



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

MAY 2022

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

New Students with Disabilities (All Grades) Certificate. To help address the persistent statewide shortage of special education teachers, the Department [proposed a regulatory amendment](#) to establish the Students with Disabilities (All Grades) certificate. The proposed Students with Disabilities (SWD) certificate would permit special education teachers to teach pre-Kindergarten through grade 12. The [presentation](#) to the Board of Regents provides an overview of the proposal, including an implementation timeline.

The Department would no longer register programs leading to the current SWD (Grades 1-6) and SWD (Grades 7-12) certificates on or after October 1, 2022, and would begin registering SWD (All Grades) programs on the effective date of the proposed amendment. For institutions that currently have registered SWD (Grades 1-6) and SWD (Grades 7-12) programs, the programs would no longer be registered with the Department on or after September 1, 2029. The SWD (Birth-Grade 2) certificate and SWD (Birth-Grade 2) programs would continue to be available.

The proposal describes the SWD (All Grades) certificate and program registration requirements on [pages 2-4](#), such as the content core and pedagogical core requirements. For example, the pedagogical core requirements for SWD (All Grades) programs would focus on developing the same comprehensive knowledge, understanding, and skills for teaching students with disabilities in current SWD programs, but cover the broader student developmental level of the certificate (pre-Kindergarten to grade 12) and include teaching students with disabilities who are culturally and linguistically diverse.

Since SWD (Birth-Grade 2) programs would continue, the proposal revises this program's pedagogical core requirement such that these programs would also focus on developing comprehensive knowledge, understanding, and skills for teaching students with disabilities who are culturally and linguistically diverse. The addition of "students with disabilities who are culturally and linguistically diverse" is consistent with the proposed pedagogical core requirement for the SWD (All Grades) program. SWD (Birth-Grade 2) programs would need to include this new requirement by September 1, 2024, or at the time a new program is registered, whichever occurs first.

Currently, institutions may register a program leading to an extension for the SWD (Grades 7-12) certificate that permits candidates to teach students with disabilities in certain subjects in grades 7-12. With this extension, they can teach a special class in the subject area of the extension in grades 7-12. The proposal reduces the number of semester hours required in the subject area for registered extension programs from 18 to 12. Similarly, eligible special education teachers may obtain an extension to teach students with disabilities in certain subjects in grades 5-9 or grades 7-12. In the proposal, the current extension requirements of 18 semester hours in the subject area *and* passing the content specialty test in the subject area of the extension would be replaced with 12 semester hours in the subject area *or* passing the content specialty test in the subject area of the extension. Public comments on the proposal can be submitted to oheregcomments@nysed.gov through August 1, 2022.

Business and Marketing Content Specialty Test Safety Net. It is anticipated that the revised Business and Marketing Content Specialty Test (CST) will become operational in September 2022. The Department [proposed a regulatory amendment](#) to create a safety net for the revised CST that allows candidates to take either the revised CST or the predecessor CST in Business and Marketing for one year after the revised CST becomes operational. The test framework and study guide for the revised CST are available on the [NYSTCE website](#) for candidates and teacher preparation programs to assist in preparing for the revised test.

DIRECTOR , COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY EVALUATION POSITION OPENING

The New York State Education Department is currently searching for the Director, College & University Evaluation in the [Office of College and University Evaluation](#). Information about the position and how to apply for it is available on the [Employment Opportunities webpage](#).

TEACHER PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT SUBMISSION PROCESS

New York State registered teacher preparation programs are required to integrate a [teacher performance assessment](#) into the student teaching, practicum, or similar clinical experience (e.g., residency, mentored in-service component) by September 1, 2023. Programs have the flexibility to develop or choose a teacher performance assessment that meets their local interests and needs. This assessment would be designed to promote the professional growth of candidates who are seeking their first Initial teaching certificate, and would need to meet the criteria in the following definition.

- **Teacher performance assessment** means a multi-measure assessment where candidates demonstrate the pedagogical knowledge and skills identified in the New York State Teaching Standards, which align with the four principles of the New York State Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education Framework, and their content knowledge and skill in teaching to the State learning standards in the grade band and subject area of a certificate sought.

By September 1, 2023, institutions would submit the following documents to the Office of College and University Evaluation (OCUE) to demonstrate that they meet the teacher performance assessment requirement. Additional information about this requirement is available on the [FAQ webpage](#).

- **Assurance Form.** NYSED will be creating a form on which institutions will attest that the teacher performance assessments for all programs leading to a first Initial certificate meet the criteria in the definition of a teacher performance assessment. The assurance form will be posted on the [OCUE website](#) by July 1, 2022.
- **Teacher Performance Assessments.** Each institution will submit no more than four total TPAs to OCUE to serve as representative samples, with one TPA for each program developmental level that is offered at the institution (early childhood, childhood, adolescence, and/or all grades). In addition:
 - The institution's OCUE-identified CEO or designee would send the TPAs in a single email. TPAs from SUNY and CUNY System institutions must be submitted to OCUE by the System Administration. Contact the System Administration for information concerning relevant TPA submission requirements.
 - The TPAs would be sent, along with the assurance form, to OCUE at ocueedapps@nysed.gov.
 - Please note that, while NYSED will not be approving or disapproving TPAs, staff will be reviewing each TPA and may follow-up with programs for clarification.
 - Institutions need to maintain documentation related to their TPAs and make them available upon request by NYSED.

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