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To: Deans and Directors of New York State School Counseling Programs

From: Leslie E. Templeman, Director 
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Subject: Guidance Related to Commissioner's Regulations §52.21(d) for Institutions with Registered Programs Leading to Certification in School Counseling

Background

In October 2013, the New York State Board of Regents (Regents) directed the New York State Education Department (Department) to establish a representative workgroup, the School Counselor Advisory Council (SCAC), to review the preparation of school counselors in New York. School counseling program registration regulations were drafted based on feedback from the SCAC. In May 2017, the Regents approved new program registration requirements for New York State school counseling programs leading to Initial and Professional certification.

The regulations for programs leading to Initial and Professional certification in school counseling are in the New York Code of Rules and Regulations, Title 8, Chapter II, Subchapter A, Part 52, §52.21(d). In addition to meeting the new §52.21(d) requirements, programs leading to school counseling certification are also required to meet the general program requirements in Parts 50, 52, 53 and 54 of the Commissioner's Regulations.

Based upon feedback from the School Counseling Advisory Workgroup, established in 2018 to assist the Department in developing guidance and an application form for registering school counseling programs, in July 2019, the Regents made some amendments to §52.21(d), including extending the timeline for institutions of higher education to register their programs under the new requirements from September 2020 to September 2021.

Institutions that want to prepare new candidates for certification as school counselors, beginning in the fall 2021 semester and thereafter, must register programs that meet the new registration requirements and lead to Initial, Initial/Professional, or Professional certification in school counseling.

More information about the development of the new school counseling program regulations is provided at the end of this guidance document.

The Transition for Currently Registered Programs

Programs currently registered to lead to *Provisional* school counseling certification may continue to be offered until February 1, 2023 in order to allow candidates, enrolled in these programs prior to the fall 2021 semester, to complete requirements for Provisional certification. Institutions must ensure that candidates enrolled in programs that lead to Provisional certification **meet all requirements and apply for Provisional certification by February 1, 2023**. The Provisional School Counselor certificate will no longer be issued after February 1, 2023.

Programs currently registered to lead to **Permanent school counseling certification ONLY** *may* remain registered *after* February 1, 2023. These programs *may* remain registered so that candidates holding valid Provisional school counseling certification will continue to have a pathway to Permanent certification. These programs may remain registered until the Department determines that Permanent certificates in school counseling will no longer be issued. (Programs that currently lead to *both* Provisional and Permanent certification can be changed to lead to Permanent certification only. A program change application should be submitted to request that change.)

The Internship certificate will continue to be an option. Commissioner's Regulations §80-5.9 allow candidates enrolled in registered programs leading to certification in school counseling to apply to the Department for an Internship certificate upon completion of at least one-half of a program's semester hour requirement. The Internship certificate will be issued only to candidates: 1) enrolled in registered programs; 2) under appropriate supervision; and 3) **for a non-renewable two-year term**.

Submission of Applications to Register New School Counseling Programs

Institutions wanting to prepare candidates in one or more school counseling programs leading to Initial and/or Professional certification **beginning in the fall of 2021** will need to submit an application to register these program/s under §52.21(d).

The Department has developed a new program registration application form to register new school counseling programs. This form is available on the Office of College and University Evaluation's website at:

<http://www.nysed.gov/college-university-evaluation/register-program-prepare-candidates-state-teacher-educational-leader>

Institutions may apply **to register the following types of programs as defined in the regulations**; a single application form may be used to register any **combination** of these programs:

- A 48-semester hour master's degree program that leads to Initial certification.
- A 60-semester hour master's degree program that leads to Initial and Professional certification.
- A 12-semester hour advanced certificate program that leads to Professional certification.

Please note: the new regulations require that all programs leading to school counseling certification in New York lead to either a master's or higher degree or to an advanced certificate.

Institutions must show how the proposed programs meet both of the following practicum and internship requirements:

- 100-hour practicum required in 48-semester hour and 60-semester hour programs; and
- 600-hour internship required in 48-semester hour and 60-semester hour programs.

