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](http://ohe.ny.gov).

**BOARD OF REGENTS JUNE ITEMS**

**Grade Level Extensions for Students with Disabilities Certificates.** In an ongoing effort to address the shortage of special education teachers in New York State, a new regulation creates grade level extensions for Students with Disabilities Generalist certificates. The extensions permit teachers who hold a Students with Disabilities Generalist certificate in birth-grade 2, grades 1-6, and grades 7-12 to teach two grade levels above and/or below the grade levels of their certificate if they meet a teaching experience requirement and complete either 45 hours of Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) or 3 semester hours of pedagogical coursework focused on the grade levels of the extension. For teachers holding a Student with Disabilities Generalist certificate in grades 5-9, the extension enables them to teach grades 10-12 if they meet a teaching experience requirement and complete either 45 hours of CTLE or 3 semester hours of pedagogical coursework focused on adolescent level education. In addition, they must complete at least 15 hours of acceptable CTLE or three semester hours in English Language Arts.

**Reinstatement of the Educational Technology Specialist CST Safety Net.** Candidates applying for the Educational Technology Specialist certificate currently take the redeveloped Educational Technology Specialist Content Specialty Test (CST). The former Educational Technology Specialist CST safety net allowed candidates to take either the redeveloped CST or the predecessor CST. A review of the redeveloped Educational Technology Specialist CST shows a significant decrease in the pass rate compared with the predecessor CST pass rate. The Board of Regents adopted an emergency rule to reinstate the Educational Technology Specialist CST safety net effective immediately, allowing candidates to take either the redeveloped CST or predecessor CST through June 30, 2019 while the Department works with the field to make any necessary changes. Candidates can register for the safety net (predecessor) Educational Technology Specialist CST on the [NYSTCE website](http://www.nystce.org). Following the 60-day public comment period, it is anticipated that the proposed regulation amendment will be adopted as a permanent rule at the September 2018 meeting.

**EDTPA SAFETY NET**

**Critical Information for Candidates**

The existing edTPA safety net (ATS-W) will remain available until June 30, 2018. After this date, only candidates who fail the library specialist edTPA may use the safety net through September 30, 2019.

Teacher candidates who plan to use the edTPA safety net and did not submit the edTPA by May 24 as advised may not have sufficient time to register for the ATS-W and find a testing center to take the exam by June 30. A memo to the field provides additional details about the timing of the ATS-W if teacher candidates would like the safety net to be an option.

**ANNUAL ARTICLE 129A AND 129B CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE**

Annual Article 129A and 129B Certificates of Compliance are due to the Department by July 1, 2018. The Certificates of Compliance are being collected in the IRS Data Exchange (IDEx). To access the IDEx, go to the [NYSED Application Business Portal](http://www.nysed.gov), click on the “Log In” button in the upper right-hand corner, and log in using your SEDDAS account user name and password. If you do not already have a SEDDAS account to access the IDEx, please reach out to your institution’s President or Director of Institutional Research as they can set up accounts for those who need them. For more information, see the [Higher Education Help Center](http://www.higheredhelpdesk.info) webpage. Questions about how to submit the certificates of compliance in the IDEx should be directed to [higheredsupport@nysed.gov](mailto:higheredsupport@nysed.gov).
WORKING WITH AAQEP

Educator preparation providers (EPPs) may now choose to pursue accreditation through CAEP or AAQEP. EPPs that would like to work with AAQEP must notify the Department prior to the expiration date of their current accreditation period using the provided notification form. The notification includes the form and a copy of the AAQP membership confirmation letter. Please note that AAQEP membership needs to be at the regular level and not the affiliate level.

EPPs must successfully complete the accreditation process with AAQEP within five years of the date of the notification to the Department to ensure that its programs are considered continuously accredited. A memo to the field provides additional details regarding accreditation with an accrediting association seeking CHEA or USDE recognition, such as AAQEP.

MULTI-SUBJECT: TEACHERS OF CHILDHOOD (GRADE 1– GRADE 6) PART TWO: MATHEMATICS PRACTICE QUIZ

In addition to the preparation materials for the Multi-Subject: Teachers of Childhood (Grade 1 – Grade 6) Content Specialty Test (MS 1-6), a new practice quiz with 20 math questions is available for candidates to prepare for Part Two: Mathematics of the MS 1-6. The practice quiz will be available until the full-length practice test is provided in the fall of 2018. When candidates complete the practice quiz, they will receive feedback on each of their answers. The feedback includes references to the MS 1-6 Framework and the NYS Learning Standards and links to engageNY learning modules for additional practice.

OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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

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