

DEFINITIONS

Applicant – A person seeking certification from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Certificate – A document prepared and issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Education indicating that the holder has completed a professional preparation program and is qualified to perform specific professional duties.

Collegiate Studies – Studies pursued at institutions, which are entitled to apply to themselves the designation of college or university as defined in 22 Pennsylvania School Code, Section 49.1.

Creditable Service – Professional service in a subject or field specified to be valid for application toward a higher-level certificate, permanent certification or auditing purposes. Service outside of Pennsylvania must be in accordance with that state's certification regulations and must be reviewed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to determine applicability toward a Level I certificate or Letter of Eligibility.

Invalid Certificate – A certificate that no longer enables its holder to perform specific professional duties.

Licensed Private School – An accredited and licensed non-public school, which for certification purposes is approved by the State Board of Education to provide educational services on a grant, tuition or contractual basis to a public school entity or the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Long-Term Substitute – An appropriately certified person temporarily employed to fill a position of a temporary professional or professional employee on an approved leave of absence which will exceed 20 consecutive school days in a single assignment.

Preparing Institution – A college or university that offers a program, approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, to prepare and recommend professional personnel for educational certification and employment in Pennsylvania schools.

Professional Personnel – Professional employees, excluding school secretaries, as defined in Section 1101 of the Pennsylvania School Code, Subsection 11-1101 relating to definitions.

Professional Service – Service rendered by a professional employee, excluding school secretaries, as defined in Section 1101 of the Public School Code, Subsection 11-1101.

School Entity – Public schools, school districts, intermediate units, charter schools, cyber schools, independent schools, and area vocational technical schools.