency Interview and a Written Proficiency Test in English and in the target language administered by ACTFL.  
(Any test scores submitted must be less than five years old. Scores must be official, not self-reported.)

Only complete applications will be reviewed.

#### IV. HOW TO APPLY:

**Current Rutgers University Graduate Students:** All applicants who are **currently** enrolled in a graduate-level program at Rutgers University and wish to begin the endorsement program while continuing their current program should contact the GSE Office of Student and Academic Services (OSAS) at [academic.services@gse.rutgers.edu](mailto:academic.services@gse.rutgers.edu).

**Non-Rutgers University Graduate Students:** Applicants who are **not currently** enrolled in a program at Rutgers University apply online at the Graduate Admissions website: <https://newbrunswickgrad.rutgers.edu/>

1. Click on "Create Account or Login" and follow the instructions given.
2. Under "Start an application today!", click **Apply Now**  
[Application Selection](#)
3. For "Level of Application", select **Graduate**
4. For "Applicant Type", select **Certificate**
5. Continue filling out the application, following the on-screen instructions.  
[Program of Study](#)
6. Under "Program Information", make sure **Certificate** is selected for "Applicant Type"
7. For "Area of Study", select **Education**
8. For "Location/Instructional Method", select **New Brunswick**
9. For "Program Selection", select **Education - ESL and Bilingual/Bicultural Certification (Endorsement) New Brunswick**
10. Complete the rest of the application by providing the requested information.
11. Supporting materials should be submitted online. Materials that must be mailed should be addressed to:  
Office of Graduate and Professional Admissions, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Proctor Hall,  
Suite 308, 65 Davidson Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854, U.S.A.
12. Enter payment information for the non-refundable application fee.
13. Submit your application.

Applicants are responsible for reviewing and confirming that they meet program requirements **before** the application is submitted. Rutgers Graduate School of Education **WILL NOT** refund the application fee if an applicant is not accepted.

When the entire application process is complete, students simply register for the courses in the program as described on the program handouts and on the GSE website [gse.rutgers.edu](http://gse.rutgers.edu). The student is responsible for enrolling in all required courses through Rutgers University. **No program requirements may be met at any other institution.** Students are expected to maintain a "B" or better average as a non-degree student in the Special Education Endorsement Program. Accepted students will have 5 years to complete the program.

The program requires 18 credits of Rutgers University graduate coursework but does not lead to a graduate degree. If the student decides to apply to the Ed.M. in Language Education, they must formally apply to the master's program.

After completing all program requirements, students should contact Ken Tufo Jr. at [ken.tufo@gse.rutgers.edu](mailto:ken.tufo@gse.rutgers.edu). Students will be provided instructions on how to apply for their license(s).

**V. PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:**

**Students who are pursuing a master's degree with initial certification while also working towards this advanced certification program must register for on-campus sections of all required GSE courses (excluding 05:300:350) unless otherwise approved by GSE program faculty.**

	Course Number	Course Name	Credits	
			Grad	Total
Theoretical Foundations of Language Development	15:253:520	Principles of Language Learning: Second and World Language Acquisition <sup>1</sup>	3	3
Language and Linguistics	15:253:530	Foundations of Language <sup>2</sup>	3	3
Culturally Sustaining Language Pedagogy and Practice	15:253:510	Language Learning in Content Areas <sup>3</sup>	3	9
	15:253:522	Bilingual-Bicultural Education	3	
	15:253:539	Methods for Teaching and Assessing English Language Learners <sup>4</sup>	3	
Historical and Cultural Backgrounds of Emerging Bilinguals	15:253:523	Language and Culture <sup>5</sup>	3	3
<b>Total Credits</b>			<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>

<sup>1</sup> Students who have successfully taken 05:300:430 as part of a 5-year or post-baccalaureate initial certification program at the GSE may substitute that course for 15:253:520.

<sup>2</sup> Students who have successfully taken 05:300:434 or 15:299:535 as part of a 5-year or post-baccalaureate initial certification program at the GSE may substitute that course for 15:253:530.

<sup>3</sup> Students who have successfully taken 15:253:512, 15:253:513, or both 05:300:452 and 05:300:453 as part of a 5-year or post-baccalaureate initial certification program at the GSE may substitute those courses for 15:253:510.

<sup>4</sup> This course has a clinical assignment requiring participation (observation) in a school setting. Accommodations for students who are not currently in classrooms are determined by the course instructor.

<sup>5</sup> Students who have successfully taken 05:300:433 as part of a 5-year or post-baccalaureate initial certification program at the GSE may substitute that course for 15:253:523.

**VI. PORTFOLIO:** Students will archive artifacts from various GSE courses via an online instructional and evaluation system as directed by faculty. Details of this portfolio are specified in the *Student Policy and Procedures Handbook*.

**VII. HIB TRAINING:** All candidates for certification must complete pre-service training in the prevention of harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB).