



# NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION EDUCATOR PREPARATION NEWSLETTER

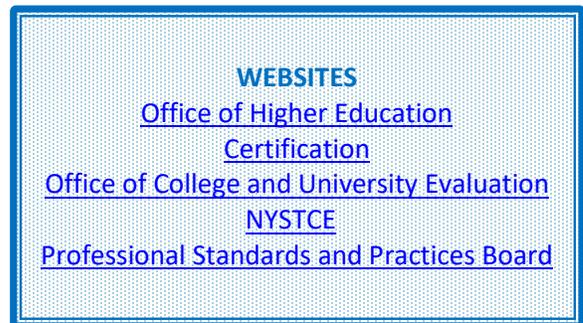
APRIL 2021

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](#).

## BOARD OF REGENTS APRIL ITEMS

**edTPA Safety Net.** The Board of Regents [adopted an emergency measure](#) to extend the edTPA safety net to candidates who complete a student teaching or similar clinical experience during the 2021-2022 academic year while enrolled in a New York State registered educator preparation program (EPP) or a comparable out-of-state teacher preparation program, and candidates who complete the teaching experience requirement for certification through the Individual Evaluation pathway during the 2021-2022 academic year.

Candidates who are eligible for the [edTPA safety net](#) may take and pass an Assessment of Teaching Skills-Written (ATS-W) (Elementary or Secondary) in lieu of passing the edTPA for teacher certification, provided that such ATS-W is taken by September 1, 2024. To be eligible for the edTPA safety net, candidates who completed a student teaching or similar clinical experience during the Spring 2020 or Summer 2020 terms, or during the 2020-2021 or 2021-2022 academic years, while enrolled in a New York State educator preparation program (EPP) must be on a list submitted by the EPP dean or dean's designee to the Office of Teaching Initiatives.



The EPP dean or dean's designee should submit the list by using an Excel spreadsheet, with separate columns containing the following data: the candidate's last name, first name, and either the last four digits of the social security number or date of birth (EPP's choice). In addition, EPPs could inform candidates who are eligible for the safety net that they need the following items in their [TEACH](#) account to have the safety net applied to their certificate application: a paid certificate application, a college recommendation for the certificate sought, and a passing ATS-W score. Once these items are on file, candidates would then apply for the safety net by sending an email to [examsafetynet@nysed.gov](mailto:examsafetynet@nysed.gov).

**Computer Science Teacher Preparation Program Content Core Requirement.** The Board of Regents [adopted a regulatory amendment](#) to revise the content core requirement in computer science teacher preparation programs. The content core requirement is now at least 12 semester hours that provides a knowledge base for assisting students in meeting the computer science standards within the recently adopted New York State K-12 Computer Science and Digital Fluency Standards. The computer science standards include the following four key concepts that are described on the [Computer Science and Digital Fluency website](#): impacts of computing, computational thinking, networks & system design, and cybersecurity.

## MY BROTHER'S KEEPER TEACHER OPPORTUNITY CORPS II GRANT PROPOSAL

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the My Brother's Keeper Teacher Opportunity Corps II (TOC II) program. The purpose of TOC II is to increase the participation rate of historically underrepresented and economically disadvantaged individuals in teaching careers. Only New York State public and independent degree-granting colleges and universities that have a teacher preparation program approved by NYSED may submit applications for this grant opportunity. Information about the RFP and grant application is available [online](#). Questions about this RFP must be sent to [TOCRFP@nysed.gov](mailto:TOCRFP@nysed.gov) no later than close of business on April 29, 2021. A questions and answers summary will be posted by May 20, 2021 at the above link and on the [My Brother's Keeper website](#). All applications must be postmarked by June 3, 2021.

## 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 2021. Higher education professionals, including both higher education educator 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](#).

- Framework Review for the new Computer Science Content Specialty Test
- Framework Review for the new School Counselor Content Specialty Test
- Framework Review for the revised Physical Education Content Specialty Test
- Item Review for the revised Business and Marketing Content Specialty Test
- Item Review for the revised Bilingual Education Assessments

## TEACHING IN REMOTE/HYBRID LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Spring has sprung and TRLE (Teaching in Remote/Hybrid Learning Environments) is in full bloom! With several free professional learning experiences (PLEs) open to any educators across the state on our [calendar](#) each week, including faculty and staff in teacher preparation programs, our partners at Level 1 Centers throughout the state are hard at work rapidly infusing professional learning to the field. You can learn more about our partnerships and goals at our [TRLE website](#).

In other exciting TRLE news, our external evaluation partners at the SUNY Stony Brook Center for Teaching and Learning in Community are putting together plans for TRLE Focus Groups to start this summer. A variety of focus groups will provide important input to our program and help us measure its effectiveness. Educators, parents, and students will have the opportunity to speak about their experience with remote/hybrid learning environments so we can learn important lessons from the pandemic. Information on signing up for focus groups will be posted to our website and sent out over our listserv in the coming weeks. Our goal is to identify best practices that can inform the Quality Remote/Hybrid Teaching Framework (QRT), an upcoming product from TRLE that will provide guidance to educators teaching in any modality.

Stay up to date with TRLE by visiting our [website](#) regularly and, while there, signing up for [our listerv](#). Keep your eyes out for some asynchronous PLEs and more on our [calendar](#).

**OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

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