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 JULY ITEMS

Residency Programs and Certificate. The Board of Regents adopted a regulatory amendment that establishes registration requirements for residency programs, which will provide teacher preparation programs with the flexibility to create their own residency models while setting consistent standards for residencies in programs across New York State. The amendment also revises the Residency certificate requirements such that candidates who are enrolled in a registered residency program would be eligible for the certificate. The applications to propose a residency program, or a residency track in a teacher preparation program, are available on the Office of College and University Evaluation website.

Graduate Program Admissions Requirements. The Department adopted a regulatory amendment to align the Commissioner’s regulations with recent changes to Education Law section 210-a regarding admission requirements for graduate-level teacher and educational leader programs. The changes removed the statutory requirement that candidates must have a minimum score on the graduate record examination or a substantially equivalent admission examination, as determined by an institution of higher education. In addition, the changes increased the percentage of candidates from any incoming class in a program who may be exempted from the admission requirements from 15% to 50%. Therefore, up to 50% of the candidates from any incoming class in a program can be exempt from the 3.0 undergraduate cumulative grade point average admission requirement based on the candidates’ demonstration of potential to positively contribute to the teaching profession or other extenuating circumstances pursuant to the Commissioner’s regulations.

NYSED GUIDANCE RELATED TO INSURANCE AND STUDENT TEACHERS

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) issued a formal opinion explaining that school districts and BOCES that partner with institutions of higher education on the placement of student teachers are required to insure student teachers pursuant to Education Law section 3023. They do not have the authority to require the institutions to insure student teachers in excess of the statute. The guidance was sent to school district attorneys, school district administrators, BOCES District Superintendents, and education Deans and Directors on July 11, 2022. Opinion No. 240 is posted online.
TEACHING IN REMOTE/HYBRID LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS (TRLE) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Teaching in Remote/Hybrid Learning Environments (TRLE) program. The purpose of TRLE is to build the capacity of teachers and educational leaders to effectively implement remote/hybrid learning for all students. Additional information about the TRLE program can be found on the TRLE website. Information about the RFP is available on the TRLE Phase 3 RFP webpage. Questions about this RFP must be sent to trle@nysed.gov no later than close of business on August 5, 2022. A questions and answers summary will be posted by August 19, 2022 at the above link. All applications must be postmarked by September 2, 2022 at 3:00 pm.

TEACHING IN REMOTE/HYBRID LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS (TRLE) FRAMEWORK RELEASED

NYSED released the Quality Remote/Hybrid Teaching: The Flexible Futures Instructional Framework (QRT) to provide educators across New York State with the tools to navigate the landscape of multimodal instruction and learning by focusing attention on six core competencies:

- Shifting to Teaching Online
- Engaging Families as Partners in Remote/Hybrid Learning
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Disabilities (SWDs) through Remote/Hybrid Learning
- Meeting the Needs of English Language Learners/Multi Language Learners (ELLS/MLLS) through Remote/Hybrid Learning
- Integrating Culturally Responsive Sustaining Education (CRSE) in Remote/Hybrid Learning Environments
- Integrating Social Emotional Learning (SEL) in Remote/Hybrid Learning Environments

The framework features promising practices, including encouraging critical thinking, providing equity and access to rigorous instruction, and personalizing teaching and learning using technology at the core of high-quality pedagogy in any environment. These practices emerged from focus group discussions, reflections, in-depth interviews, and feedback from over 10,000 K-12 stakeholders in New York State. The framework includes elements for implementation with corresponding performance indicators for each promising practice. Questions about the framework can be sent to trle@nysed.gov.

INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION CTLE SPONSOR RENEWAL PROCESS FOR EXPIRED TERMS

Continuing teacher and leader education (CTLE) sponsors were initially approved by NYSED for a five-year term from 7/1/2016-6/30/2021. New York State institutions of higher education with registered educator preparation programs that became approved CTLE sponsors, and have not applied to renew their sponsor period for another five-year term, need to apply to renew their sponsor period if they wish to continue issuing CTLE after their initial five-year term expired.

To renew their sponsor period, institutions must complete an electronic CTLE Sponsor attestation through the TEACH system. The link to the electronic attestation is listed on their TEACH home page within six months of the expiration date of the sponsor period. After being approved, TEACH will automatically backdate the beginning of the sponsor period to 7/1/2021. Information about the renewal application is available on the CTLE Sponsors webpage. Institutions can contact the Office of Teaching Initiatives with questions about the renewal process at ctlesponsor@nysed.gov.
City & State’s 2022 Education in New York summit focuses on the future of education in New York and brings together leaders in the field of education, including Commissioner Betty Rosa, Chancellor Lester Young, and Deputy Commissioner for Higher Education William Murphy. The summit will take place on August 18, 2022 from 9:00-3:35 at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York City. Information about the summit, including the panelists and agenda, is available on the Education Summit webpage.

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