Timeline

- **March 1, 2021:** Last date to submit applications for the registration of school counseling programs leading to Initial and/or Professional certification in school counseling **to assure review and registration in time to meet the new regulations by September 1, 2021.** Applications submitted after March 1, 2021 **will be reviewed** but cannot be guaranteed review and registration *in time* for a fall 2021 semester start.
- **September 1, 2021:** Date by which all programs preparing new candidates for Initial and/or Professional certification in school counseling must meet the new program regulations for fall 2021 semester enrollment.
- **Fall 2021:** The semester new school counseling candidates will enroll in programs registered to lead to Initial and/or Professional school counseling certification.
- **February 1, 2023:**
 - Last date that candidates can apply for a School Counselor Provisional certificate, including paying the application fee. Please note that candidates must also qualify for the Provisional certificate by this date.
 - Last date for individuals who hold an **expired School Counselor Provisional certificate, (and are not eligible for a time extension or Provisional Renewal certificate)**, to apply for a School Counselor **Permanent certificate**, including paying the application fee and meeting all qualifications for the Permanent certificate.
- **February 2, 2023:** First date that candidates can apply for the Initial or Professional certificates in school counseling. Provisional School Counselor certificates will no longer be issued on and after February 2, 2023.

Q and A

This section responds to questions that the Department received from the field. If institutions have additional questions, please send them with your contact information to the Office of College and University Evaluation (OCUE) at ocueinfo@nysed.gov. OCUE may issue updated guidance as needed.

Impact of the New Regulations on Currently Registered School Counseling Programs Leading to Provisional and/or Permanent Certification and Candidates in Those Programs

1. What happens to school counseling programs that lead to Provisional certification and the candidates in those programs on September 1, 2021?

Answer: Programs that lead to Provisional certification may continue and institutions will be able to recommend candidates in programs leading to Provisional certification through February 1, 2023. **Beginning with the fall 2021 semester, all school counseling programs admitting new candidates for school counseling certification must lead to Initial or Initial/Professional, certification.** (See Question 5.)

2. Will candidates already enrolled in programs registered to lead to Provisional and/or Permanent certification be able to continue in these programs beyond September 1, 2021?

Answer: Yes. Candidates already enrolled in programs leading to Provisional certification may continue in these programs but must complete all certification requirements and apply for certification, including paying the application fee, prior to February 1, 2023. (See Question 7.) Provisional School Counselor certificates will no longer be issued after February 1, 2023.

Programs that lead to Permanent certification can continue beyond February 1, 2023 to provide candidates holding valid Provisional school counseling certification a registered program pathway to Permanent certification. These programs may remain registered until the Department determines that *Permanent* certificates in school counseling will no longer be issued. (See Question 8.)

3. Our institution has a 36-semester hour program registered to lead to Provisional certification. How will it be affected by the new regulations?

Answer: Institutional recommendations for *Provisional* certification will not be accepted by the Office of Teaching Initiatives for certification purposes after February 1, 2023. Candidates who are enrolled in programs that do not meet the requirements in the new regulations must 1) complete ALL requirements for Provisional certification and 2) apply (including paying the application fee) for Provisional certification by February 1, 2023. The institution can continue offering the program through February 1, 2023 for currently enrolled candidates but cannot admit *new* candidates in or after the fall 2021 semester.

4. How should we advise our candidates who have earned Provisional certification on or before February 1, 2023 on what they should do to complete coursework for their Permanent certification?

Answer: Candidates with a valid Provisional certificate who earned a Provisional certificate on or before February 1, 2023, have the time remaining of the five-year validity period of their Provisional certificate to complete the remaining requirements for the Permanent certificate,

including coursework and/or experience, while their Provisional certificate or Provisional Renewal is valid. These candidates can complete their coursework through programs registered to lead to *Permanent* certification or by completing the remaining coursework as a non-matriculated candidate and applying for their Permanent certificate through transcript evaluation.

Candidates with an expired Provisional certificate or Provisional Renewal must apply for their School Counselor Permanent certificate, including paying the application fee and meeting all requirements for the Permanent certificate, on or before February 1, 2023.

5. Can a candidate who has completed a 48-semester hour program that leads to *Provisional* certification be admitted into a 12-semester hour program that leads to *Professional* certification?

Answer: No, and this is a very important point. Commissioner's Regulations require candidates entering 12-semester hour *Professional certification* programs to hold **Initial certification**. [See §52.21(d)(3)(i)]

6. Our institution has a school counseling program registered to lead to both Provisional and Permanent certification. How will it be affected by the new regulations?

Answer: Programs currently registered to lead to both Provisional and Permanent certification can remain registered **only** as Permanent certification programs on or after February 2, 2023. Candidates who are enrolled in a program that leads to Provisional and Permanent certification **must complete ALL requirements for their Provisional certification by February 1, 2023, including 30 credits in school counseling and the required internship, so that the institution can recommend them for Provisional certification by February 1, 2023.** (See also Questions 2 and 4.) If the institution decides to keep the program registered to allow candidates with Provisional certification to complete their Permanent certification, these candidates can continue in the Permanent-only program and complete the requirements for their Permanent certification.

