



Sustaining Educator Pipeline NewsFLASH



The Office of Higher Education (OHE) Newsflash delivers timely updates related to NYSED's [Sustaining Educator Pipeline](#). Focused on strengthening educator preparation, recruitment, development, and retention, these updates highlight key policies, programs, and strategies aimed at building a high-quality, diverse educator workforce. Past newsletters, newsflashes, and a subscription link are available online on the [OHE website](#).



Certification Exam Waiver Process Now Available

At its February 2025 meeting, the Board of Regents adopted amendments to [Section 80-1.5](#) of the Commissioner's regulations, establishing a waiver process for the content knowledge certification examination requirement. This applies to candidates seeking a certificate in the classroom teaching service, educational leadership service, school counseling, or an applicable extension under Section 80-4.3.

Candidates who score within 0.5 standard error of measurement (SEM) of the passing score on a required Content Specialty Test (CST) may apply for a waiver, provided they fulfill one of the following criteria:

Option 1: Achieve a satisfactory level of performance on a NYSTCE portfolio assessment to demonstrate their depth of sub-

ject matter knowledge on the NYSTCE CST for which they did not pass, when available (*in development*); or

Option 2: Achieve at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average or its equivalent in the program leading to a baccalaureate, or a graduate degree culminating in at least 30 semester hours, at an institution of higher education that is accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized for this purpose by the United States Department of Education or a higher education institution that the Commissioner deems substantially equivalent.

The Department is now accepting waiver applications under **Option 2**, while development continues on the NYSTCE portfolio assessments for **Option 1**.

A list of eligible, current NYSTCE exams, their passing scores, and the 0.5 SEM eligibility threshold is available on the following pages. Candidates may use this list to determine their

WEBSITES

- [Office of Higher Education](#)
- [Certification](#)
- [Program Registration](#)
- [Teacher and Leader Development](#)
- [Educator Quality and Professional Development](#)

NYSTCE

- [Professional Standards and Practices Board](#)

eligibility. Please note that the **Educating All Students NYSTCE** is not a CST and is therefore not eligible for the waiver.

Next Steps for Eligible Candidates:

Eligible candidates should complete the Request for [NYSTCE Exam Score Waiver Form](#) provided by the Office of Teaching Initiatives to initiate the Department's review process.

For more details, visit [the NYSTCE website](#).

NYSTCE	Test Code	Passing	.5 SEM Score
Communication and Quantitative Skills			
CQST	080	220	211
Assessment of Teaching Assistant Skills			
ATAS	095	220	215
School Leadership Assessments			
School District Leader Part One	103	220	211
School District Leader Part Two	104	220	212
School District Business Leader Part One	105	520	511
School District Business Leader Part Two	106	520	508
Revised (May 2019) School Building Leader Part One	109	520	512
Revised (May 2019) School Building Leader Part Two	110	520	509
Content Specialty Tests			
Agriculture	068	520	515
ASL	130	520	511
Biology	160	520	514
Blind & Visually Impaired	117	520	511
Business and Marketing	168	520	514
Cantonese	120	520	512
Chemistry	161	520	514
Dance	164	520	514
Deaf and Hard of Hearing	063	520	511
Earth Science	162	520	514
Educational Technology Specialist	071	520	513
English Lang. Arts	003	520	513
ESOL	116	520	515
Family and Consumer Sciences	072	520	511
French	121	520	509
German	122	520	512
Gifted Education	064	520	513
Greek	123	520	511
Health Education	073	520	509
Hebrew	124	520	510
Italian	125	520	511
Japanese	126	520	511
Latin	119	520	513
Library Media Specialist	074	520	513
Literacy	065	520	513
Mandarin	127	520	512
Mathematics	004	520	512
Multi-Subject (1-6): Math	222	520	514

NYSTCE	Test Code	Passing	.5 SEM Score
Multi-Subject (1-6):Literacy & English Lang	221	520	512
Multi-Subject (5-9): Literacy & English Lang	231	520	511
Multi-Subject (5-9): Math	232	520	514
Multi-Subject (7-12): Literacy & English Lang	241	520	511
Multi-Subject (7-12): Math	244	520	515
Multi-Subject (B-2): Literacy & English Lang	211	520	512
Multi-Subject (B-2): Math	246	520	514
Multi-Subject Part 3: Arts & Sciences	245	520	515
Music	165	520	515
Physical Education	192	520	TBD
Physics	163	520	514
Russian	128	520	511
School Counselor	193	520	512
Social Studies	115	520	515
Spanish	129	520	511
Students w/ Disabilities	060	520	512
Technology Education	118	520	515
Theater	166	520	514
Visual Arts	167	520	515
Safety Nets			
School Building Leader Part One	107	520	511
School Building Leader Part Two	108	520	508
Safety Net Ed Tech Specialist	971	220	213
Bilingual Education Assessments (BEAs)			
BEA—Albanian	045	220	214
BEA—Arabic	174	520	507
BEA—Bengali	185	520	507
BEA—Cantonese	171	520	507
BEA—Farsi	038	220	214
BEA—Finnish	085	220	214
BEA—French	175	520	507
BEA—German	056	220	214
BEA—Greek	042	220	214
BEA—Guyanese English Creole	086	220	214
BEA—Haitian Creole	170	520	507
BEA—Hebrew	180	520	507
BEA—Hindi	035	220	214
BEA—Igbo	059	220	214
BEA—Italian	178	520	507
BEA—Japanese	044	220	214
BEA—Korean	176	520	507

NYSTCE

	Test Code	Passing	.5 SEM Score
BEA—Malayalam	053	220	214
BEA—Mandarin	172	520	507
BEA—Polish	179	520	507
BEA—Portuguese	033	220	214
BEA—Punjabi	046	220	214
BEA—Romanian	057	220	214
BEA—Russian	173	520	507
BEA—Serbo-Croatian	058	220	214
BEA—Spanish	169	520	507
BEA—Swedish	082	220	214
BEA—Tagalog	051	220	214
BEA—Tamil	081	220	214
BEA—Turkish	083	220	214
BEA—Ukrainian	084	220	214
BEA—Urdu	177	520	507
BEA—Vietnamese	049	220	214
BEA—Yiddish	184	520	507



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Sustaining Educator Pipeline Key



Future Educators: Efforts to engage the next generation of teachers and leaders.



Preparation and Certification: Collaboration or formal partnerships between LEAs, IHEs, or other eligible partners.



Recruitment, Induction, and Mentoring: Comprehensive activities to attract and support effective educators.



Supporting Educators: Differentiated and ongoing support, mentoring, induction, and evaluation for educators to advance their professional practice and improve their ability to produce positive student outcomes.



Leadership: Opportunities for both vertical and lateral growth within the profession