



# NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION EDUCATOR PREPARATION NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024

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

## BOARD OF REGENTS MAY ITEMS

**Graduation Measures Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC).** Angelique Johnson-Dingle, Deputy Commissioner for P-12 Instructional Support, and Jason Harmon, Deputy Commissioner for P-12 Operational Support, provided a [summary](#) of the history and creation of the BRC and an overview of the internal work that the Department has been engaged in since the recommendations were released in November of 2023. The discussion following the presentation highlighted the critical importance of the [Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education Framework](#) (CR-S) to teaching that results in all students graduating, along with the need to ensure that teacher preparation and professional development opportunities reflect the CR-S Framework.

**P-20 Education Work Group.** Jim Baldwin, Chief Policy Advisor, and Laura Glass, Chief of Staff for the Office of Education Policy, presented an overview of [New York State Teacher Preparation Program Requirements](#). The coursework and clinical experience requirements in New York State registered teacher preparation programs that were included in the presentation provided the foundation for an initial discussion on the knowledge, skills, and dispositions teachers need to have to be effective with all learners in a changing world.

### Did you Know?

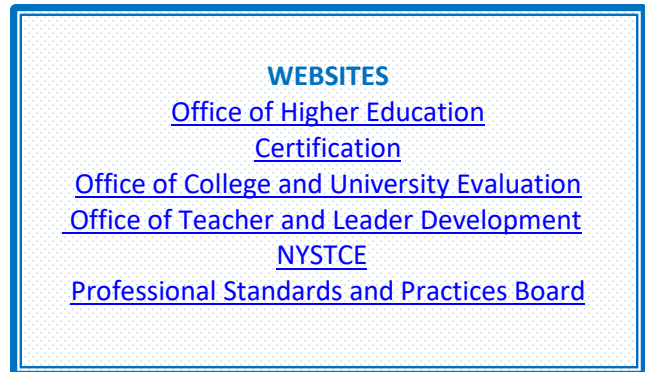
Just as constants provide stability and consistency in scientific calculations and models, a set of [core teaching practices](#) decomposed and enacted by preservice teachers in a school or LEA provide critical stability and consistency to their teaching. In a large-scale profession with high turnover, [high-leverage practices applicable to every classroom](#), and evidence-based practices used to teach specific content, aligned to the [New York State Teaching Standards](#) and [the Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education Framework](#), ensure that all students learn.

The Department recommends that Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs) consider the degree to which high-leverage and evidence-based practices are integrated with the [Pedagogical Core Requirements](#) in the registered teacher education programs that they offer. When EPPs and their school or LEA partners collaborate in [“third-space”](#) partnerships focusing on pedagogy and teaching practice, they can improve the consistency and effectiveness of candidates’ teaching practice across classrooms, creating or further honing a robust and impactful teacher preparation program that equips candidates with the essential teaching knowledge and core skills for positive educational outcomes for every student.

## **REMINDER: STATEMENT OF ASSURANCES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (BIRTH-GRADE 2) PROGRAMS AND NEW STUDENT TEACHING REGULATIONS DUE BY JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>.**

In November 2023, the Department asked each institution offering a registered teacher preparation program leading to the Students with Disabilities (Birth – Grade 2) certificate listed on the Inventory of Registered Programs (IRP) to complete and return the [Statement of Assurance Form](#) by July 1, 2024, to [OCUEdapps@nysed.gov](mailto:OCUEdapps@nysed.gov). More information about this can be found in the November 2023 [OHE Newsletter](#).

In addition, as noted in the March 2024 [OHE Newsletter](#), recent regulatory changes affecting the clinical component of registered teacher education programs will take effect in September 2024. The Department has requested that all institutions with affected programs submit a [Statement of Assurance Form](#) by July 1st, 2024. For questions, please contact the Office of College and University Evaluation at [OCUEINFO@nysed.gov](mailto:OCUEINFO@nysed.gov).