7. Our institution has a program currently registered to lead to Permanent school counselor certification only. What will happen to the program after February 1, 2023?

Answer: Registered programs leading to Permanent certification can remain registered until the Department determines that Permanent certificates for school counselors will no longer be issued, or that programs leading to Permanent certification are no longer required. **Only candidates with valid Provisional certification may be admitted into a program leading to Permanent certification.**

8. Can we admit candidates, who have completed a program leading to Provisional certification and who need additional credits to meet the 60-semester hour requirement for Permanent certification, into programs registered to lead to Initial/Professional certification?

Answer: If a candidate holds a Provisional certificate and needs additional credits to obtain their Permanent certificate, the institution can allow the candidate *to take courses* in the institution's registered programs leading to Initial and/or Professional certification in school counseling. However, the candidate would take the courses **as a non-matriculated student**, and the institution **could not recommend the candidate for Permanent certification**. Instead, this

candidate would apply for Permanent certification to the Office of Teaching Initiatives through the individual evaluation pathway. (See Question 5.)

9. If we admit a candidate who holds Provisional certification into a program that leads to *Initial* certification (e.g., a 48-semester hour graduate program), what coursework, if any, will the candidate have to complete to be recommended for *Initial* certification in school counseling?

Answer: While regulations do not *prevent* candidates with *Provisional* school counselor certification from being admitted into programs registered to lead to *Initial* or *Initial/Professional* certification, **institutions cannot *recommend* these candidates for *Initial* or *Initial/Professional* certification unless the candidates have completed all program requirements for *Initial* and/or *Professional* certification.** This includes completing the 100-hour practicum and 600-hour internship and their required components.

10. Can a candidate who holds *Provisional* certification be recommended for *Professional* certification?

Answer: No, per Commissioner’s Regulations, only a candidate who holds Initial certification in school counseling can be recommended for *Professional* certification.

11. What are the last day institutions can recommend candidates for Provisional certification?

Answer: Institutions with registered programs that lead to Provisional certification can recommend candidates for Provisional certification **until February 1, 2023. *Institutional recommendations for Provisional certification will not be accepted by the Office of Teaching Initiatives after this date.*** Candidates who are still in the pipeline and who have not completed all the Provisional certification requirements by this date **must** transfer into programs leading to Initial or Initial/Professional certification in school counseling if they want to become a school counselor in New York State. There is no other pathway available to these candidates.

12. Will institutions be able to recommend candidates for Permanent certification on or after February 1, 2023?

Answer: Yes. Institutions will continue to be able to recommend candidates for Permanent certification upon program completion of programs registered to lead to Permanent certification, until the Department determines that Permanent certificates will no longer be issued.

48-Semester Hour Programs Leading to Initial Certification

13. Must the 48-semester hour program lead to a master’s degree for the program to lead to Initial certification?

Answer: Yes. The 48-semester hour program must lead to *at least* a master’s degree. Commissioner’s Regulations §52.21(d)(2) state that: “*programs leading to Initial certification as a school counselor shall be programs **leading to a master’s degree or higher**, which shall include a minimum of 48 semester hours of graduate study.*”

14. What curricula must be included in the 48-semester hour program?

Answer: Per Commissioner's Regulations §52.21(d)(2)(i) that were adopted by the Board of Regents in July 2019, programs must ensure that candidates' complete study in the following eight core content areas and their subareas of school counseling:

- 1) **Foundations in professional school counseling including the subareas of** understanding the history and purpose/philosophy of, and the laws, policies, and regulations governing school counseling. School counselors engage in continuous professional growth and development, advocate for appropriate school counselor identity and roles, and adhere to ethical practices;
- 2) **Career development and college readiness including the subareas of** use of a variety of research-based school counseling approaches to provide services to meet the career needs of all students;
- 3) **Supportive school climate and collaborative work with school, family and community including the subareas of** collaborating with colleagues, families, and community members to cultivate an inclusive, nurturing, and physically safe learning environment for students, staff, and families;
- 4) **Equity, advocacy and diversity in programming and in support of students including the subareas of** understanding cultural contexts in a multicultural society, demonstrating fairness, equity and sensitivity to every student, and advocating for equitable access to instructional programs and activities;
- 5) **Child growth, development and student learning including the subareas of** using knowledge of child development, individual differences, learning barriers, and pedagogy to contribute to and support student learning;
- 6) **Group and individual counseling theories and techniques including the subareas of** using a variety of research-based counseling approaches to provide prevention, intervention, and responsive services to meet the academic, personal, social and career needs of all students.
- 7) **Best practices for the profession and in school counseling programming including the subareas of** assessing, developing, implementing, leading, and evaluating a data-driven comprehensive school counseling program that utilizes best practices and advances the school's mission;
- 8) **Research and program development including the subareas of** using research and evaluation to advance school counseling programs, their components and the profession.

