

Chemistry for Teachers: Learn and Teach Chemistry

Learn to Teach Chemistry

New Jersey teachers from any certification area can earn certification in chemistry through the PSI Chemistry Endorsement program. This endorsement program is an accelerated track that allows teachers to learn the content, and how to teach the content of chemistry. Teachers earn their endorsement upon successfully completing all coursework and passing the required praxis exams.

The program begins by teaching the physics that supports chemistry, and then first year chemistry. While teaching at least one section of the PSI Chemistry during the 2013-14 academic year, teachers learn advanced placement chemistry, which gives them a stronger content foundation and prepares them to take the praxis.

The nonprofit New Jersey Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) is an international leader in closing the gap between the number of STEM teachers needed and the teaching supply. CTL invites interested teachers to enroll in PSI Chemistry, a course designed to teach both the content and instructional techniques of chemistry using the Progressive Science Initiative (PSI), a highly successful approach built by teachers for teachers.

PSI Chemistry for Teachers builds on PSI Algebra-Based Physics content and provides the foundation for subsequent study of biology. PSI Chemistry drives increases in the number of students taking advanced placement chemistry and provides an excellent foundation for postsecondary achievement. Learn more at www.njctl.org.

What is the PSI Approach?

PSI has demonstrated success in both effective classroom learning and in teacher training. The pedagogical methods interweave direct instruction and social constructivism guided by the use of frequent, real-time formative assessment.

Traditionally, teachers have worked independently and in isolation to create individual lesson plans, course materials, and assessments. PSI makes effective use of easy-to-master digital technology and embeds the full curriculum into interactive white board presentations. PSI teachers have created this digital curriculum by working collaboratively. As increasing numbers of teachers use PSI, student and teacher feedback drives continuous improvement.

All PSI curriculum materials are open-source and available at www.njctl.org. Any teacher, school or district is free to use any of these materials. PSI Chemistry for Teachers prepares teachers to utilize these resources effectively.

Who is this Course For?

PSI Chemistry for Teachers is open to any teacher who has either:

- Completed PSI Algebra-Based Physics for Teachers training, or
- Passed the Physics Praxis, or

- Takes and passes the PSI Algebra-Based Physics for Teachers exam, or
- Is already a certified chemistry teacher and wishes to explore a new approach to teaching and learning.

In the state of New Jersey, teachers pursuing this course for certification must teach a minimum of one section of PSI Chemistry during the full 2013-14 academic year while taking the remainder of their coursework through CTL. This is permitted, and required, by the NJ Department of Education as part of the PSI Chemistry Endorsement program.

Schedules and Location

This course is offered at Perth Amboy High School which is located at 300 Eagle Ave., Perth Amboy, NJ. The summer component of the coursework starts on July 8 and runs through August 1 (see below for the full summer schedule). Coursework resumes in September and runs through May 2014, meeting approximately one night a week for 2.5 hours and approximately every third Saturday for six hours.

Summer Schedule:

July 8-12, 15-19, 22-26, 29-31, from 9 am – 3 pm

August 1, from 9 am – 3 pm

Cost

PSI Chemistry for Teachers costs \$2,340 while the entire PSI Chemistry Endorsement program costs \$7,020 for teachers who qualify to skip the physics requirement. Coursework will be invoiced prior to each semester.

Inquiries and Enrollment

To learn more about enrollment, additional professional development, the CTL New Jersey endorsement program, graduate credit or continuing education considerations, email courses@njctl.org.

State and District Inquiries

CTL works hard to customize its training programs to meet specific professional development needs. Email CTL at courses@njctl.org to learn how easy it is to bring trainers to your area, or to work with CTL to shape custom training options.