## **TEACHNY UPDATES**

[TeachNY](#) has launched, and May was a positive and productive month for partnerships! If your team attended one of four EPP information sessions, thank you for your participation. Here are next steps for TeachNY's EPP partners:

- **Partnering with TeachNY:** Reach out to Evalyn at [egleason@teachny.org](mailto:egleason@teachny.org), if you missed an informational session or need support completing your EPP's spreadsheet. Take this opportunity to ensure that the information about your EPP promoted on TeachNY is accurate and compelling. The sooner the spreadsheet(s) is received, the sooner your EPP will be promoted in living color!
- **Share and Promote:** TeachNY's resources are ready for potential applicants! Please use the promotional toolkit [here](#) to share TeachNY on your website, on social media, and in emails to prospective candidates, in order to increase the number of applicants that you receive. This toolkit will be regularly updated to include new and time-sensitive resources (e.g., scholarships, teacher appreciation campaigns, etc.).

**[TeachNY](#) has also introduced 19 New \$1K Scholarships! The application deadline is August 31st.** Please use the language below to spread the word to prospective applicants who are considering applying to your teacher preparation program.

*Interested in teaching? TeachNY wants to make your teacher preparation program more affordable! Apply by August 31st for a chance to win one of our 19 \$1,000 scholarships. Your scholarship is waiting for you! <https://ontch.org/summerscholarships>*

## THE GROW YOUR OWN (GYO) INITIATIVE

The growing demand for diverse, qualified educators has escalated in post-pandemic years, most especially in low socio-economic and rural areas. The concept of GYO programs – that is, looking from within schools and communities for the next generation of teachers – is an innovative approach that not only fosters the development of a diverse and skilled teaching workforce, but also ensures the sustainable growth and enhancement of the entire educational ecosystem.

On September 6, 2023, Governor Hochul signed Chapter 350 of the Laws of 2023, which amended Education Law §305 to include the creation of guidance on Grow Your Own (GYO) initiatives, in order to encourage LEAs to develop partnerships that will serve to attract underrepresented candidates into the teaching profession.

In response to the amended law, and understanding that challenges of educator recruitment, development, and retention vary between each LEA, the Department has created a [dedicated website](#) and suite of guidance materials for LEAs to use in the development of GYO initiatives aimed at attracting school and community members into the field of education and providing them support on their path to certification. We believe that there is an accessible GYO initiative here for any LEA that would like to tap into their local community to expand and diversify their educational staff.

Our process for developing these guidance materials included consulting with IHEs and the latest research on teacher development, national GYO programs, and underrepresented populations in educator roles. We also engaged in conversations with LEA leadership across New York State, in order to learn about their current GYO initiatives, successes, and any advice that they would provide to other LEAs looking to implement GYO programs. These guidance materials present promising GYO initiatives that are currently in practice and address New York's GYO Focal Points:

- Recruiting **underrepresented candidates**, including those who are current teaching assistants.
- Creating **early recruitment pipelines**, beginning in secondary schools.
- Establishing **partnerships** between LEAs, community-based organizations, and institutions of higher education.
- Identifying **funding opportunities** available to LEAs, which will aid in attracting and supporting candidates on their pathways into education professions.

The guidance materials include an overview of essential GYO program elements, the GYO program process, and a description of the multiple certification pathways currently available in New York State. We provide information on early recruitment pipelines, cohorts and mentorship, GYO partnerships, dual credit education courses and articulation agreements, memoranda of understanding (MOU), recruiting GYO candidates, program sustainability, and best practices for sharing program successes and events. We also include program funding considerations, opportunities for financing, implementation tools and resources, and highlights of GYO programs across New York State and other states.

---

### OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**Deputy Commissioner:** William Murphy  
89 Washington Avenue  
Room 975 EBA  
Albany, NY 12234  
(518) 486-3633  
[www.highered.nysed.gov](http://www.highered.nysed.gov)

### NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

**Commissioner:** Betty A. Rosa  
**Chancellor:** Lester W. Young, Jr.  
**Board of Regents Higher Education Committee**  
**Chair:** Catherine Collins  
[www.nysed.gov](http://www.nysed.gov)  
[www.regents.nysed.gov](http://www.regents.nysed.gov)