



Hudson County Community College is pleased to be participating in the statewide New Pathways to Teaching Program. This is a unique collaborative project involving the state's community colleges, New Jersey City University and the Department of Education. Students enrolled in the program prepare to become **Provisional Teachers**. As Alternate Route teachers, they establish themselves as viable candidates for employment at school districts across the county.

The Program is divided into two distinct instructional Stages. Stage I is 45 hours of pre-employment instruction with a 15-hour guided observation experience. Stage II is the remaining 140 hours of the 200 hours required for the Alternate Route. Stage II is completed during the academic year, from September to June. Students can choose to register for the NPTNJ program as Master's level graduate students or as non-credit certificate students. Graduate credits total 15 in the MAT Program at NJCU.

Sections for the seven-week term comprising Stage I will begin on January 30, April 2 and June 8 of 2009. Classes will meet for two evenings per week, for three hours per evening. Stage II will begin in mid-September 2009, with classes meeting one night per week for three-and-a-half hours per meeting.

The tuition costs for the program have been determined for the 2008-2009 school year. **Interested students should use the following as a guide but recognize that the actual tuition may be different after 2009.**

**Tuition beginning June 1, 2008
(UPDATED Sept. 2008)
Stage I**

CREDIT	NON-CREDIT
\$ 2,542+ \$25 transcript fee for a total of \$2,567	\$1,200

Stage II

CREDIT	NON-CREDIT
\$5,085	\$2,100

For additional information about the program, go to www.nptnj.org

For starting dates and prerequisites, please call: (201) 360-4648

For information on the Praxis exams go to www.ets.org,

For information about teacher licensure in New Jersey, go to www.state.nj.us

Information sessions for 2008-2009

Date	Day	Time
Oct 8, 2008	Wednesday	6:30 PM
Nov 13, 2008	Thursday	6:30 PM
Dec 2, 2008	Tuesday	6:30 PM
Feb 4, 2009	Wednesday	6:30 PM
Mar 4, 2009	Wednesday	6:30 PM
Apr 21, 2009	Tuesday	6:30 PM

Location: Culinary Arts Conference Center, 161 Newkirk Street, Scott Ring Room

Pre-register to attend the information session by calling (201) 360-4242.

Cost: FREE



OVERVIEW

Getting started in

New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey
An alternate route to teacher certification program



New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey

An alternate route to teacher certification program

Please read the Overview completely before contacting the office for more information. See the glossary at the end if you are unfamiliar with the terminology. After reading the Overview, if you have questions or would like to request a CE application, or an NPTNJ application, email Robert Fairchild at rfairchild@hccc.edu or call (201)360-4648.

New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) is collaborating with participating New Jersey Community Colleges and New Jersey City University (NJCU) to offer New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey (NPTNJ). The program provides an opportunity for people who have a BS, BA, or higher degree and who did not complete a traditional teacher preparation program, to become teachers. The program is offered in two stages. Stage I is a “preservice” component which does not require the participant to have a provisional teaching job. A provisional teaching job is required to continue to Stage II.

Basic Eligibility Requirements

- Bachelor’s or higher degree
- 2.75 minimum GPA in an undergraduate or graduate degree (sorry, no exceptions)

Information Sessions

HCCC holds periodic information sessions regarding the application process and admission to NPTNJ. If you are interested in learning more about NPTNJ after reading the Overview, please plan to attend an information session. For dates, see enclosure or email rfairchild@hccc.edu or call (201) 360-4648.

Program Sequence

NPTNJ is an intensive 200+-hour program. Stage I is a 60-hour course which introduces the participant to the world of teaching in the K-12 classroom. Some participants take Stage I to learn about the field of teaching today to help them decide if they want to enter the profession. There is no admission to Stage II without completing Stage I. All participating community colleges offer the same program for the same fee at approximately the same time. At the end of Stage I, students may transfer to another community college to complete Stage II. Students may also complete Stage I in one year and come back to complete Stage II another year. There is no time limit between completing Stage I and returning to complete Stage II.

Stage I: You do not need an offer of employment from a school district to take Stage I. This 60-hour course consists of 45 hours of classroom instruction and 15 hours of observation in a K-12 school. Stage I classes meet either one or two nights per week, depending on the time of year it is offered. The observations are arranged by the program in local schools. Students may hold another job while in Stage I but must arrange time off to complete the 15 hours of observation.

Requirements for acceptance into Stage I

- BS, BA, or higher degree
- 2.75 GPA

- Passing Praxis II score in subject area (see STEP 1 in “Steps in Fulfilling Stage I Admission Requirements”)

** Important Note: A CE is recommended but not required for Stage I. Students who have a CE will be given priority over those who do not for admission to the program. It is important to apply for the CE as soon as you receive your Praxis II results, as it can be a lengthy process and a CE is required to get a job and to continue to Stage II.*

Stage II: You must have an offer of employment as a provisional teacher in grades K-12 to continue to Stage II. This portion of the program constitutes the remainder of the 200 hours. The provisional year combines classroom teaching, lesson preparation and all the usual obligations of teaching with attending NPTNJ classes and completing academic assignments. Classes usually meet one night a week throughout the provisional teaching year.