Institutions have flexibility in how they meet these core areas. For example, they may offer a single course dedicated to group counseling theories, or they may combine group counseling theories with another course. The Department is looking to see that the core content areas and subareas are met, not for a checklist of specific courses. (See the application form for additional information.)

60-Semester Hour Programs Leading to Initial/Professional Certification

15. What curricula must be included in 60-semester hour programs leading to Initial/Professional certification?

Answer: Per Commissioner's Regulations §52.21(d), programs in school counseling leading to both **Initial and Professional certification** "must lead to a master's degree, with a minimum of 60-semester hours of graduate study." Sixty semester hour programs must meet the program registration requirements for a program leading to Initial certification in school counseling (e.g., minimum of 48 semester hours in the eight core content areas, a 100-hour practicum and a 600-hour internship).

12-Semester Hour Advanced Certificate Programs Leading to Professional Only Certification

16. What curricula must be included in the 12-semester hour advanced certificate program leading to professional certification only?

Answer: Commissioner's Regulations §52.21(d)(3)(ii) require that registered 12-semester hour programs lead to an advanced certificate with a minimum of 12-semester hours of graduate study in "any of the eight core content areas of school counseling." Institutions have flexibility concerning what courses they include in the 12-semester hours, as long as they are within the eight core content areas.

17. Institutions have asked if they may offer 12-semester hours in specialized areas, such as bilingual education extensions in school counseling; special education; clinical mental health counseling with focuses from children to adults and families; student affairs/college counseling; substance abuse and addictions counseling; clinical rehabilitation counseling; family counseling; expressive arts therapy (e.g., play, art, drama and music); urban/rural counseling; advanced counseling theories (e.g., mindfulness, CBT, REBT); and educational leadership. Are courses in these specialized areas acceptable to include in 12-semester hour programs?

Answer: Institutions have some flexibility in what can be offered in the 12-semester hour programs leading to an advanced certificate in school counseling.

In its response to public comments, the Department stated that school counselors under the new regulations were not replacing or usurping the services of school social workers or school psychologists, but rather the new regulations "continue the existing collaborative approach among school social workers, school psychologists and school counselors." Individual courses in the mental health field that meet the eight core content areas are acceptable to include in 12-semester hour advanced certificate programs. Examples of acceptable courses could include identifying the signs and symptoms of substance abuse in children and adolescents, characteristics and risk factors of mental health and behavioral disorders, theories and models of multicultural counseling, social justice and advocacy, and counseling techniques in school settings. **An institution that proposes to offer a course related to a licensed profession or other specialized area (e.g., a course or coursework in applied behavior analysis, creative arts therapy, school psychology or social work, etc.) should speak to the Department before submitting the application.**

Waivers

18. Can institutions apply for a waiver of any of the new program content requirements?

Answer: No. **Commissioner's Regulations §52.21(d) do not provide for a waiver of content requirements for programs leading to 48-, 60-, or 12-credits for school counseling certificates.** The regulations do provide for the Commissioner to grant a waiver of the faculty requirements in §52.21(d)(1)(viii)(b)(1): *"upon a showing of good cause satisfactory to the commissioner, including but not limited to a showing that the institution cannot meet the requirement because of the nature of the program, which otherwise meets the requirements of this Part."* Included in the faculty requirements are annual and per semester credit limits on faculty load and how supervision of practica and internships impacts load.

19. Some institutions have asked about faculty whose primary responsibility is to teach. They state that clinical faculty and multi-year contract faculty may teach up to four graduate level courses, or 12 semester hours per semester, since these faculty have no scholarship or research obligations to the institution. Rather, their role is to ensure sufficient course offerings and minimum degree completion time. Does this situation meet faculty waiver requirements?

