



NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2018

The Office of Higher Education (OHE) newsletter describes the current and upcoming activities related to higher education. This newsletter, past newsletters, and a subscription link are available online on the OHE website.

BOARD OF REGENTS JANUARY ITEMS

Following the 60-day public comment period, it is anticipated that the following three proposed regulation amendments will be adopted as permanent rules at the May 2018 meeting.

Continuous Accreditation Requirement for Educator Preparation Providers. The Department is aware of a new professional education accrediting association that is in the process of seeking approval from the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) to become an accreditor of educator preparation providers (i.e., [Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation \(AAQEP\)](#)). The [proposed regulation amendment](#) would allow institutions to notify the Department that they intend to pursue accreditation through an accrediting association that is seeking recognition from CHEA or United States Department of Education (USDE). The institution would then be granted a five-year time period to complete the accreditation process and would be deemed by the Department to be continuously accredited for program registration purposes during this time period. Institutions must notify the Department about their intent on a form (to be created by the Department) prior to the expiration of their current accreditation period.

ACCREDITATION REGULATION TIMELINE

- At their February meeting, the Board of Regents discussed a [proposed regulation amendment](#) that would enable institutions to work with an accrediting association that is seeking recognition from CHEA or USED (please see details above). The proposed regulation amendment is now out for public comment.
- The Board will consider the proposed regulation amendment at their May meeting (on May 8) after the 60-day comment period.
- If the Board adopts the proposed regulation amendment in May, then the Department will provide information to institutions about the accreditation process with an accrediting association that is seeking recognition from CHEA or USED. However, the proposed regulation amendment may change after public comment, which will return it to public comment and change the date when the regulation is adopted.
- It is up to institutions to decide how to proceed with their own accreditation at this time (e.g., institutions with scheduled CAEP site visits in the near future), given that the proposed regulation amendment is not adopted and would not be adopted until May 2018 at the earliest (and possibly later). CAEP will continue to be an accreditation option for institutions if an accrediting association that is seeking recognition from CHEA or USED also becomes an option.

Graduate Admission Examination Requirement. In December 2017, the Governor [signed a bill](#) amending the Education Law so that certified teachers and educational leaders who already hold a graduate degree are no longer required to take either the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or a substantially equivalent admission examination for entry into graduate teacher education or educational leadership programs. The Board of Regents [adopted an emergency rule](#) to amend the regulations in response to the bill, making the graduate admission examination requirement not applicable to currently certified teachers and educational leaders who already hold a graduate degree effective immediately.

Certification Exam Safety Nets. The safety nets deadlines for the edTPA, Educating All Students (EAS) Exam, and content specialty tests (CSTs) have been extended over the past two years to June 30, 2018 or later, depending on the assessment. However, the requirement for candidates who use one or more safety nets to complete all additional certification requirements by June 30, 2018 has not changed. The [proposed regulation amendment](#) eliminates the requirement to complete all additional certification requirements by June 30, 2018 for candidates who use one or more safety nets. Candidates must continue to take advantage of [safety nets before their expiration date](#), but now they can complete any additional certification requirements at their own pace. In addition, the proposed regulation amendment extends the safety net deadline for Part Two (mathematics) of the Multi-Subject: Secondary Teachers (Grades 7-12) CST until such time that the revised mathematics portion of the exam becomes operational, which is expected to be in fall of 2018.

OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEES

Clinical Practice Work Group. The Clinical Practice Work Group is examining the [regulations related to field experiences and student teaching](#) in teacher preparation programs. The work group developed a set of draft recommendations and will be seeking feedback on them through a survey and regional meetings across the state. Information about the draft recommendations, survey, and regional meetings will be available soon on the [work group web page](#) and through announcements. The feedback from the survey and regional meetings will be very valuable and will be considered in the drafting of the final work group recommendations that will be presented to the Board of Regents this spring.

DASA (Dignity for All Students Act) Task Force. The DASA Task Force has been reconvened to examine the length and content of the [DASA training](#) for candidates. There has been some discussion of requiring educator preparation programs to offer a three-credit multicultural education course to ensure that future educators are prepared to work with a diverse student body. The next task force meeting is scheduled in February 2018. [The task force webpage](#) shows the charge, meeting dates, agendas, minutes, and membership.

NEW YORK STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS (NYSTCE) TEST DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Recruitment for the Multi-Subject: Secondary Teachers (Grade 7-12) Mathematics Content Specialty Test (CST) Item Review Committees. The Department is seeking qualified professionals to serve as committee members for the Item Review Committee scheduled to convene in March 2018. Certified P-12 educators, including those with experience with Students with Disabilities populations, and higher education professionals, as well as educator preparation faculty who are preparing these teachers, are encouraged to apply by visiting the [Teacher Participation Opportunities webpage](#) and completing the [online application](#). Please submit your nominations and applications now. If you are not available for this work, we ask that you nominate one or two educators who are knowledgeable in the field. Once you have nominated them, please ask your nominees to go to the same link to complete the application.

Continued Recruitment for the Content Specialty Tests (CSTs) in the Arts. The Department is seeking qualified professionals to serve as committee members for ongoing CST development activities in the four arts certification fields of Dance, Music, Theatre, and Visual Arts. The Framework Committee Review Conference is scheduled to convene in March 2018. Certified P-12 educators, and higher education professionals, including both higher education arts professionals and educator preparation faculty, who have content expertise in one or more of the four arts are encouraged to apply by visiting the [Teacher Participation Opportunities webpage](#) and completing the [online application](#). Please submit your nominations and applications now. If you are not available for this work, we ask that you nominate one or two educators who are knowledgeable in the field. Once you have nominated them, please ask your nominees to go to the same link to complete the application.

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WEBSITES

[Certification](#)
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