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 JUNE ITEMS**

**New Indigenous Culture and Language Studies Certificate.** To promote the teaching of Indigenous cultures and languages, the Board of Regents adopted a regulatory amendment to establish the Indigenous Culture and Language Studies (All Grades) certificate. New York State institutions of higher education can apply to register Indigenous Culture and Language Studies (All Grades) programs that lead to this new certificate. The registration requirements for this program, including the coursework requirements, will be posted on the Core Requirements webpage next week. The certificate application is available in the TEACH system. The certificate requirements are listed on the Search Certification Requirements webpage.

**Higher Education Opportunity Programs.** The Department gave a presentation on the higher education opportunity and access programs administered by the Office of Access, Equity, and Community Engagement Services (OAECES). These programs that they oversee, which receive more than $100 million annually, include the: Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP), Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP), Liberty Partnerships Program, and the Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP).

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**REMINDEERS FOR TEACHER AND SCHOOL BUILDING LEADER PREPARATION PROGRAMS**

**Teacher Performance Assessment Submission Process.** Registered teacher preparation programs must develop or choose a teacher performance assessment (TPA) that meets the criteria in the TPA definition and integrate the assessment into the candidates’ student teaching, practicum, or similar clinical experience by September 1, 2023. The June 2022 memo describes the process for institutions to submit documents to demonstrate that they meet the TPA requirement. The submission process includes sending a completed Statement of Assurance form and a representative sample of TPAs to the Office of College and University Evaluation (OCUE), as outlined in the memo, by July 1, 2023.

**Special Application for School Building Leader Programs to Show Alignment with the PSELs.** All New York State registered school building leader (SBL) preparation programs must be aligned with the Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSELs) by September 1, 2023. The Office of College and University Evaluation (OCUE) has posted a special application where institutions with registered SBL programs and combined SBL/School District Leader (SDL) programs can show how their program(s) are aligned with the PSELs. The completed “Special Application to Revise a Registered Program Leading to School Building Leader Certification or School Building/School District Leader Certification” must be submitted to OCUE at ocueedapps@nysed.gov by July 1, 2023.
School Counselor Endorsement. The Department proposed a regulatory amendment to align the certification pathways for school counselor candidates with the certification pathways for teacher and educational leadership candidates who hold a certificate from, and/or completed an educator preparation program in, another state or territory of the United States (U.S.) or the District of Columbia. The proposed revisions include creating two distinct pathways for school counselor certification for candidates from another state or territory: endorsement of certificates (“endorsement” pathway) and recognition of comparable out-of-state school counselor education programs (“comparable program” pathway). Public comments on the proposal can be submitted to oheregcomments@nysed.gov through August 28, 2023.

Pilot P-20 Partnerships for Principal Preparation Program. The Department adopted a regulatory amendment to extend the end date of the Pilot P-20 Partnerships for Principal Preparation Program to September 30, 2025. The amendment also allows institutions with pilot programs to request flexibility from the Department regarding any of the specific program requirements and permits an eligible public school district that has demonstrated leadership development expertise to serve as the Leadership Development Partner (LDP) in the partnership, subject to approval from the Department. This amendment was an emergency rule that became effective on March 1, 2023.

UPDATING SEDREF INFORMATION

SEDREF is the main directory for all New York State institutions of higher education. When institutions have staffing changes (e.g., new President or CEO), they should update the staff information in SEDREF by completing the My Contacts form in the IDEx. Individuals can view the current information for their institution in SEDREF. To update administrative positions, log in to IDEx and update the information in the My Contacts tab. Questions about the form can be sent to higheredsupport@nysed.gov. If there is a new President or CEO, please also send the update to the Office of College and University Evaluation at ocueinfo@nysed.gov.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: LITERACY THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages is seeking proposals to launch a curriculum and pilot program that addresses literacy for English Language Learners (ELLs) through the study of photography. NYSED will award one contract(s) pursuant to this RFP. The contract(s) resulting from this RFP will be for a term anticipated to begin January 1, 2024 and end December 31, 2026. Information about the RFP is available online. All bids are due by July 27, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

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