Answer: The faculty waiver requires a showing that *"the institution cannot meet the requirement because of the nature of the program, which otherwise meets the requirements of this Part."* Institutions may show that "the nature of the program" requires clinical faculty to exceed the levels specified in Regulations. Institutions, however, must meet all other faculty requirements, including providing sufficient numbers of qualified full-time faculty, ensuring that the majority of credit-bearing courses are taught by full-time teaching faculty, and meeting the general faculty requirements in §52.21(d)(1)(ii), (iii), (iv) and (vii.)

Partnership Requirements

20. Regulations require institutions to demonstrate that their "participation in relationships with local schools is a valued component of responsibilities of faculty with primary appointments in school counseling." [§52.21(d)(1)(ix)] Can school counseling faculty use their work with P-12 site supervisors (e.g., inviting them to professional workshops at their institutions), and other activities that meet accrediting standards for this same purpose, to meet this regulation?

Answer: Yes.

Practicum and Internship Requirements

21. The regulations for programs leading to Initial certification as a school counselor state that programs shall lead to a *"master's degree or higher, which shall include a minimum of 48 semester hours of graduate study, including eight core content areas described in subparagraph (i) of this paragraph and shall have a minimum college-supervised practicum of 100 hours and a college-supervised internship of 600 hours as described in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph."* What is the difference between the "practicum" and the "internship" other than the number of hours?

Answer: Regulations define *"practicum"* and *"internship"* by the **number of hours**, the **content**, and the **grade levels** that must be covered in each.

22. What must the **practicum consist of?**

Answer: Regulations require a **100-hour practicum**. The practicum is supervised by the institution and must be within a school counseling program setting in grades K-12. The regulations require programs to provide *“a minimum of 40 clock hours of direct student contact in group counseling, individual counseling, and school counseling core curriculum lesson delivery”*. Institutions have flexibility in how they structure the 40 hours in terms of content and grade level; however, group and individual counseling should be covered as well as experiences delivering core aspects of K-12 school counseling curricula. **The 100 hours can be at one school building or within multiple buildings in a school district, or across several districts.**

Regulations also require *“a minimum of 60 clock hours on developing, implementing and evaluating key school counseling program elements”* and list eleven elements that need to be covered in the practicum. The Department would expect to see the development, implementation and evaluation of the various eleven program elements discussed and reflected in a minimum of 60 hours of the 100-hour practicum.

The application forms to register school counseling programs under §52.21(d) will ask institutions how they meet the 40 and 60 hours of the practicum in the two areas of direct student contact and program elements, respectively, and to clearly state what is required in each set of hours.

23. What must the **internship consist of?**

Answer: Commissioner’s Regulations require a 600-hour internship that includes a *“minimum of 240 clock hours of supervised direct student service in group counseling, individual counseling and school counseling core curriculum lesson delivery”* and *“a minimum of 360 supervised clock hours focused on developing, implementing and evaluating key school counseling program elements.”*

The 600 internship hours must include two 300-hour internships, one in grades K-8 and one in grades 9-12. It is important to note that the school counseling certificate is an *all-grades certificate*. Like all-grades teaching certificates, Commissioner’s Regulations require that candidates have experiences across the developmental span of the certificate.

For 48 semester hour school counseling programs leading to the Initial certificate and 60 semester hour school counseling programs leading to the Initial/Professional certificate, the regulatory requirements for the 600-hour internship are the same [§52.21(d)(2)(ii)(b)] and [§52.21(d)(3)(i)]. The content of the internship mirrors that of the practicum – individual and group counseling and curriculum delivery and the key *eleven school counseling program elements* – with more hours and *two grade ranges instead of the single grade range K-12*.

24. Who supervises the internship?

Answer: Supervision of the internship is by program (institution) faculty and by a certified school counselor [§52.21(d)(2)(ii)(b)(4)]. In addition, for the internship, the regulations require the institution and the school district providing the internship to execute a written agreement that establishes a) the candidate’s load and b) a schedule of daily mentoring by a certified school counselor prior to when the internship begins.

25. What if there is no certified school counselor in the building to supervise the candidate?

Answer: Commissioner's Regulations provide for flexibility of the mentoring if the school district in which the candidate is placed doesn't have a certified school counselor in the school *building* where the placement occurs. For example, a school counselor candidate could be placed in a school district's K-5 building and be supervised by the district's school counselor that works in the district's middle school (grades 6-8).

