

The State Board of Education yesterday voted to formally propose changes in the Licensure rules in the NJ Register. The proposal includes all of the changes NJASL is seeking for SLMS and Associate SLMS:

- Certificate of Eligibility (CE) for candidate's with Masters degree who complete an approved school library studies program, but do not have a teaching certificate. Candidates with MLS in non-school track eligible for CE, but must complete all school library competencies during provision period.
- Candidates with CE must complete a "coherent college program at regionally accredited college or university that includes a minimum of 9 semester hour credits in educational theory, curriculum design and integration, teaching methodology, student/learning development, and behavior management."
- Complete year-long residency in school library media center under supervision of administrator, principal or supervisor. "Where possible, the candidate shall be mentored by an experienced school library media specialist throughout the residency."
- Emergency certificate may be issued for candidates with 12 graduate credits in school library media
- ASLMS requirements are for a bachelor's degree plus 18 credits in school library studies. ASLMS without an instruction certificate must complete the same 9-credit module in Ed. Pedagogy.
- The full text of the proposal is online at <http://www.nj.gov/njded/code/proposed/title6a/chap9.pdf>. The version posted as of this morning says "second discussion," but the section regarding SLMS has not been changed at all since then.

NJASL is on record in support. Once published in the NJ Register, there is a 60-day public comment period. The code will come back to the State Board for final adoption in Feb. or March.

Judy Savage
Government Relations Consultant
js@judysavage.net