



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

SEPTEMBER 2020

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 SEPTEMBER ITEMS

Emergency COVID-19 certificate. The Board of Regents [adopted an emergency measure](#) to extend the Emergency COVID-19 certificate requirement deadlines from September 1, 2020 to September 1, 2021. For example, the application deadline for this one-year emergency certificate is now September 1, 2021. The full list of requirements for the emergency certificate can be viewed on the [Emergency COVID-19 webpage](#) and [Search Certification Requirements webpage](#). Individuals who applied for the Emergency COVID-19 certificate prior to September 15, 2021 will automatically have their certificate requirement deadlines extended from September 1, 2020 to September 1, 2021.

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 2020-2021 academic year while enrolled in a New York State registered educator preparation program (EPP), candidates who complete a student teaching experience during the 2020-2021 academic year while enrolled in an acceptable out-of-state teacher preparation program, and candidates who complete the teaching experience requirement for certification through the Individual Evaluation pathway during the 2020-2021 academic year. Candidates who are eligible for the [edTPA safety net](#) may pass an Assessment of Teaching Skills-Written (ATS-W) (Elementary or Secondary) in lieu of passing the edTPA, provided that such ATS-W is taken by September 1, 2023.

To be eligible for the edTPA safety net, New York State candidates who are enrolled in a registered EPP must be on a list, submitted by the EPP dean or dean's designee to the Office of Teaching Initiatives, verifying that they completed a student teaching or similar clinical experience during the 2020-2021 academic year. The EPP dean or dean's designee should submit the list 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 should remind candidates who are eligible for the safety net, have a passing ATS-W score in their [TEACH](#) account, and have an active certificate application on file that they should apply for the safety net by sending an email to examsafetynet@nysed.gov.

ASSESSMENT VOUCHERS

The assessment fee vouchers for the Content Specialty Tests (CSTs), Educating All Students (EAS) test, and edTPA/ATS-W were emailed to the Education Deans and Directors September 22-24.

Accreditation. The Department presented a [proposed regulatory amendment](#) to provide additional time for institutions of higher education to complete the process for accreditation of their educator preparation programs from the time they [notify the Department that they are seeking accreditation](#) from a professional education accrediting association acceptable to the Department that is seeking recognition from the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or the United States Department of Education. Such institutions would now have six years, instead of five, to complete the accreditation process.

State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA). The Department [proposed technical amendments](#) to the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) regulations for several reasons, including changes to national SARA policy and federal regulations, correcting and clarifying language, and aligning the regulation with its intent.

CERTIFICATION UPDATES

Student Developmental Level Coursework Requirement. For Initial and Professional teacher certification through the Individual Evaluation pathway and the Additional Classroom Teaching Certificate (Must Hold a Valid Certificate) pathway, candidates need to complete six semester hours of pedagogical coursework that is appropriate for the student developmental level of the certificate sought (i.e., early childhood, childhood, middle childhood, or adolescent). In the past, the coursework for this student developmental level requirement needed to be exclusively at the developmental level of the certificate sought. Effective September 23, 2020, acceptable coursework for this requirement must address the developmental level of the certificate sought, and could also include the developmental level immediately above and/or below the certificate within the birth-grade 12 range, as described on the [Student Developmental Level webpage](#).

Family and Consumer Sciences, Health Education, and Technology Education Content Core Coursework Requirement. In the past, the content core coursework requirement for the Family and Consumer Sciences, Health Education, and Technology Education certificates included a specified maximum number of semester hours in certain disciplines (e.g., maximum of nine semester hours in the food and nutrition discipline for the Family and Consumer Sciences certificate). Effective September 23, 2020, the specified maximum number of semester hours in certain disciplines has been removed, no longer limiting the amount of coursework in certain disciplines for any of the three certificates. The updated content core coursework requirements for these three certificates can be found on the [Search Certificate Requirements webpage](#).

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

Safety Net for the Arts Content Specialty Tests. It is anticipated that the revised Content Specialty Tests (CSTs) in Dance, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts will become operational on November 9, 2020. The Department presented a [proposed regulatory amendment](#) to create safety nets for the CSTs in Dance, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts that allow candidates to take either the revised CST or the predecessor CST for one year after the revised CSTs in each arts subject area become operational. The test frameworks for the revised arts CSTs are available on the [NYSTCE website](#) to assist candidates and teacher preparation programs in the preparation of candidates for the revised tests.

Revised (May 2019) School Building Leader Assessment. It is anticipated that the Revised (May 2019) School Building Leader Assessment will become operational in April 2021. It is also anticipated that the assessment will have a safety net. The [assessment framework](#) is available on the [NYSTCE website](#) to assist candidates and school building leader preparation programs in the preparation of candidates for the revised assessment. After this assessment becomes operational, individuals can fulfill the [School Building Leader Assessment requirement](#) for certification by passing: 1) Part One of either the Revised (Sept. 2013) School Building Leader Assessment or Revised (May 2019) School Building Leader Assessment, and 2) Part Two of either the Revised (Sept. 2013) School Building Leader Assessment or Revised (May 2019) School Building Leader Assessment.

Content Specialty Test (CST) Practice Tests. Full-length practice tests for the [English to Speakers of Other Languages \(ESOL\) CST](#), [Literacy CST](#), and [Multi-Subject: Teachers of Early Childhood \(Birth-Grade 2\), Parts One and Two tests](#) are now available on the [NYSTCE website](#). The practice tests supplement the free sample test questions and test framework that are also available through the above links.

REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK ON TEACHER SUPPLY AND DEMAND PROJECT

NYSED's Office of Education Policy and Syracuse University-Maxwell School students are seeking teacher preparation program faculty, staff, and administrators to assist with a teacher supply and demand project. The goal of the project is to develop a tool that enables stakeholders to utilize teacher position opening data in decision-making and understand the scope of teacher surplus or shortage in regions across New York State. The project's team is inviting teacher preparation program faculty, staff, and administrators to share their vision and feedback on how this tool should be designed. To participate in the project, please send an email to lnguyenp@syr.edu.

EDTPA WEBINARS

The edTPA Support Team at the Evaluation Systems group of Pearson will be hosting a series of webinars on the edTPA throughout the 2020-2021 academic year. Some webinar series provide an overview of the edTPA, while other webinars review the [guidance for completing the edTPA in a virtual learning environment](#). The webinar details, dates/times, and registration links are available on the following [webpage](#).



OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Deputy Commissioner: William Murphy
Room 975 EBA
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12234
(518) 486-3633
www.highered.nysed.gov

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Interim Commissioner: Betty Rosa
Vice Chancellor: T. Andrew Brown
Board of Regents Higher Education Committee
Co-Chairs: Kathleen Cashin, Catherine Collins
www.nysed.gov
www.regents.nysed.gov