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 DECEMBER ITEMS

Clinical Experience Requirements in Teacher Preparation Programs. The Department convened the Clinical Practice Work Group in June 2017 to examine the current regulations related to field experiences and student teaching in teacher preparation programs. The Department reviewed the Work Group recommendations and developed proposed regulatory amendments that are informed by, but not the same as, the recommendations. The proposed regulatory amendments were presented to the Board in the format of two proposals. The Board approved moving one of the proposals related to student teaching forward to the 60-day public comment period.

The proposal related to student teaching requirements in teacher preparation programs includes strengthening partnerships between the P-12 and higher education communities through Memoranda of Understanding or similar collaborative agreements, increasing the amount of time in the student teaching experience to at least a full semester (at least 14 weeks), allowing certain experienced teachers who are enrolled in graduate programs leading to a certificate to only complete 50 hours of student teaching, and updating the minimum qualifications for school-based and university-based teacher educators (cooperating teachers and supervisors, respectively). The proposal also includes proposed regulatory amendments to the amount of teaching experience required in the individual evaluation pathway for certification. Public comments may be submitted to regcomments@nysed.gov between December 26, 2018 and February 24, 2019.

DASA Task Force Recommendations. The Dignity for All Students (DASA) Task Force was convened in June 2017 to examine the six-clock hour DASA training requirement for certification. The majority of task force members recommended that New York State teacher, educational leader, and pupil personnel services preparation programs require a three-semester hour multicultural education course that addresses and assesses the knowledge and abilities related to the means for the prevention of and intervention in harassment, bullying (including cyberbullying), and discrimination in accordance with Education Law §14. They also recommended that institutions of higher education have the option to demonstrate that they have incorporated the content of the multicultural education course across multiple courses. The Task Force co-chairs presented the recommendations and general themes from the task force meeting discussions to the Board of Regents Joint P-12 Education/Higher Education Committee. The Department will consider the recommendations and themes and will present proposed regulatory amendments related to the DASA training requirement for certification at a future Board meeting.

SPECIAL EDUCATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PARTNERSHIP FOR EQUITY FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The Office of Special Education (OSE) is creating a coordinated and cohesive network of support focused on enhancing services and supports for students with disabilities from early childhood and school-age education to engagement in post-school opportunities. To this end, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) is seeking proposals for the Special
Education Technical Assistance Partnership for Equity Request for Proposals (RFP #19-007) for the purposes of providing NYSED directed technical assistance and professional development in the areas of cultural/racial/linguistic diversity to a variety of stakeholders. The eligible bidders are institutions of higher education located in New York State. All proposals must be received by NYSED no later than Tuesday, February 12, 2019 by 3:00 PM. Questions regarding the request must be submitted by e-mail to RFP19007@nysed.gov no later than the close of business January 10, 2019. A Questions and Answers Summary will be posted accordingly on the Competitive Procurement Contracts webpage no later than January 23, 2019. For additional information, please review the full RFP application document.

For more information regarding the OSE Educational Partnership, please see the fact sheet, question and answer document, and webinar posted on the Office of Special Education Educational Partnership webpage. Other Requests for Proposals related to the OSE Educational Partnership will be posted on the Competitive Procurement Contracts webpage. Questions about the OSE Educational Partnership may be directed to speced@nysed.gov.

NEW YORK STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS (NYSTCE) SAFETY NETS EXPIRING
CRITICAL INFORMATION FOR YOUR CANDIDATES

Redeveloped Content Specialty Tests Operational in Fall 2016. The Content Specialty Tests (CSTs) in the following areas became operational in Fall 2016: 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 net for these tests allows candidates to take either the current (redeveloped) CST or the safety net (predecessor) CST and is available until June 30, 2019.

Multi-Subject: Secondary Teachers (Grades 7-12), Part Two Test. The revised Multi-Subject: Secondary Teachers (Grades 7-12), Part Two: Mathematics (244) test for Students with Disabilities (Grades 7-12) Generalist certification became operational on November 12, 2018. The predecessor Multi-Subject: Secondary Teachers (Grades 7-12), Part Two: Mathematics (242) test and its safety net will continue to be available until June 30, 2019. The revised Part Two: Mathematics (244) test does not have a safety net. In addition, the revised Part Two: Mathematics (244) test has an on-screen scientific calculator available during the test, while the predecessor Part Two: Mathematics (242) test continues to require that candidates bring their own approved graphing calculator. Preparation materials for both assessments are available on the NYSTCE webpage and should be selected based on the test to be taken. A memo providing additional details about the revised test is available on the Office of Higher Education webpage. Please remind your teacher candidates that the predecessor Part Two: Mathematics (242) test and its safety net will not be available after June 30, 2019.

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