



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

JULY 2024

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

Proposed Amendment of Sections 80-2.9, 80-4.3, and 80-5.18 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to Flexibilities for the Supplementary Certificate and Supplementary Bilingual Education Extension Requirements. In response to the need for educators to support the influx of recently arrived and asylum-seeking students in schools and the unanticipated increase in the enrollment of speakers of languages other than English, the Board of Regents, at its January 2024 meeting, adopted amendments to the Supplementary certificate requirements to provide flexibility for certified teachers who apply for the Supplementary English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) certificate, and for teachers who hold a valid Initial, Professional, or Permanent ESOL certificate and apply for a Supplementary certificate in another area through August 31, 2024. This flexibility allows candidates to complete either the examination requirement **or** the enrollment and education requirements. The Department proposes to [extend this flexibility](#) through August 31, 2025.

The Board of Regents also amended the Supplementary Bilingual Education extension requirements to create flexibility for certified teachers and certified pupil personnel services professionals who apply for such extension through August 31, 2024. This flexibility allows candidates to pass the Bilingual Education Assessment (BEA), if available, in lieu of matriculating in a registered program leading to a Bilingual Education extension and completing coursework. The Department similarly proposes to extend this flexibility through August 31, 2025.

Additionally, the amendment permits a single renewal of the Supplementary Bilingual Education extension if a candidate obtains their first extension through this flexibility. This is designed to accommodate candidates who may decide to matriculate in a registered Bilingual Education extension program at a later date. At its July meeting, the Board of Regents approved this proposed emergency rule. Public comments on the proposal can be submitted to oheregcomments@nysed.gov through September 30, 2024.

Proposed Amendment of Section 80-5.27 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to Extending the Validity Period of Emergency COVID-19 Certificates. At its May 2020 meeting, in response to the limited availability of testing sites, educator shortages, and other disruptions occasioned by the COVID-19 crisis, the Board of Regents voted to add section 80-5.27 to the Commissioner's regulations as an emergency rule, creating an Emergency COVID-19 certificate for candidates seeking certain certificates, extensions, and annotations. The Board adopted revisions to this emergency rule such as extending the validity period of the Emergency COVID-19 certificate from one year to two years and extending the deadline to apply and complete the requirements for the certificate on or before September 1, 2022.

WEBSITES

[Office of Higher Education](#)

[Certification](#)

[Office of College and University Evaluation](#)

[Office of Teacher and Leader Development](#)

[NYSTCE](#)

[Professional Standards and Practices Board](#)

Emergency COVID-19 certificates are set to expire during the 2024-25 school year. The Department has heard from the field that educators who hold an Emergency COVID-19 certificate are employed in public school districts, and the expiration of these certificates will create a hardship for these educators and exacerbate staffing challenges. The Department proposes to extend the validity period of any currently valid Emergency COVID-19 certificates set to expire during the 2024-25 school year by changing the expiration date of the certificates to August 31, 2025.

At its July meeting, the Board of Regents approved this proposed emergency rule. Public comments on the proposal can be submitted to oheregcomments@nysed.gov through September 30, 2024.

DO YOU KNOW?

The [program regulation adopted in 2022](#) requiring candidates seeking their first initial teaching certificate to complete a teacher performance assessment (TPA) reframes the assessment of preservice teaching performance in New York State. The evaluation of preservice teaching has shifted from the completion of the edTPA as a certification requirement to a locally designed assessment “integrated into the candidate’s student teaching, practicum, and other clinical experience and designed to promote a candidate’s professional development.” The TPA now serves as the first critical benchmark along a [continuum of practice designed to strengthen and sustain teaching](#) in New York State.

Unlike the edTPA, a summative evaluation signaling the make it or break it end of a candidate’s preparation, the TPA is a formative assessment that functions as both a bridge and a portal to a candidate’s first year of employment as a teacher. The TPA marks the end of a candidate’s program while simultaneously capturing and forecasting the promise of the growing professional. A well designed TPA points to the next steps in the candidate’s professional growth for the mentors assigned to support the induction of that candidate in their first years of practice.

Proposed Amendment of Section 80-5.3 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to Extending Flexibility for Incidental Teaching. At its December 2020, October 2021, September 2022, and September 2023 meetings, the Board of Regents permanently adopted regulatory amendments to increase the amount of incidental teaching permitted in schools from up to five classroom hours a week to up to 10 classroom hours a week in each of these school years. This amendment helped school districts address staffing challenges related to and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Incidental teaching allows certified teachers to teach a subject not covered by their certificate when the school district determines that no certified or qualified teachers are available. The school district documents recruitment efforts prior to making such a determination.

The Department now proposes to extend the flexibility for incidental teaching again through the 2024-2025 school year. This proposal will enable school districts to address ongoing staffing challenges by providing them with flexibility in making teaching assignments.

At its July meeting, the Board of Regents approved this proposed emergency rule. Public comments on the proposal can be submitted to oheregcomments@nysed.gov through September 30, 2024.

TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAM (TRP) ROUND 2 REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)

The New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL) Teacher Residency Program (TRP) has issued a [Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#) to partially or fully fund master’s degrees for teacher residents who are enrolled in a residency program registered with the New York State Education Department (NYSED). Residents must be graduate-level

PK-12 teacher candidates who will complete a residency within a New York State (NYS) public school district, private school, charter school, or Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) program. Applications will be accepted until August 30, 2024.

Note: Teacher residency programs do not include funding for master’s degrees for certified teachers who currently work in a NYS public school district, private school, charter school, or BOCES program and hold an Initial, Professional, or Permanent certificate.

NEW TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS

On Friday, June 28, 2024, Governor Kathy Hochul signed Chapter 143 of the Laws of 2024, which amends Education Law §3012-d and [establishes Education Law §3012-e](#). Education Law §3012-e provides school districts and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) with a framework for developing new locally designed systems consistent with [NYSED’s teaching and educational leadership standards](#) and our shared goals of supporting teacher and leader development and advancing excellence in teaching and learning in our schools. School districts and BOCES will transition to new teacher and principal evaluation systems beginning in the 2024-25 school year and continuing through the 2031-32 school year. *Questions should be directed to the Office of Educator Quality and Professional Development by email at EducatorEval@nysed.gov.*

VIRTUAL TRAINING: MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORTS – INTEGRATED VIRTUAL LEARNING SUMMIT

The University at Albany, in collaboration with the New York State Education Department and Cornell University, will be hosting its second annual Multi-Tiered System of Supports-Integrated (MTSS-I) Virtual Learning Summit. This year’s theme is “The Future is Now: Pioneering Educational Practices” and features four distinguished national experts: Dr. Celeste Malone, Dr. George Batsche, Dr. Michelle Storie, and Dr. Kimberly St. Martin.

This virtual training is open to all and will include:

- Content experts discussing their specific areas of expertise in relation to a multi-tiered system of supports.
- Presentations of evidence-based content and best practices across a wide range of topics including the Science of Reading, Equity, and Family Engagement.
- Structured discussions to exchange ideas and highlight the MTSS-I Center’s hands-on work within communities.

The training will occur from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm on August 14 & 15, 2024. Pre-registration is required. To learn more about this opportunity, please visit the [Office of Special Education’s Educational Partnership MTSS-I Website](#) or [register here](#). *Questions may be directed to MTSSI_Center@albany.edu.*

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