



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

SEPTEMBER 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 SEPTEMBER ITEMS

**Emergency COVID-19 certificate.** The Board of Regents [adopted an emergency measure](#) to extend the deadline to apply and complete the requirements for the Emergency COVID-19 certificate from September 1, 2021 to September 1, 2022. Individuals who applied for the Emergency COVID-19 certificate prior to September 14, 2021 will automatically have their certificate requirement deadlines extended to September 1, 2022. The full list of requirements for the emergency certificate can be viewed on the [Emergency COVID-19 webpage](#) and [Search Certification Requirements webpage](#).

### **Permanent School Counselor Certificate Requirements.**

The Board of Regents [adopted a regulatory amendment](#) to allow candidates who have an expired Provisional School Counselor certificate and apply for a Permanent School Counselor certificate prior to February 2, 2023 to have the flexibility to meet the Permanent School Counselor certificate requirements prior to such date, regardless of whether their Provisional certificate was in effect when all requirements were met. In addition, the amendment clarifies that candidates who hold a valid Provisional School Counselor certificate and apply for a Permanent School Counselor certificate must meet the requirements for the Permanent School Counselor certificate prior to February 2, 2023 or while under a Provisional School Counselor certificate that was in effect after such date.

### NYSATE-NYACTE CONFERENCE PANEL

Deputy Commissioner William Murphy, Laura Glass, and Leslie Templeman from the Office of Higher Education participated in a panel on topics related to teacher preparation as part of the 2021 [New York State Association of Teacher Educators \(NYSATE\)](#) - [New York Association of Colleges for Teacher Education \(NYACTE\)](#) conference on September 30. A recording of the panel session will be posted on the [conference webpage](#). This webpage also describes future conference sessions in October and November.

**School Counselor Bilingual Education Extension.** The Department [proposed a revised regulatory amendment](#) to create the Bilingual Education extension and Supplementary Bilingual Education extension for the new Initial and Professional School Counselor certificates that will begin to be issued on February 2, 2023. The proposed extension requirements would also apply to Provisional and Permanent School Counselor certificate holders who apply for these extensions on or after February 2, 2023. The proposed Supplementary Bilingual Education Extension coursework requirements are consistent with the current Supplementary Bilingual Education Extension coursework requirements for Provisional and Permanent School Counselor certificate holders. The proposed Bilingual Education Extension coursework requirements are 12 semester hours that include study in sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics in addition to the current Bilingual Extension coursework requirements in theories of bilingual education, multicultural perspectives, and methods of providing school counselor services to English language learners for Provisional and Permanent School Counselor certificate holders. The proposal also outlines the registration requirements for programs that would lead to the Bilingual Education extension for Initial and Professional School Counselor certificates.

**References to Institutional Accrediting Agencies.** Prior to February 2020, the United States Department of Education (USDE) recognized institutional accrediting agencies as either “regional” or “national.” In February 2020, USDE issued new regulations that eliminated the distinction between “regional” and “national” accrediting agencies. Therefore, the Department [proposed a regulatory amendment](#) to replace references to regionally accredited institutions of higher education throughout the Rules of the Board of Regents and the Commissioner’s regulations with the phrase: “an institution of higher education that is accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized for this purpose by the United States Department of Education.”

## CERTIFICATION TEST VOUCHERS

The annual certification test vouchers were sent via email to the education Deans and Directors on September 28-29. They received two sets of vouchers, which is different than in the past. The first set of vouchers can be used for a single test administration for any [NYSTCE test](#) up to a value of \$161 (the fee for the three-part Multi-Subject test), allowing for greater flexibility in the distribution of vouchers. This set of vouchers replaces the past separate sets of Content Specialty Test (CST) and Educating All Students (EAS) test vouchers. In addition, more NYSTCE test vouchers were distributed than in the past. The second set of vouchers can be used for either the edTPA or ATS-W, similar to last year. Candidates can use either voucher to cover the cost of the ATS-W.

## CALL TO REVIEW PROPOSALS FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER PROGRAM

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) has released a [request for proposals](#) for the Nita M. Lowey 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) program. This five-year grant allows eligible applicants to establish or expand community learning centers that provide students with out-of-school time (OST) programs providing academic enrichment opportunities and activities designed to complement the students’ regular academic program. NYSED is seeking qualified peer reviewers to review the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC applications, including institution of higher education faculty.



The most qualified reviewers will be individuals who are familiar with the operation of high quality OST programs that take place afterschool, before school, summer school, or other hours when school is not in session, or in some cases, extended learning opportunities during the regular school day that offer academic enrichment and a broad array of additional services, programs, and activities, such as youth development activities, service learning, nutrition and health education, drug and violence prevention programs, counseling programs, arts, music, physical fitness and wellness programs, technology education programs, financial literacy programs, environmental literacy programs, mathematics, science, career and technical programs, internship or apprenticeship programs. Additionally, reviewer candidates should be familiar with services for families to facilitate active and meaningful engagement in their children’s education, including opportunities for literacy and related educational development.

Reviewers will have a maximum of one month during December 2021 to review, score, provide detailed written comments, and return online scoring rubrics through an online portal to NYSED. Compensation will be \$1,000 for the review of a *minimum* of eight proposals. Potential reviewers may also elect to commit to reviewing additional proposals at the rate of \$125 per proposal. NYSED estimates it will take 2-3 hours to review an application. Reviewers may *also* opt to be considered as a third reviewer. Third reviews will occur during the month of January 2022. If you are available and interested in participating in this review process, please submit an online application through [this Survey Monkey link](#). **Reviewer applications are due by October 8, 2021.**

## **IMPARTIAL HEARING OFFICER SYSTEM FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION DUE PROCESS IN NEW YORK CITY REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) is [soliciting information](#) regarding the creation of a new Impartial Hearing Officer (IHO) system for special education due process hearings in New York City. This system must address the resolution of 14,000 or more due process complaint filings annually in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and New York State Education Law and regulations. Institutions of higher education that may have interest or expertise in the creation of this new IHO system may respond to this request for information (RFI). Questions may be submitted to [NYCIHOSYSTEM@nysed.gov](mailto:NYCIHOSYSTEM@nysed.gov) by September 30, 2021, and a Question and Answer Summary will be posted no later than October 19, 2021. **Responses to the RFI are due by November 5, 2021.**

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