



**Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC)**  
**516 West Loockerman St., Dover, DE 19904**  
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December 29, 2023

Department of Education  
Office of the Secretary  
Attn: Regulation Review  
401 Federal Street, Suite 2  
Dover, DE 19901

**RE: 27 DE Reg. 386/14 DE Admin. Code 1504 DDOE Proposed Certificate of Eligibility regulation (December 1, 2023)**

Dear Secretary Holodick:

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) proposal to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 1504 Certificate of Eligibility. A Certificate of Eligibility refers to "credential which may be issued to teachers of students with disabilities if the employing district or charter school establishes that the proposed recipient meets the requirements of 14 Del.C. §1221(2)." Council **supports** the proposed revisions. They address opening up eligibility to teach to educators pursuing alternative routes to the classroom and allow for emergency exceptions. The new regulations introduce new language specifying criteria for content area requirements and progress monitoring for applicants in these programs and outline the role of school employers in ensuring applicants meet instructional criteria. The new regulations attempt to expand the eligible teaching pool while maintaining standards and oversight of instructor quality. During this time when there is a noticeable shortage of teachers, expanding the number of educators is to be commended.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to share our observations with you. Please contact Pam Weir or me at the GACEC office if you have any questions on our comments.

Sincerely,

*Ann C Fisher*

Ann C. Fisher

Chairperson

ACF: kpc

CC: Shawn Brittingham, State Board of Education  
Kathleen Smith, State Board of Education  
Dale Matusевич, Department of Education  
Emily Cunningham, Department of Education  
Linnea Bradshaw, Professional Standards Board  
Carla Jarosz, Esq.  
Alexander Corbin, Esq.

Attachment