Requirements for acceptance into Stage II

- Completion of Stage I with a minimum grade of B
- Hold CE in grade level and/or subject area (see page 6)
- Have a provisional teaching job (see page 5, step 3) in grades K-12 in a public or private NJ school

Choose from Two Options:

Graduate credit option: New Jersey City University (NJCU) offers 15 graduate credits applicable toward numerous NJCU education degrees. Stage I earns 4 credits and Stage II earns 11 credits. Graduate credit option enrollees will receive a packet of information from NJCU regarding the continuation of graduate studies and the choice of majors.

Noncredit option: Offers a certificate.

The course requirements and workload are identical for both options. Both equally fulfill the Department of Education (DOE) requirements for alternate route certification. Most students feel that since both options require identical work it is advantageous to select the graduate credit option. Not only do you have 15 credits toward a master’s degree, but your school district may also start you on a higher pay scale.

Steps in Fulfilling Stage I Admission Requirements (after meeting degree and GPA requirements)

STEP 1 – Pass the Praxis II exam in your subject area

A passing grade on the Praxis II test in the subject area/s you plan to teach is required to show subject matter competency. Take the Educational Testing Service (ETS) Praxis II test in the grade level and/or subject area/s you plan to teach. Some subject areas require more than one test; a few subjects require no test.

Go to the ETS web site, www.ets.org, or call (609) 771-7395 for registration information. After taking the test, ETS will forward your Praxis score to you and to the Department of Education (DOE). The tests are given in September, November, January, March, April, and June at various locations around the state. **Be sure to use the code for the DOE Office of Licensing and Academic Credentials, code R7666, on the Praxis registration #12. Number 1. You must include your Social Security number on the application form.** This is the only way to ensure your Praxis II score goes directly to your file at the DOE. Passing the Praxis II is required to obtain a Certificate of Eligibility (CE).

STEP 2 – Request Official Transcripts

Request official transcripts from each college you have attended and have the transcripts mailed to the HCCC address on the following page. NPTNJ does not accept electronic transcripts.

****Important****

You will need a total of three (3) official transcripts from *each* college attended during the total application process. Two (2) official transcripts from *each* college attended are required for the NPTNJ application and one (1) official transcript from *each* college attended is required for the CE application. If you receive the transcripts, **do not open**; mail immediately to HCCC NPTNJ office. A transcript is not official if it has been opened. All transcripts will be held in your file until needed.

STEP 3 - Apply to the HCCC NPTNJ Program

Email rfairchild@hccc.edu for a NPTNJ Application.

You are ready to apply to the NPTNJ program when you have received the results of your Praxis II exam/s. Your NPTNJ application packet will be complete when we receive

- three official transcripts from each college attended (The third official transcript/s will be submitted with your CE application)
- copy of passing Praxis II score/s
- completed NPTNJ Application form
- a CE or a completed CE application form

**Send all documents to:
HCCC Non-Credit Office
Attn: New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey
162 Sip Avenue, Room C115
Jersey City, NJ 07306**

STEP 4 – Admission to NPTNJ

We expect to accept all qualified applicants; however, since all community colleges offer the same program, if your program of choice is full, you may apply to another participating community college.

STEP 5 – Registration and Payment

Once accepted, you must come in person to register and make payment and/or payment arrangements. You are not enrolled in the program until you register and pay in full for Stage I. For tuition information and program dates/times, see the enclosed NPT Fact Sheet.

STEP 6 – Enjoy the Program!

Alternate route candidates come from a wide variety of backgrounds, and you will enjoy getting to know a fascinating group of people as you explore the field of teaching together.

Steps in Fulfilling Stage II Admission Requirements

STEP 1 – Complete Stage I with a minimum grade of B

STEP 2 – Hold a Certificate of Eligibility (CE)

STEP 3 – Obtain a provisional teaching position in a NJ public or private school

You must have an offer of employment as a provisional teacher in your CE subject area to continue in the program. A provisional teaching job means you are *the* classroom teacher, not an assistant or an aide. A long-term substitute job qualifies if it is a minimum of three months in duration. You may pick up Stage II at another time if you do not have a job by the time the current Stage II starts. There is no time limit between completion of Stage I and enrolling in Stage II.

STEP 4 – Complete Stage II Registration Form and make 1st Stage II payment

STEP 5 – Enjoy a rewarding experience as you start your teaching career and continue the NPTNJ program

How do I know if I have the qualifications to teach Elementary, Middle or High School?

The following are the academic requirements your transcript must reflect for you to qualify for a CE at the various educational levels. Keep in mind that you first must have passed the Praxis II in your subject area to obtain a CE.

Elementary Education (grades K-5): To qualify for a CE in elementary education, you must have 60 credits in liberal arts.

