



NJDOE News

Contact: Richard Vespucci
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Media Coverage Encouraged

Department of Education Schedules Third Annual Recruitment Event for World Languages Teachers

The New Jersey Department of Education is hosting a statewide recruitment event to help local school districts hire qualified world languages teachers.

World Languages Teacher Recruitment Day will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, at South Brunswick High School in South Brunswick, Middlesex County.

"Our strong academic standards in world languages have enhanced learning opportunities for students throughout the state," said Commissioner of Education William L. Librera. "Emphasis on teaching another language beginning in the elementary grades conforms to research that indicates that younger students learn new languages faster and more effectively.

"Since our world languages standards are still relatively new, school districts have reported some difficulty in finding qualified world languages teachers," Dr. Librera said. "We are hosting this statewide recruitment event to help school districts find teachers from a broader pool of candidates."

Saturday's event will mark the third World Languages Recruitment Day. Last year, more than 400 candidates and 60 school districts participated.

The world languages event seeks to attract college graduates who are fluent in a language other than English and who enjoy working with children. Candidates may either hold or be eligible to hold New Jersey teacher certification either through New Jersey's alternate route or new conditional certification.

To be eligible for a conditional certificate, candidates must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75. Candidates must also possess oral linguistic competency in a language as demonstrated by receiving a minimum score of "Advanced-Low" on the Oral Proficiency Interview, a nationally recognized test developed by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. For renewal of the certificate, candidates must complete a three-semester-hour course in world languages methodology within 12 months of obtaining the initial certificate. They must also demonstrate progress towards meeting all state requirements for standard licensure within a five-year period.

World Languages Teacher Recruitment Day is hosted by the Office of Standards and Professional Development and supported by the department's Teacher Recruitment Initiative. The initiative was established in 2000 to help recruit new talent to the teaching profession, especially in areas experiencing teacher shortages, such as world languages.

NOTE TO REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS: Media coverage of this event is invited and strongly encouraged. Directions to the site are attached. For more information on the activities of the Department of Education, visit:

www.state.nj.us/education