






TO: Higher Education Committee

FROM: John D'Agati 

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment to Section 80-3.4 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Mentoring Requirement for Professional Certification

DATE: December 5, 2017

AUTHORIZATION(S):  

SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

Should the Board of Regents adopt a proposed amendment to §80-3.4 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education relating to the mentoring requirement for professional certification?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Review of Policy.

Proposed Handling

The proposed amendment is submitted to the Higher Education Committee for discussion at its December 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 December 27, 2017. Supporting materials for the proposed amendment are available upon request from the Secretary to the Board of Regents.

Background Information

Section 80-3.4 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education outlines the requirements for candidates seeking a professional certificate in the classroom teaching service. One of these requirements is that candidates must complete three years of teaching experience, and as a part of that experience, participate in a mentored program during the first year of employment. Mentoring programs provide support for new teachers in order to ease the transition from teacher preparation to practice. The goals of mentoring programs include increasing the retention and skills of new teachers.

Proposed Amendment

Requiring teachers to complete a mentoring program during their first year of teaching is critical for their professional development. The current regulation requires mentoring to take place during the first year of employment. However, some teachers are hired late in the academic year, giving them only until the end of the academic year to engage in a mentoring program. The proposed amendment would change the mentoring requirement from the first year of employment to the first 180 school days of employment, which is equivalent to an academic year. This change would enable new teachers who are hired late in the academic year to have the same amount of time to participate in a mentoring program as new teachers who begin teaching on the first day of the academic year. The proposed amendment is also consistent with one of the policy recommendations in the draft New York State ESSA plan.

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 March 2018 meeting. If adopted at the March 2018 meeting, the proposed amendment will become effective on March 28, 2018.

AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to Education Law sections 101, 207, 210, 215, 305, 3001, 3004 and 3009.

Section 80-3.4 of the Regulations of the Commissioner shall be amended to read as follows:

(a) . . .

(b) Requirements for professional certificates in all titles in classroom teaching service, except in a specific career and technical subject within the field of agriculture, business and marketing, family and consumer sciences, health, a technical area, or a trade (grades 7 through 12).

The candidate shall meet the requirements in each of the following paragraphs:

(1) . . .

(2) Teaching experience. The candidate shall successfully complete three school years of teaching experience, or its equivalent. The candidate who completes this requirement in total or part through teaching in New York public schools shall be required to participate in a mentored program in the first [year] 180 school days of employment, as prescribed in Part 100 of this Title, unless the candidate has successfully completed two years of teaching experience prior to such teaching in the public schools.

(3) . . .

(c) Requirements for professional certificates in a specific career and technical subject (grades 7 through 12). The candidate shall meet the requirements for the professional certificate by successfully completing the requirements in paragraphs (1) through (8) of this subdivision, as applicable.

(1) Option A. The requirements of this paragraph are applicable to candidates who seek a professional certificate and who hold an associate degree or its equivalent. The candidate shall meet the requirements for the professional certificate in each of the following subparagraphs:

(i) . . .

(ii) Teaching experience. The candidate shall successfully complete three school years of teaching experience, or its equivalent. The candidate who completes this requirement in total or part through teaching in New York public schools shall be required to participate in a mentored program in the first [year] 180 school days of employment, as prescribed in Part 100 of this Title, unless the candidate has successfully completed two years of teaching experience prior to such teaching in the public schools.

(iii) . . .

(2) Option B. The requirements of this paragraph are applicable to candidates who seek a professional certificate and do not possess an associate degree or its equivalent. This option shall not be available in specific family and consumer science, business and marketing, and technical subject titles. The candidate shall meet the requirements in each of the following subparagraphs:

(i) . . .

(ii) Teaching experience. The candidate shall successfully complete three school years of teaching experience, or its equivalent. The candidate who completes this requirement in total or part through teaching in New York public schools shall be required to participate in a mentored program in the first [year] 180 school days of employment, as prescribed in Part 100 of this Title, unless the candidate has

successfully completed two years of teaching experience prior to such teaching in the public schools.

(iii) . . .

(3) Option C. The requirements of this paragraph are applicable to candidates who seek a professional certificate and who hold an associate degree or its equivalent in the career and technical field in which a certificate is sought and who have had 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 acceptable to the department. The candidate shall meet the requirements in each of the following subparagraphs:

(i) . . .

(ii) Teaching experience. The candidate shall successfully complete three school years of teaching experience, or its equivalent. The candidate who completes this requirement in total or part through teaching in New York public schools shall be required to participate in a mentored program in the first [year] 180 school days of employment, as prescribed in Part 100 of this Title, unless the candidate has successfully completed two years of teaching experience prior to such teaching in the public schools.

