



# NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

MAY 2019

The Office of Higher Education (OHE) newsletter describes the current and upcoming activities related to higher education. This newsletter, past newsletters, and a subscription link are available online on the [OHE website](#).

## NEW YORK STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS (NYSTCE) SAFETY NETS EXPIRING CRITICAL INFORMATION FOR YOUR CANDIDATES

The safety nets for the following Content Specialty Tests (CSTs) are available until June 30, 2019: American Sign Language, Cantonese, English as a Second Language (ESOL), French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Mandarin, Russian, Social Studies, and Spanish. The safety nets for these tests allows candidates to take either the [current \(revised\) CST or the safety net \(predecessor\) CST](#).

For Students with Disabilities (Grades 7-12) Generalist certification, the predecessor [Multi-Subject: Secondary Teachers \(Grades 7-12\), Part Two: Mathematics \(242\) test](#) and its [safety net](#) is available until June 30, 2019. The redeveloped [Multi-Subject: Secondary Teachers \(Grades 7-12\), Part Two: Mathematics \(244\) test](#) **does not** have a safety net. The math tutorial that is part of the safety net will not be offered after December 31, 2019.

## BOARD OF REGENTS MAY ITEMS

**Definition of “University” in New York State.** Section 50.1(l) of the Commissioner’s Regulations defines “university” as follows: “*University* means a higher educational institution offering a range of registered undergraduate and graduate curricula in the liberal arts and sciences, degrees in two or more professional fields, and doctoral programs in at least three academic fields.” Some New York State colleges have requested a review of this regulation and a clear definition of doctoral programs and academic fields. The Department informed the Board of Regents about the [need for guidance](#) on the definition of “university”, particularly on which doctoral programs, if any, should be included in the definition. The Department [plans to conduct a survey](#) of all institutions of higher education in the fall of 2019 to gauge interest in and collect suggestions for amending the definition of “university”.

**Transitional D program requirements.** The Department [proposed regulatory amendments](#) that would require Transitional D programs that lead to School District Leader certification to inform candidates in writing that they must apply for a Transitional D certificate and to notify the Office of Teaching Initiatives that a candidate is eligible for the Transitional D certificate, including providing the program’s description of how the candidate met each criterion used by the program to determine that the applicant had exceptional qualifications for becoming a school district leader. The Proposed regulatory amendments also remove the requirement that Transitional D programs are for candidates who do not have three years of classroom teaching service, pupil personnel service, and/or educational leadership service.

## SCHOOL BUILDING LEADER ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

In November 2018, a committee comprised of educators from across New York State reviewed the [School Building Leader \(SBL\) assessment framework](#) to ensure that it is aligned with the [Professional Standards for Educational Leaders \(PSELs\)](#). An [analysis of the key shifts](#) in transitioning from the ISLLC Standards to the PSELs is available from the Center on Great Teachers and Leaders. The Revised (May 2019) School Building Leader assessment draft framework is now posted on the [NYSTCE website](#). It is anticipated that the final framework will be posted in the beginning of 2020 and the revised assessment will become operational in fall of 2020.

**Safety Nets for the Science Content Specialty Tests.** It is anticipated that the revised Content Specialty Tests (CSTs) in Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, and Physics will become operational in fall of 2019. The Department presented a [proposed regulatory amendment](#) to create safety nets for the CSTs in Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science and Physics so that candidates may take either the applicable revised CST or the predecessor CST for one year after the applicable revised CSTs in each science subject area becomes operational. The test frameworks for the revised science CSTs are available on the [NYSTCE website](#) to assist candidates and teacher preparation programs in the preparation of candidates for the revised tests.

#### **WEBSITES**

[Office of Higher Education  
Certification](#)

[Office of College and University Evaluation](#)

[NYSED](#)

[Board of Regents](#)

[NYSTCE](#)

[Professional Standards and Practices Board](#)

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