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.

GRADUATION MEASURES REGIONAL MEETINGS

The Board of Regents and State Education Department will be forming a Blue Ribbon Commission to review the State’s high school graduation measures and examine what a New York State diploma should signify to ensure educational excellence and equity for every student.

To help inform the work of the Blue Ribbon Commission, the Board of Regents and State Education Department are hosting regional meetings across the State to gather input from stakeholders and members of the public through April 2020. The meetings include the opportunity for attendees to provide feedback on five guiding questions related to graduation measures. Individuals who cannot attend a meeting can complete an online survey that contains the five guiding questions.

Information about the review of high school graduation measures, including the regional meeting schedule, is available on the Graduation Measures website. We encourage the higher education community to attend the meetings.

REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL LABORATORY WORKSHOP SERIES ON CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING

The Office of Higher Education participates in the Regional Educational Laboratory-Northeast & Islands (REL-NEI) Teacher Preparation Research Alliance. The REL program is funded by the Institute of Education Sciences and offers research-based resources and professional learning opportunities for institutions of higher education. REL-NEI is offering a two-part, interactive webinar series for educator preparation program faculty and staff, as well as mentoring and cooperating teachers, to prepare culturally responsive, data-literate teachers who can use data to identify and leverage their students’ assets to better address and meet their learning needs. The second webinar in the two-part series will take place on Wednesday, April 1 from 3:00-4:30 p.m. Information about the webinar will be available on the REL calendar of events as the date approaches.
TEACH ONLINE SYSTEM CERTIFICATION REPORTS

Designated individuals in institutions of higher education who have access to the TEACH online system can now generate reports on the certification status of their program completers. To generate the reports, they would select “Certificate Holder Report” under the “Report Links” menu and search for program completers by the dates they submitted recommendations for certification in TEACH. For each program completer, TEACH lists the certification status associated with the institutions’ recommendation(s) for certification (e.g., “Issued”, “Ready to Review”, “N/A” if there is no application on file). A summary of issued certificates by subject area for the program completers is also generated.

NEW YORK STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS (NYSTCE) TEST DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Recruiting Educators for Test Development Committees. The Department is seeking educators to participate in the following committees that will meet in early 2020. Certified P-12 educators and higher education professionals, including both higher education teacher preparation faculty and higher education faculty who have content expertise, are encouraged to apply for the committees by visiting the Educator Involvement Opportunities webpage and completing the online application.

- Computer Science Framework Review
- Bilingual Education Assessment Framework Review

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