26. Regulations require institutions to provide **two** 300-hour internships, one in grades K-8 and one in grades 9-12. Must institutions provide students two 300-hour internship experiences at these two different grade levels?

Answer: Yes, there must be two 300-hour internships for the Department to register the program. The Board of Regents wanted to ensure that institutions registering school counseling programs under the new regulations are preparing school counselors for **the elementary grade levels** as well as the secondary levels, and therefore approved the requirement for two 300-hour internships, one in grades K-8, which includes elementary and middle school, and one in grades 9-12.

27. **Would a single internship in a grade 7-12 school be acceptable**, since it includes both middle and high school grades?

Answer: No. Commissioner's Regulations require that the internship includes both K-8 and 9-12 experiences. Three-hundred (300) clock hours must be in grades K-8 and 300 clock hours must be in grades 9-12. If an institution can show that a grade 7-12 placement has separate middle school or junior high and senior high school counseling programs or departments, placements comprising 300 hours in the middle school/junior high grades 7-8 school counseling program and 300 separate and distinct hours in the grades 9-12 school counseling program could be acceptable. Department staff would need to evaluate the specifics of such a proposal to make a final determination.

28. What are the requirements for program accreditation?

Answer: Commissioner's Regulations §52.21(d)(5) Accreditation requires school counseling programs first registered after September 1, 2021 leading to Initial and/or professional certification to be *"accredited by an acceptable professional education association, meaning an organization which is determined by the department to have equivalent standards to the State's standards, within seven years of the date of their Initial registration, and ... continuously accredited thereafter..."*. While program registration regulations require accreditation within seven years of Initial registration, **and all programs will be considered initially registered since new program codes will be issued and the programs will lead to new certificate types**, institutions with currently accredited programs should consult their accreditors to determine what steps they should take to accredit newly registered school counselor programs.

The Development of the New School Counseling Program Requirements in Commissioner's Regulations §52.21(d)

In October 2013, the Regents directed the Department to establish a representative workgroup, the School Counselor Advisory Council (SCAC), to review the preparation and practice of school counselors. In addition to NYSED staff, the SCAC was comprised of an equal number of K-12 school counselors and higher education school counseling faculty and included two union representatives. The SCAC reviewed school counselor certification requirements and K-12 school/guidance programming requirements in Parts 80 and 100 of Commissioner's Regulations and discussed developing new regulations in §52.21 for the registration of programs leading to school counselor certification.

The Regents discussed proposed amendments to Parts 80 and 100 and to §52.21 in September 2015. In response to the proposed amendments, the Department received over 1,000 public comments. and a revised proposal was approved by the Regents to move forward to public comment in 2016.

In May 2016, the Department convened a meeting of stakeholders to discuss the revised proposal. As several the comments received related to scope of practice issues, in addition to the SCAC, the meeting included representatives from the New York State School Social Workers Association and the Association of New York State School Psychologists.

Following the Department's May 2016 SCAC meeting, the proposed amendments were revised to address the public comments and to eliminate the required alignment to ASCA standards and ratios. The Department reconvened the SCAC in September 2016 and presented their proposed revised amendments to the Regents at the November 2016 Regents meeting. Although the recommendation to have a school counselor in every elementary school was not included as a requirement, the Regents did include the requirement for two 300-hour internships; one in grades K-8 and one in grades 7-12, to ensure that all school counselor candidates are prepared for placements in all grade levels, including elementary, middle and high school.

Following the public comment period, the proposed revised amendments were approved by the Regents in May 2017, and they became effective July 1, 2017.

In the spring of 2018, a new School Counseling Workgroup was formed to advise the Department on developing a guidance document and new program registration application form. During discussions, the Workgroup recommended certain changes to the regulations adopted in 2017, including:

- requiring all eight Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP) core content areas to be included in 48-semester hour programs leading to Initial certification;
- extending the time period for implementation of the regulations in Parts 52 and 80 for two years; and
- adding greater flexibility to the internships by eliminating the requirement for an elementary internship.

In July 2019, the Regents approved two of the changes recommended by the Workgroup. All eight core content areas must be included in 48-semester hour programs and the timeline for

institutions to register their school counseling programs under the new regulations was extended for one year from September 2020 to September 2021 to give institutions additional time to register new programs. Another change made by the Regents was removing references to the Department defining the “subareas” of the eight core content areas in guidance.

The May 2017 and July 2019 Board of Regents meeting items are linked below:

- [May 2017 Board of Regents Item](#)
- [July 2019 Board of Regents Item](#)