The Office of Higher Education (OHE) is pleased to launch a monthly newsletter to inform the education community of current and upcoming activities related to higher education. To subscribe to our monthly newsletter, please sign up on the OHE newsletter subscription webpage.

OFFICE OF TEACHING INITIATIVES

- The safety nets for certain Content Specialty Tests expired on June 30, 2017. The Safety Net Deadline Chart indicates the deadline dates by exam field and may be used to guide candidates seeking certification.
- The Educating All Students (EAS) test safety net has been extended until the redeveloped EAS test becomes operational in 2018.
- The edTPA safety net is extended until June 30, 2018 or when the Commissioner determines a new passing score for the edTPA based on the recommendation from the edTPA standard setting panel, whichever is earlier.

BOARD OF REGENTS JULY MEETING ITEMS

Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) Regulation Amendments. The HEOP regulation amendments implement Chapter 494 of the Laws of 2016 by clarifying for institutions what types of expenses fall within the newly enumerated categories eligible for HEOP funding. In addition, the Department made technical amendments and updates to the regulatory language to conform with current practice. The amendments were adopted as a permanent rule that is effective August 2.

Establishment of a residency certificate for candidates enrolled in a Classroom Academy Residency Pilot Program. The Cambridge, Hudson Falls, and Washington-Warren-Saratoga-Hamilton-Essex County BOCES consortia and the State University of New York College at Plattsburgh - Queensbury Campus teacher preparation program created a pilot program where candidates participate in a two-year, full time internship in the partnering school district during their program at Plattsburgh. A regulation amendment to create a time-limited residency certificate allows these candidates to be certified while enrolled in the program, enabling the school district/BOCES to pay their salary. The amendment was adopted as a permanent rule that is effective August 2.

Recommendations from the Principal Project Advisory Team that will be presented formally in the fall. The advisory team met between September 2016 and May 2017 to examine ways to enhance the quality of school building preparation in New York. The recommendations include adopting the Professional Standards for Educational Leaders. These new standards reflect important changes, particularly in the areas of equity and cultural responsiveness, community of care and support for students, and meaningful engagement of families and communities.

OFFICE OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY EVALUATION

CAEP Draft Partnership Agreement. OHE staff updated the draft partnership agreement between CAEP and NYSED based on comments from the survey sent to higher education deans and administrators in April. CAEP reviewed the draft agreement and provided feedback on it in June. In response to the feedback, the CAEP Work Group composed of 10 higher education deans and administrators met on June 29 to decide how to address the feedback and incorporate the revised CAEP partnership agreement template into the draft agreement. OHE staff modified the draft agreement based on this meeting, and it was sent to the CAEP Work Group for a final review.
**Enough is Enough.** The New York State “Enough is Enough” - Prevention of Sexual Assault on College Campuses statute (Chapter 76 of the Laws of 2015) requires that New York State colleges and universities file annual certificates of compliance with the State Education Department by July 1st of every year. The Department created an online electronic system for submission of the annual certificates. Please be aware that the statute says that institutions that fail to file the annual certificate of compliance by September 1st of each year “shall be ineligible to receive state aid or assistance until it files such a certificate.”

**SEDREF.** The Coordinator Survey (SUR-1) collects current staff information for the institutions. This information populates NYSED SEDREF tables. SEDREF is the main directory for all institutions, and it is important that the information is kept up to date. It is the responsibility of each institution to update the information. You can view the information for your institution in SEDREF. To update administrative positions, login to HEDSLive and update your SUR-1 Coordinators Survey. If you have trouble logging in, please send an email to higheredsupport@nysed.gov.

**OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEES**

**Clinical Practice Work Group.** The new Clinical Practice Work Group will examine the regulations related to field experiences and student teaching in teacher preparation programs. The work group is being convened in response to one of the edTPA Task Force recommendations. The work group met in June and will meet once a month through the fall. The work group webpage shows the charge, meeting dates, agendas, minutes, and membership.

**DASA (Dignity for All Students Act) Task Force.** The DASA Task Force has been reconvened to examine the length of the DASA training for candidates. The reconvened task force met twice this summer and will meet once a month through the fall. The task force webpage shows the charge, meeting dates, agendas, minutes, and membership. 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.

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

**edTPA Standard Setting Panel.** The edTPA standard setting panel met on June 15, 2017 to implement the recommendations of the edTPA Task Force. The Commissioner will consider the recommendations by the panel and make a decision that will be implemented in the fall of 2017.

**Redevelopment of the Educating All Students (EAS) test.** At the direction of the Board of Regents, the Educating All Students (EAS) test is being redeveloped. The Draft EAS Framework was approved by a committee of diverse stakeholder groups from across New York State in April 2017. The Draft EAS Framework and Preparation Materials will be available on the NYSTCE website by the fall. The redeveloped exam will now include a literacy competency comprised of one constructed-response item.

**Framework Review Conferences for the Content Specialty Tests (CSTs) in the Sciences.** The Framework Review Conferences for the CSTs in biology, chemistry, earth science, and physics took place July 18-21, 2017. Frameworks are reviewed by committees of diverse stakeholder groups from across New York State. Test development will continue in these fields until the scheduled operational test date in the fall of 2019. Certified P-12 educators, and higher education professionals, including both higher education science professionals and educator preparation faculty who have content expertise in one of the four sciences and are interested in participating in future test development activities for the sciences are encouraged to apply by visiting the Teacher Participation Opportunities webpage.
Recruitment for the Content Specialty Tests (CSTs) in the Arts Test Development Committees. 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 October 2017. 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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