



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

NOVEMBER 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 NOVEMBER ITEMS

**Certification.** The Department presented an overview of certification and [plans for a comprehensive review of certification](#) in response to teacher shortages across New York State. Based on feedback from the field, there are many certification regulations, policies, and procedures under review. Next steps in the review include: making certification changes driven by Board of Regents policy goals; investing in a supportive, responsive, and efficient certification process for applicants; continuing stakeholder engagement; reducing certification complexity to achieve policy goals while maintaining rigorous standards; and proposing regulatory changes to the Board of Regents at future meetings, as necessary.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS** substantially equivalent admission candidates who are not certified teachers or school administrators that already hold a graduate degree and 2) a minimum 3 undergraduate cumulative grade point average. In addition, each program could exempt no more than 1% of the candidates from any incoming class from these requirements based on the candidates' demonstration of potential to positively contribute to the teaching profession or other extenuating circumstances pursuant to the Commissioner's regulations.

Governor Hochul signed bills that changed these admission requirements effective November 1, 2021.

**Bill 1** removes the requirement that candidates must have a minimum score on the graduate record examination or a substantially equivalent admission examination. **The second bill** increases the percentage of candidates from any incoming class in a program who can be exempted from the admission requirements from 1% to 5%. Therefore, up to 5% of the candidates from any incoming class in a program can be exempt from the 3 undergraduate cumulative grade point average admission requirement in the future based on the candidates' demonstration of potential to positively contribute to the teaching profession or other extenuating circumstances pursuant to the Commissioner's regulations.

## CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE-SUSTAINING EDUCATION FRAMEWORK MATERIALS

To support districts and schools in raising awareness of the [Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education \(CR-S\) Framework](#), the New York State Education Department (NYSED) has developed a series of materials.

**GRADUATION MEASURES REGIONAL MEETINGS**

The Board of Regents and New York State Education  
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