



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

JUNE 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 JUNE ITEMS

Graduation Measures Blue Ribbon Commission. A four-member team from the Offices of P-12 Instructional Support and P-12 Operational Support, Deputy Commissioners Angelique Johnson-Dingle and Jason Harmon; Assistant Commissioners Santosha Oliver and Zachary Warner; and Director of Curriculum Services Shannon Logan updated the Board of Regents on [next steps in implementing the Blue Ribbon Commission on Graduation's recommendations](#). The presentation included a reminder that work would continue on the Commission's recommendation that [all NYS teacher preparation programs provide instruction in culturally responsive-sustaining education \(CR-SE\) practices and pedagogy](#).

The Path Forward Literacy Instruction Initiative in New York State. Laura Glass, Chief of Staff in the Office of Education Policy, and guests Ruth Genn, Executive Director, Literacy Academy Collective; April Poprilo, District Superintendent, Western Suffolk BOCES; and Ashleigh Thompson, Dean of Education, CUNY, presented an overview of the Hunt Institute's [The Path Forward initiative in New York State](#), where the goal of this work is to transform literacy instruction in the state by embedding the science of reading into educator preparation programs and certification.

WEBSITES
[Office of Higher Education Certification](#)
[Office of College and University Evaluation](#)
[Office of Teacher and Leader Development](#)
[NYSTCE](#)
[Professional Standards and Practices Board](#)

TEACHNY SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

This summer, TEACH New York (TeachNY) is giving away over \$18,000 in scholarships to aspiring educators across the state. To be eligible, aspiring educators must first sign up for a free TeachNY account and submit their EPP application. If you are an EPP who uses TEACHNY, placing a link to TeachNY's scholarships on your website is a terrific way to connect potential applicants to this financial aid opportunity. Please use the language below to share this exciting opportunity:

Don't leave money on the table! TeachNY offers several \$1,000 throughout the year. Here are your next steps to benefit from TeachNY's support:

1. Create a [FREE TeachNY](#) account here. Be sure to do this step first to be eligible!
2. Apply to a New York teacher preparation program.
3. [Submit your application](#) for a \$1,000 scholarship to help cover your tuition on your path to the classroom.

If you have any questions, please reach out to: TeachNY@nysed.gov.

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (NYSED) K-3 LITERACY CURRICULUM REVIEW GUIDE

On June 5, 2024, NYSED hosted a webinar on releasing the new [K-3 Literacy Curriculum Review Guide](#). The guide is designed for optional use by districts and schools in selecting high-quality K-3 literacy curricula and curricular materials designed to meet the needs of all students, including English language learners and students with disabilities. The guide may be useful in connecting pedagogy to practice in programs leading to initial certification in Early Childhood Education (Birth to Grade 2), Childhood Education (Grades 1 - 6), Students with Disabilities (All Grades), and Literacy (All Grades). *Questions regarding the K-3 Literacy Curriculum Review Guide may be directed to the Office of Standards and Instruction at P12StandardsInstruction@nysed.gov.*

DO YOU KNOW?

Composition is one of the critical elements of creating a portrait. When creating a portrait of a certified teacher in New York State, initial teacher knowledge, skills, and dispositions are the foundational compositional elements of that first likeness. The Commissioner's Regulations and well-researched policy endorsed by the Board of Regents are the raw materials the Department relies on to create the critical first sketch of every newly certified teacher in New York State.

Using the [Teacher Performance Assessment \(TPA\)](#) as the initial portrait canvas, newly certified teachers will have demonstrated pedagogical core knowledge codified [in Section 52.21 of the Commissioner's Regulations](#), content knowledge in the subject area of the certificate sought as outlined in [New York State Learning Standards](#), and teaching skills grounded in [The New York State Teaching Standards](#) and the [Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education Framework](#). Including the competencies for [Social Emotional Learning and Adult Practice](#) adds dimension to the dispositions important to effective teaching.

The picture of the teacher that emerges when the candidate completes the TPA is different from the finished gallery-worthy portrait. It is the first iteration in an ongoing study of a teaching professional, and the TPA is the beginning of a continuum of professional practice.

The experiences a teacher has in their first years of teaching, following the completion of the TPA, can help to add depth, shape, and vibrant color to the portrait. A planned and well-executed [induction and mentoring program](#) during that time, followed by regular professional learning, is critical to the evolving composition of a teacher's professional journey, always refining and enhancing the portrait.

FOSTERING POSITIVE BEHAVIOR IN PREKINDERGARTEN CLASSROOMS

The Office of Early Learning has developed a dedicated webpage entitled [Positive Behavior Guidance](#) that includes a series of resources for educators and families to help foster positive interactions in the prekindergarten environment. Resources include information, guidance, strategies, and frequently asked questions to build systems and practices that promote positive behavior and social-emotional learning within the prekindergarten classroom. Topics addressed include:

- Getting Started: Six Tips for Fostering Positive Behaviors
- Building Relationships and Environments to Foster Positive Behavior in Prekindergarten, A Resource & Reflection Tool
- Teacher Tip Sheet
- Family Tip Sheet

- Cozy Corner Tip Sheet

Candidates in programs leading to certification in Early Childhood Education (Birth to Grade 2) and Students with Disabilities (All Grades) may find these resources beneficial to their teaching practice.

Questions may be addressed to the Office of Early Learning at oel@nysed.gov.

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