Middle School (grades 5-8): There are multiple requirements to qualify. To teach middle school you must have two CEs, one in elementary education **and** one in Elementary Education with Specialization in math, science, social studies, English/language arts, or a world language (Spanish, French, etc.).

Your transcript must show 15 credits in the subject you plan to teach. At this time no credits above the 200 level are required. The credits must appear on a four-year school transcript.

There is a middle school Praxis II exam for all middle school specialization areas, with the exception of world languages. For any of the world languages, you must take the **subject area** Praxis II test, and follow the additional world language regulations (not included here).

If you hope to teach a subject in middle school that is not one of the middle school specialization areas mentioned above (such as home economics or art), you will need a subject area CE, explained below. *If you have a subject area CE, you may teach that subject K-12 and do not need an elementary CE to teach elementary or middle school.*

To Qualify to Teach High School (grades 9-12): A **subject area** CE is required. To qualify for a CE in a subject area such as math, history, English, physical sciences, psychology, etc., **30 credits in the subject field** are required. *Though a subject area CE is often referred to as a high school or secondary CE, a subject area CE qualifies you to teach that subject K-12 without any additional CEs.*

The credits must be in a **coherent sequence**, 100-400 level, with a minimum of 12 credits at the 300-400 level with at least three of the 12 credits at the 400 level. **A subject area CE is the most versatile CE and gives you the option of teaching that subject at any grade level.**

Summary of Requirements to Teach at Different Levels, K-12

- To teach K-5, an Elementary Education CE is required.
- To teach middle school, a CE in Elementary Education **and** a CE in Elementary Education with Specialization is required.
- A subject area CE qualifies you to teach the subject K-12 and 30 credits in that subject are required. A subject area CE is the most versatile and gives you the most options in getting a job. You may teach only that subject and may not teach an elementary or middle school self-contained classroom (all subjects taught by one teacher) with a subject area CE.

****Special Notice****

We are not qualified to review your transcript/s, advise you on what you are qualified to teach, determine what credits might be missing, or if your course work has fulfilled the physiology and hygiene requirement. This is the sole jurisdiction of the DOE Office of Licensing and Academic Credentials. Remember, only the endorsements (subject areas) you list in 5.A. on the CE application will be considered for transcript review and approval. You will receive your CE from the DOE when their review is complete and if you meet the qualifications. The process is sometimes a lengthy one, and we suggest you start the application process as soon as possible.

Getting a Job

You are eligible to get a job after you receive your CE. The CE is an official document that shows you have the qualifications to teach that subject in New Jersey.

It is easiest to get a job in math, science and languages. The most difficult job to get is an elementary education position in a suburban school. Urban schools, private and charter schools often have jobs in all areas, at all levels. You are responsible for finding your own job although we notify you when we hear of openings. We highly encourage you to explore teaching positions outside your “comfort zone” to increase your options for employment.

If you are hired by a school district and have not been traditionally trained as a teacher, you *must* be in an alternate route program. NPTNJ is one of several such programs. Many school districts like hiring people in the NPTNJ program because completion of Stage I fulfills the requirement for the 20 days of full-time mentoring required for alternate route teachers. Each year a high percentage of new teachers throughout the state are alternate route teachers. The NPTNJ program has gained a reputation for having high academic standards and for graduating well-prepared teachers, and is favored by many school districts in the hiring of alternate route teachers.

Helpful Resources

- Educational Testing Services (ETS) for Praxis II exam information
www.ets.org or call (609) 771-7395
- New Jersey Department of Education Office of Licensing and Academic Credentials
<http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/> or call (609) 292-2070

- Foreign credentials review: World Education Services
Phone: (212) 966-6311; Fax: (212) 739-6139; web site: www.wes.org
- CitiAssist loan program, www.citiassist.com
- Sallie Mae loan program,
www.salliemae.com/get_student_loan/find_student_loan/training_loans/continuing_ed/
- Hiring and job outlook in NJ, www.njhire.com
- Resources for current and prospective teachers,
<http://www.nj.gov/njded/clear/teach/recteachers.htm>
- HCCC NPTNJ contacts:
Robert Fairchild rfairchild@hccc.edu phone (201) 360-4648 / fax (201) 360-5335
Catherine Mirasol cmirasol@hccc.edu phone (201) 360-4242 / fax (201) 795-4641
HCCC Non-Credit Office, Attn: New Pathways to Teaching in NJ, 162 Sip Avenue, Room C115, Jersey City, NJ 07306.

Glossary of Terms

DOE: New Jersey Department of Education

Certificate of Eligibility (CE): Shows the person has the qualifications to teach in New Jersey and may seek employment in the subject area/s indicated. This is NOT a teaching license.

Provisional License: One-year license that allows first-year teachers to begin working in the classroom and legalizes employment. Upon employment, the school enrolls you in the provisional program.

Provisional Teacher Program (PTP): The combination of training, support and evaluation required by the state of New Jersey for first-year teachers.

Standard License: The permanent credential that allows the holder to serve without condition in all New Jersey schools. The standard license is issued after the completion of the provisional year, the first full year of teaching.