

**TITLE 9A**  
**HIGHER EDUCATION**

**CHAPTER 1**  
**LICENSURE RULES**

**Authority**

N.J.S.A. 18A:68-3.

**Source and Effective Date**

R.2008 d.253, effective July 28, 2008.  
See: 40 N.J.R. 969(a), 40 N.J.R. 5036(b).

**Chapter Expiration Date**

Chapter 1, Licensure Rules, expires on July 28, 2013.

**Chapter Historical Note**

Chapter 1, Licensure Rules, was adopted as R.1998 d.106, effective February 17, 1998. See: 29 N.J.R. 4602(a), 30 N.J.R. 664(a).

Chapter 1, Licensure Rules, was readopted as R.2003 d.108, effective February 6, 2003. See: 34 N.J.R. 3424(a), 35 N.J.R. 1268(a).

Chapter 1, Licensure Rules, was readopted as R.2008 d.253, effective July 28, 2008. See: Source and Effective Date. See, also, section annotations.

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**SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL STANDARDS**

**9A:1-1.1 Authority**

N.J.S.A. 18A:68-3 stipulates that no corporation may offer credit-bearing courses in New Jersey until it files with the Commission on Higher Education a certified copy of its incorporation and obtains from the Commission a license to offer such courses or work under the rules prescribed by the Commission.

**9A:1-1.2 Definitions**

The following words and terms, as used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Academic degree" means any associate degree, baccalaureate degree, master's degree, or doctoral degree regardless of the specific discipline in which it was awarded.

"Academic department" means a subdivision of an institution of higher education designated as such that is responsible for instruction and/or research in a specific discipline or disciplines.

“Academic disciplines” means the major areas of study identified in the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP), that is, the first two digits of the CIP code, developed by the National Center for Education Statistics, 2000, incorporated herein by reference. The CIP may be obtained from the National Center for Education Statistics, 555 New Jersey Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20208-5652.

“Accreditation” means a status attained by an institution through voluntarily meeting standards set by a nongovernmental entity recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education.

“Adequate, appropriate, equivalent, significant, suitable, and sufficient” mean adequate, appropriate, equivalent, significant, suitable, and sufficient in the judgment of the Commission in consultation with the Presidents’ Council.

“Adjunct faculty” means one who is employed to teach on a course-by-course or credit basis.

“Branch campus” means a physical facility located at a place other than the institution’s principal campus offering one or more complete programs leading to a degree. A branch campus in New Jersey requires approval by the Commission.

“Changing the programmatic mission” means changing the level of academic degrees authorized for the institution.

“College,” “institution” or “institution of higher education” means a postsecondary educational institution that provides instruction beyond the 12th grade level in programs that satisfy the requirements for a degree at the associate, baccalaureate, or graduate level; with the exception of institutions whose major mission is to prepare individuals for religious vocations, a college offers a range of degree programs. A college has an independent board of trustees. It has a faculty whose duties include some combination of the instruction of students and involvement in scholarship and research. A college has policies and procedures that encourage the academic officers and the faculty to exercise their full responsibility for the academic direction of the institution. One indication of this type of collegiality is a system of tenure or a system of long-term contracts for the full-time faculty. A junior/community college or county college is an institution of higher education that offers the associate degree only. A senior college offers degrees up to the baccalaureate level and/or offers graduate and professional degrees. Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the term “college” as used in these rules refers to higher education institutions generally.

“Commission” means the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education, which is the State-level planning and coordinating agency for higher education in New Jersey.

“Credit-bearing course” is an instructional activity upon a student’s successful completion of which an institution of higher education awards recognition applicable to meeting the requirements for a degree or other formal academic award.

“Degree completion program” means the final portion of a baccalaureate degree program consisting of at least 120 semester credit hours offered by a baccalaureate degree-granting institution. A degree completion program is offered at a physical facility located at a place other than the baccalaureate degree-granting institution’s principal campus. In a degree completion program, the baccalaureate degree-granting institution shall offer course work totaling 26 percent or more of the credits required for the baccalaureate degree.

“Educational delivery mode” means a formal educational process involving one of the following options:

1. “Distance learning,” in which instruction occurs when the learner and the instructor are not physically located in the same place at the same time;
2. “Blended (or hybrid) learning,” in which a part of the instruction occurs when the learner and the instructor are physically located in the same place at the same time, but a part of the instruction occurs by distance learning; and
3. “Traditional face-to-face learning,” in which all of the instruction takes place in the classroom or in out-of-class instruction under the direct supervision of the instructor.

“Educational program” means a group of related courses, organized for the purpose of attaining specified educational objectives.

“Exceeding the programmatic mission” means offering an academic degree beyond the authorized level for the institution.

“Executive Director” means the Executive Director of the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education.

“Full-time faculty member” is one who is appointed as such and who occupies a full-time faculty position with academic rank or other equivalent title whose primary employment is directly related to teaching, research, and/or other aspects of the educational programs of institutions.

“Full-time student” means one who, in a semester, carries at least 12 semester credit hours as an undergraduate or nine semester credit hours as a graduate student or the equivalent in quarter hours, courses, or other methods of measurement used by the institution.

“General education” means instruction that presents forms of expression, fields of knowledge, and methods of inquiry fundamental to intellectual growth and to a mature understanding of the world and the human condition, as distinguished from “specialized education,” which prepares individuals for particular occupations or specific professional responsibilities.

“Information literacy” means a set of abilities requiring individuals to recognize when information is needed, have the