



Proposed Indigenous Culture and Language Studies Certificate

February 13, 2023

Board of Regents Meeting



New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity

Indigenous Cultures and Languages

Supporting formal instruction in students' home cultures and languages is consistent with the Board of Regent's initiative to advance [diversity, equity, and inclusion](#) in schools.

Teaching indigenous cultures and languages is critical to preserving them.

Need more teachers to support and bolster the awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of indigenous cultures and languages both within and outside of the Nations.

Permit to Teach Indigenous Languages

- Currently, individuals can teach an indigenous language by obtaining a permit.
- A permit is different from a teacher certificate

Characteristics	Permit	Certificate
Key Requirements	Obtain district attestation and complete workshops (e.g., DASA)	Demonstrate content and pedagogical knowledge and skills (e.g., coursework, student teaching, tests)
Tenure Area	Not available	Available
Validity Period	Renewal needed every five years	Professional certificate is continuously valid

Proposed Certificate

The Department is proposing to create an Indigenous Culture and Language Studies (All Grades) certificate.

The benefits of the proposal include:

Promoting indigenous cultures and languages

Creating a tenure area in Indigenous Culture and Language Studies

Keeping the permit to teach indigenous languages



Teacher Preparation Program Requirements

New York State registered teacher preparation programs leading to the proposed certificate would include the following requirements:



CONTENT CORE
18 SEMESTER HOURS (S.H.) IN INDIGENOUS CULTURES AND/OR LANGUAGES



PEDAGOGICAL CORE
COURSEWORK AND STUDENT TEACHING



Certification Requirements

- The Educating All Students (EAS) test would be required, but a content specialty test would not be required.
- The requirements for certification through the individual evaluation pathway would include:



PEDAGOGICAL CORE
COURSEWORK AND STUDENT TEACHING



CONTENT CORE
18 S.H. IN INDIGENOUS CULTURES AND/OR LANGUAGES

OR

12 S.H. IN INDIGENOUS CULTURES AND/OR LANGUAGES AND PROFICIENCY IN AN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE AS DETERMINED BY A DESIGNATED OFFICIAL IN THE NATIONS