



ADVANCED CERTIFICATION IN PHYSICS AND/OR PHYSICAL SCIENCE K-12 TEACHING

Alternate Route Leading to NJ Standard Instructional Certificate as a Teacher of Physics/Physical Sciences

- I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** The Advanced Certification in Physics and/or Physical Science K-12 Teaching non-degree program provides a pathway for practicing teachers to earn an additional certification as a Teacher of Physics/Physical Sciences, a high need area both nationally and in the state of New Jersey. Candidates with as few as 6 earned credits in Physics/Physical Science, a Standard Certificate or Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing, and a minimum of two years of successful full-time teaching as a classroom teacher, may apply for this alternative pathway to science teaching.

Students enrolled in the program will develop an advanced understanding of physics content and the pedagogical content knowledge necessary to teach physics and/or physical science by taking research-driven core courses, led by expert faculty. Students will develop content knowledge while learning how to employ research-based instructional methods that help students develop knowledge through engagement in the practices of science.

While enrolled in this 30-credit program, candidates will be eligible to teach Physics/Physical Science under a Certificate of Eligibility (CE). Upon successful program completion, candidates will be recommended for a NJ Standard Instructional Certificate as a Teacher of Physics/Physical Sciences.

- 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. Undergraduate transcripts
 3. Verification of experience from the applicant's current or previous supervisor or HR department, on school district letterhead, certifying the completion of two years of successful, full-time classroom teaching employment under an instructional certificate.
 4. Electronic copy of a New Jersey Standard Instructional Certificate or Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing in an area other than Physics/Physical Sciences

Note: Before formally enrolling in the program, candidates must hold a valid Certificate of Eligibility (CE) from the NJDOE in Teacher of Physics/Physical Sciences and be employed under that certificate. Interested applicants are encouraged to attend an information session.

IV. HOW TO APPLY: Applications are submitted 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 – Advanced Licensure in Physics/Physical Science K-12 Teaching 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. 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 30 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 Science 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. Students will be provided instructions on how to apply for their license(s).

V. PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:

Course Number	Course Name	Credits
15:256:551	Development of Ideas in Physical Science	3
15:256:552	Teaching and Assessment in Physical Science	3
15:256:562	Demonstrations and Technology in Physics	3
15:256:557	Multiple Representations in Physical Science	3
15:256:560	Topics in Physics and Engineering Education	3
15:256:593	Using Results of Physics Research in Your Classroom	3
15:256:537	Space, Time, and Motion: Course for Educators	3
15:256:538	The Solar System: Course for Educators	3
	Physics/Physical Science Electives	6
	Total Credits	30

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