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

BOARD OF REGENTS JANUARY ITEMS

Professional Learning and CTLE for Teachers Who Work with Teacher Candidates. The Department proposed regulatory amendments related to professional learning and Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) based on feedback received during the 60-day public comment period. One of the proposed regulatory amendments is that teachers serving as a mentor to a teacher candidate (e.g., student teacher) would be able to credit up to 25 hours toward their CTLE requirement in each five-year registration period. Following the 30-day public comment period, it is anticipated that the proposed amendments will be presented to the Board of Regents for adoption at its April 2019 meeting.

Initial Certification for Individuals Who Have At Least Two Years of Postsecondary Teaching Experience. A new regulatory amendment enables individuals who have a graduate degree and at least two years of satisfactory teaching experience at the postsecondary level in the subject area of the certificate sought, or a closely related subject area acceptable to NYSED, to be eligible for an Initial certificate through two pathways. One pathway is to complete at least two years of satisfactory teaching experience in a school district while holding a Transitional G certificate. Another pathway is to complete at least six undergraduate credits or four graduate credits of specified pedagogical coursework in the subject area of the certificate sought. The postsecondary teaching experience must have been completed within the 10 years immediately preceding the application for an Initial certificate, unless the individual holds or held a Transitional G certificate.

FINGERPRINTING FEE INCREASE

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has issued a revised fee schedule for civil fingerprint-based Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) checks effective January 1, 2019. The fee for electronic civil fingerprint submissions to the FBI has increased from $12.00 to $13.25. The FBI fee rate is based on the date that applicants are processed at an Enrollment Center and not on the date that applicants schedule their appointment. Applicants who were fingerprinted on or before December 31, 2018 would pay the $12.00 FBI fee and applicants processed beginning January 1, 2019 will pay the $13.25 FBI fee. The total fingerprint application fee is now $100.25, which goes to the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), MorphoTrust/IDEMIA (the company that is contracted by DCJS), and the FBI. Information about fingerprinting is available on the Office of School Personnel Review and Accountability (OSPRA) website.
INSTITUTIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN TEACH

Every night, TEACH pulls all educator preparation program data from the Inventory of Registered Program (IRP) database and rewrites the program codes into a TEACH database file. Since the data is processed at night, there is a delay between the addition of program codes and the ability for institutions to submit a recommendation through TEACH. Also, the nightly data transfer may on occasion be interrupted and program codes that previously appeared in TEACH may be unavailable for recommendations. If this happens, it would be best to wait until the next day to determine if there is a problem with TEACH. If a program code is unavailable for multiple days, please contact the Office of Teaching Initiatives at OTIAdmin@nysed.gov.

NEW YORK STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS (NYSTCE) SAFETY NETS EXPIRING

CRITICAL INFORMATION FOR YOUR CANDIDATES

The safety nets for the following Content Specialty Tests (CSTs) are available until June 30, 2019: American Sign Language, Cantonese, English as a Second Language (ESOL), French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Mandarin, Russian, Social Studies, and Spanish. The safety nets for these tests allows candidates to take either the current (redeveloped) CST or the safety net (predecessor) CST.

For Students with Disabilities (Grades 7-12) Generalist certification, the predecessor Multi-Subject: Secondary Teachers (Grades 7-12), Part Two: Mathematics (242) test and its safety net is available until June 30, 2019. The revised Multi-Subject: Secondary Teachers (Grades 7-12), Part Two: Mathematics (244) test does not have a safety net.

OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Room 975 EBA
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12234
(518) 486-3633
http://www.highered.nysed.gov/

NEW OCUE WEBSITE

The Office of College and University Evaluation (OCUE) launched a new website on January 8. Links to the previous OCUE website will be redirected to the new website for several weeks, allowing individuals to update their bookmarks accordingly.