(iii) . . .

(4) Option D. The requirements of this paragraph are applicable to candidates who seek a professional certificate and who hold a full license as a teacher issued by the department pursuant to section 126.6(f) of this Title in the career and technical field in which a certificate is sought and who have two years of satisfactory teaching experience under a full license issued by the department pursuant to section 126.6(f) of this Title in a licensed private career school in the certificate area under such license, or

in a closely related subject area acceptable to the department. The candidate shall meet the requirements in each of the following subparagraphs:

(i) . . .

(ii) Teaching experience. The candidate shall successfully complete three school years of teaching experience, or its equivalent. The candidate who completes this requirement in total or part through teaching in New York public schools shall be required to participate in a mentored program in the first [year] 180 school days of employment, as prescribed in Part 100 of this Title, unless the candidate has successfully completed two years of teaching experience prior to such teaching in the public schools.

(iii) . . .

(5) Option G. The requirements of this paragraph are applicable to candidates who seek a professional certificate and who hold an industry acceptable credential in the certificate area taught or in a closely related subject area acceptable to the department or receive a satisfactory passing score on an industry accepted career and technical education examination that demonstrates mastery in the career and technical education subject for which a certificate is sought or a closely related area as approved by the department through a request for qualifications process; and have at least two years of acceptable work experience in the certificate area to be taught or in a closely related subject area acceptable to the department. The candidate shall meet the requirements in each of the following subparagraphs:

(i) . . .

(ii) Teaching experience. The candidate shall successfully complete three school years of teaching experience, or its equivalent. The candidate who completes this

requirement in total or part through teaching in New York public schools shall be required to participate in a mentored program in the first [year] 180 school days of employment, as prescribed in Part 100 of this Title, unless the candidate has successfully completed two years of teaching experience prior to such teaching in the public schools.

(iii) . . .

(6) Option H. The requirements of this paragraph are applicable to candidates who seek a professional certificate and who completed an approved career and technical education program registered pursuant to section 52.21 of this Title or its equivalent in the certificate area to be taught or in a closely related subject area acceptable to the department; and have either at least one year of acceptable work experience in the certificate area to be taught or in a closely related subject area acceptable to the department or receive a satisfactory passing score on an industry accepted career and technical education examination that demonstrates mastery in the career and technical education subject sought or in a closely related area approved by the department through a request for qualifications process. The candidate shall meet the requirements in each of the following subparagraphs:

(i) . . .

(ii) Teaching experience. The candidate shall successfully complete three school years of teaching experience, or its equivalent. The candidate who completes this requirement in total or part through teaching in New York public schools shall be required to participate in a mentored program in the first [year] 180 school days of employment, as prescribed in Part 100 of this Title, unless the candidate has

successfully completed two years of teaching experience prior to such teaching in the public schools.

(iii) . . .

(7) Option I. The requirements of this paragraph are applicable to candidates who seek a professional certificate and who are currently certified as a teacher in grades 7-12 in any subject area acceptable to the department, and who either hold an industry related credential in the career and technical education subject to be taught or in a closely related subject area, as determined by the department, or have two years of satisfactory work experience in the certificate area taught, or in a closely related subject area, as determined by the department. The candidate shall meet the requirements in each of the following subparagraphs:

(i) . . .

(ii) Teaching experience. The candidate shall successfully complete three school years of teaching experience, or its equivalent. The candidate who completes this requirement in total or part through teaching in New York public schools shall be required to participate in a mentored program in the first [year] 180 school days of employment, as prescribed in Part 100 of this Title, unless the candidate has successfully completed two years of teaching experience prior to such teaching in the public schools.

(iii) . . .

(8) Option J. The requirements of this paragraph are applicable to candidates who seek a professional certificate and possess a bachelor's degree or higher, in the career and technical field in which a certificate is sought, or in a closely related subject area, as determined by the department, and have one year of documented and

satisfactory work experience in the career and technical education subject for which a certificate is sought, or a related area, as determined by the department, or hold an industry related credential in the career and technical subject for which a certificate is sought, or a related area, as determined by the department. The candidate shall meet the requirements in each of the following subparagraphs:

(i) . . .

(ii) Teaching experience. The candidate shall successfully complete three school years of teaching experience, or its equivalent. The candidate who completes this requirement in total or part through teaching in New York public schools shall be required to participate in a mentored program in the first [year] 180 school days of employment, as prescribed in Part 100 of this Title, unless the candidate has successfully completed two years of teaching experience prior to such teaching in the public schools.

(iii) . . .