






TO: Higher Education Committee

FROM: John D'Agati 

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendments to Sections 52.21 and 80-5.22 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Transitional G and Pre-Professional Certificates

DATE: November 2, 2017

AUTHORIZATION(S):  

SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

Should the Board of Regents adopt proposed amendments to §52.21 and 80-5.22 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education relating to the Transitional G and Pre-Professional certificates?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Review of Policy.

Proposed Handling

The proposed amendments are submitted to the Higher Education Committee for discussion at its November 2017 Board of Regents meeting (Attachment A is a copy of the proposed amendment).

Procedural History

A Notice of Proposed Rule Making will be published in the State Register on November 29, 2017. Supporting materials for the proposed amendment are available upon request from the Secretary to the Board of Regents.

Background Information

Transitional G Teaching Certificate:

A Transitional G teaching certificate is a certificate issued to career changers and others holding a graduate or higher degree in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) who have had at least two years of acceptable postsecondary teaching experience and who possess an employment and support commitment from a school district. Currently, this certificate is only applicable in the science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) fields.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment to Section 80-5.22 eliminates the requirement that a candidate pursuing a Transitional G certificate have a degree and acceptable postsecondary teaching experience only in a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics field and expands the option of pursuing a Transitional G certificate to postsecondary faculty with degrees and acceptable postsecondary teaching experience in any area for which there is a certificate title. It is anticipated that this proposed amendment will attract qualified professionals with acceptable postsecondary teaching experience in all certificate areas for which there is a need for a temporary certificate while they complete requirements for an initial certificate. The proposed amendment also clarifies that the two years of acceptable postsecondary teaching experience required to obtain a Transitional G certificate must have been completed within 10 years immediately preceding the application for the Transitional G certificate.

Pre-Professional Teaching Assistant Certificate

A pre-professional teaching assistant certificate is issued to an individual enrolled in a New York State teacher education program, authorizing the certificate holder to provide direct instructional services to students under the general supervision of a New York State certified teacher. This certificate is valid for five years and may lead to an initial teaching certificate or a renewal of the pre-professional teaching assistant certificate. Currently, if a pre-professional teaching assistant certificate holder completes the requirements for the initial certificate, he/she must complete a student teaching or practica experience as a part of a registered teacher preparation program, which is required by Section 52.21 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

The proposed amendment to Section 52.21 enables those who hold a pre-professional teaching assistant certificate to complete the student teaching or practica experience required in Section 52.21 of the Commissioner's Regulations while employed under the pre-professional teaching assistant certificate, provided that the institution ensures that the candidate receives the same and/or similar student teaching experience as prescribed in Section 52.21 of the Commissioner's Regulations at the location of the candidate's employment. This change is to accommodate candidates who are employed under a pre-professional teaching assistant certificate in a school district or BOCES while

completing the student teaching component of their educator preparation program. Through this proposed change, the Department encourages cooperation between institutions of higher education and school districts/BOCES to ensure candidates receive their full student teaching experience while remaining employed under the pre-professional teaching assistant certificate.

Related Regents Items

Not Applicable.

Recommendation

Not Applicable.

Timetable for Implementation

Following the 45-day public comment period required under the State Administrative Procedure Act, it is anticipated that the proposed amendment will be presented to the Board of Regents for adoption at its February 2018 meeting. If adopted at the February 2018 meeting, the proposed amendment will become effective on February 28, 2018.

AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to Education Law sections 207, 205, 3001, 3004 and 3006 of the Education Law.

1. Section 80-5.22 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education shall be amended as follows:

§80-5.22 Transitional G certificate for career changers and others holding a graduate or higher degree [in science, technology, engineering or mathematics] in any area for which there is a certificate title and with at least two years of acceptable post-secondary teaching experience in any area for which there is a certificate title or in a closely related subject area acceptable to the department.

(a) General requirements.

(1) . . .

(2) Limitations. The transitional G shall authorize a candidate to teach only in a school district for which a commitment for employment has been made. The candidate shall meet the requirements in each of the following paragraphs.

(i) Education. A candidate shall hold a graduate degree in the area of a certificate title [in science, technology, engineering or mathematics] from a regionally or nationally accredited institution of higher education, a higher education institution that the commissioner deems substantially equivalent, or from an institution authorized by the Board of Regents to confer degrees. A candidate shall complete study in the means for identifying and reporting suspected child abuse and maltreatment, which shall include at least two clock hours of coursework or training in the identification and reporting of

suspected child abuse or maltreatment in accordance with the requirements of section 3004 of the Education Law. In addition, the candidate shall complete at least two clock hours of coursework or training in school violence prevention and intervention, as required by section 3004 of the Education Law, which is provided by a provider approved or deemed approved by the department pursuant to Subpart 57-2 of this Title. A candidate who applies for the certificate on or after December 31, 2013, shall also complete at least six clock hours, of which at least three hours must be conducted through face-to-face instruction, of coursework or training in harassment, bullying and discrimination prevention and intervention, as required by section 14 of the Education Law.

(ii) Post-secondary teaching experience. The candidate shall submit evidence of at least two years of satisfactory teaching experience at the post-secondary level in the certificate area to be taught or in a closely related subject area acceptable to the department; provided, however, that such experience must have been completed within 10 years immediately preceding the application for a Transitional G certificate.

(iii) . . .

2. Item (iii) of subclause (2) of clause (c) of subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of section 52.21 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education shall be amended to read as follows:

(iii) Upon written application by the institution, the commissioner may grant a time-limited approval for an alternate model for field experiences and college-supervised student teaching or practica, provided that the institution demonstrates the success of such model or has an adequate plan for demonstrating that the model will be successful. In the case of alternate models that include college-supervised student

teaching conducted when a candidate is employed by a school district or BOCES under a pre-professional teaching assistant certificate pursuant to Part 80 of this Title, the institution and employing school district or BOCES will provide candidate(s) holding such certificate with the same and/or similar student teaching experience as required under this section while employed at the school district or BOCES. No approval from the commissioner is required for such alternate models nor shall they be time limited.