The Office of Higher Education (OHE) newsletter describes the current and upcoming activities related to higher education. To subscribe to our monthly newsletter, please sign up on the OHE newsletter subscription webpage.

BOARD OF REGENTS NOVEMBER ITEMS

Following the 45-day public comment items period, it is anticipated that the following three proposed amendments will be adopted as permanent rules at the February 2018 meeting.

Establishment of Procedures and Fees for Institutional Authorization to Offer Degree Programs. There has been a dramatic increase in the number of entities seeking to establish independent/not-for-profit institutions in New York State. However, the Department does not currently have the resources needed to conduct the quality reviews needed in the authorization process. The proposed regulation amendments create a fee schedule for the review of applications to establish independent/not-for-profit higher education institutions in New York. In addition, they include procedures for review to provide clarity and transparency in the steps and standards that must be met to be recommended for authorization by the Board of Regents.

Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP). The proposed regulation amendments update the language in the HEOP regulations to align with current practice. The eligibility requirements for opportunity programs in the private sector (independent institutions) would include new definitions of educationally and economically disadvantaged and ensure that access is targeted towards those students with the greatest need. In addition, the eligibility requirements would be standardized across public and private sector opportunity programs.

Pre-Professional Teaching Assistants Enrolled in Teacher Preparation Programs. Teacher candidates pursuing a Pre-Professional Teaching Assistant certificate must enroll in a teacher preparation program. The proposed regulation amendment ensures that these candidates could complete the student teaching experience while employed as a teaching assistant at a school district or BOCES; they would not need to leave their employment to complete this program requirement.

2018 State Budget and Legislative Priorities. In addition to the above proposed amendments, the Board of Regents Higher Education Committee reviewed potential 2018 State budget and legislative priorities. The proposed priorities related to higher education include expanding the Teacher Opportunity Corps II Grants, funding a grant program to support the reasonable accommodation needs and services for individuals with disabilities enrolled in institutions of higher education, funding Higher Education Opportunity Programs, and eliminating provisions in State law that require students to be a U.S. citizen or permanent lawful resident to receive financial assistance.

EDTPA UPDATES

- The new edTPA passing scores for candidates who receive their edTPA score after January 1, 2018 are available on the OTI website. Candidates who submit their edTPA on December 8, 2017 or later will receive their score after January 1, 2018 when the new passing scores apply.
- The edTPA safety net is available until June 30, 2018. Beginning on July 1, 2018, the ATS-W (the current edTPA Safety Net) will no longer be available and candidates will no longer be able to register for or take that exam.
- The edTPA Multiple Measures Review Process will be available in the spring to candidates who receive their scores after January 1, 2018 and do not pass the edTPA, but score within two points of the edTPA passing score and satisfy additional criteria.
Extend the edTPA Safety Net and Revise the Eligibility Criteria for the Multiple Measures Review Process. The adopted regulation amendments make the edTPA safety net (the ATS-W) available until June 30, 2018 and require teacher candidates to score within two points of the new edTPA passing score to be eligible for the Multiple Measures Review Process (MMRP). The MMRP will be available to candidates in the spring who do not pass the edTPA, but can demonstrate that they have the knowledge, skills, and abilities to become a teacher of record. Please see page 1 for additional details about the transition timeline for the new edTPA passing score and MMRP.

CAEP AGREEMENT

Partnership Agreement Between the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and NYSED. OHE and the CAEP Work Group composed of 10 higher education deans and administrators met in October to review the third round of feedback from CAEP. OHE will send the updated draft to CAEP and then send it to the Education Deans for their feedback.

OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEES

Clinical Practice Work Group. The Clinical Practice Work Group is examining the regulations related to field experiences and student teaching in teacher preparation programs. The work group is beginning to draft recommendations and to identify ways to collect feedback on the recommendations from stakeholders. The work group webpage shows the charge, meeting dates, agendas, minutes, and membership.

DASA (Dignity for All Students Act) Task Force. The DASA Task Force has been reconvened to examine the length of the DASA training for candidates. There has been some discussion of requiring educator preparation programs to offer a three-credit multicultural education course to ensure that future educators are prepared to work with a diverse student body. The task force webpage shows the charge, meeting dates, agendas, minutes, and membership.

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

Revised Multi-Subject: Secondary Teacher Mathematics Test Framework. In response to feedback from the field, a committee of P-12 educators, higher education faculty, and other NYS stakeholders redeveloped Part Two (Math) of the Multi-Subject: Secondary Teachers Grades 7-12 Content Specialty Test (MST 7-12) for candidates pursuing the Students with Disabilities Grades 7-12 Generalist certificate. The revised Part Two (Math) will be operational in fall of 2018. The revised framework is posted on the NYSTCE website so that educator preparation programs can refer to it for curriculum planning purposes and candidates who plan on taking the test in the fall of 2018 or later can use it along with the upcoming new preparation materials for the test. A memo to the field provides additional details about the revised Part Two (Math) of the MST 7-12.