

Implementation of the New Law for Registration and Continuing Teacher and Leader Education Requirements

New Registration Requirement

- **Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2015 requires that, commencing with the 2016-2017 school year, any holder of a teaching certificate in the classroom teaching service, teaching assistant certificate (Level III) or educational leadership certificate that is valid for life must register with the Department every 5 years.**
- **Holders of permanent certificates must register but do not need to complete the new Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) requirement.**
- **Holders of professional certificates must register and complete the new CTLE requirement.**

Difference Between Permanent and Professional Certificates

- In 2000, the Board of Regents approved new certification requirements for classroom teachers. This change included the creation of the initial and professional certificates effective February 2004. It included a professional development requirement only for professional certificate holders.
- At the same time the Board of Regents created the Teaching Assistant series - Level I, Level II, Level III - which included a professional development requirement for the Level III Teaching Assistant.

Who Does the New Law Affect?

	Registration Requirement	CTLE Requirement
Permanent classroom teachers/educational leaders	√	
Professional classroom teachers/educational leaders	√	√
Teaching Assistant Level III	√	√

Who Has to Register

- Holders of Permanent and Professional classroom teacher or educational leader certificates and Teaching Assistant Level III certificates must be registered.
- If a certificate holder does not wish to engage in practice in New York, the certificate holder must inform the Department.

The New Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) Law and Requirements

§ 3006-A requires that during each 5 year registration period beginning on or after July 1, 2016, an applicant for registration shall successfully complete a minimum of 100 hours of continuing teacher and leader education, as defined by the Commissioner.

What the New CTLE Statute Requires

1. A. “Commencing with the 2016-2017 school year, each holder of a professional certificate in the classroom teaching service, holder of a Teaching Assistant Level III certificate, and holder of a professional certificate in the educational leadership service are required to register every 5 years with the Department to practice in the State and shall comply with the provisions of the continuing teacher and leader education requirements set forth in this section.”

2. A. “During each 5 year registration period beginning on or after July 1, 2016, an applicant for registration shall successfully complete a minimum of 100 hours of continuing teacher and leader education, as defined by the Commissioner.”

What the New CTLE Statute Requires

Statute:

“Any certificate holder who is not practicing as a teacher, teaching assistant or educational leader in a school district or board of cooperative educational services shall be exempt from the continuing teacher and leader education requirement upon the filing of a written statement with the department declaring such status.”

Who has to complete CTLE:

- Holders of a Professional classroom teacher or leader certificate that are registered and are employed in a school district or Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).
- Holders of a Teaching Assistant Level III certificate that are registered and are employed in a school district or Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).
- Any of the certified individuals (above) who do not satisfy the CTLE requirements shall not practice until they have met such requirements and have been issued a registration or conditional registration certificate.

CTLE Requirement

100 hours during each five year registration period.

- **If the requirement is not met by the reregistration date:**
 - **Hours may be adjusted for health, military and other good cause.**
 - **Conditional registration may be issued to allow the certificate holder more time to meet the CTLE requirement.**
 - **If the certificate holder does not pursue one of the above options, per the statute, the certificate holder will not be registered and cannot practice in a school district or BOCES.**

New Statutory Definition of CTLE

“Activities designed to improve the teacher or leader's pedagogical and/or leadership skills, targeted at improving student performance, including but not limited to formal continuing teacher and leader education activities. Such activities shall promote the professionalization of teaching and be closely aligned to district goals for student performance which meet the standards prescribed by regulations of the commissioner.”

Current Process for a District's Professional Development

- **Currently every district and BOCES has to have a professional development (PD) plan as set forth in Commissioner's Regulations, Section 100.2(dd).**
- **Each district approves the professional development that the certificate holder counts towards his/her PD requirements based on the district's PD plan.**
- **The administration is required to upload into the TEACH system the number of hours completed for each certificate holder.**
- **Every Professional or Teaching Assistant Level III certificate holder currently has a professional development period established in TEACH.**

Statutory Requirement for Sponsors

“To fulfill the continuing teacher and leader education requirement, programs must be taken from sponsors approved by the department, which shall include but not be limited to school districts, pursuant to the regulations of the commissioner.”

“The department shall issue rigorous standards for courses, programs, and activities, that shall qualify as continuing teacher and leader education pursuant to this section.”

CTLE Standards

Professional Development standards can be found at:
<http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/resteachers/pd.html>

**Ensuring Consistent High Quality Professional Development
Leading to Increased Student Achievement**

Standard 1: Designing Professional Development

- Professional development design is based on data, is derived from the experience, expertise and needs of the recipients, reflects best practices in sustained job-embedded learning, and incorporates knowledge of how adults learn.

Standard 2: Content Knowledge and Quality Teaching

- Professional development expands all educators' content knowledge and the knowledge and skills necessary to provide developmentally appropriate instructional strategies and assess student progress.

Standard 3: Research-based Professional Learning

- Professional development is research-based and provides educators with opportunities to analyze, apply, and engage in research.

Standard 4: Collaboration

- Professional development ensures that educators have the knowledge, skill, and opportunity to collaborate to improve instruction and student achievement in a respectful and trusting environment.

Standard 5: Diverse Learning

- Professional development ensures that educators have the knowledge and skill to meet the diverse needs of all students.

Standard 6: Student Learning Environments

- Professional development ensures that educators have the knowledge and skill to create safe, secure, supportive, and equitable learning environments for all students.

Standard 7: Parent, Family and Community Engagement

- Professional development ensures that educators have the knowledge, skills, and opportunity to engage and collaborate with parents, families, and other community members as active partners in children's education.

Standard 8: Data-driven Professional Practice

- Professional development uses disaggregated student data and other evidence of student learning to determine professional development learning needs and priorities, to monitor student progress, and to help sustain continuous professional growth.

Standard 9: Technology

- Professional development promotes technological literacy and facilitates the effective use of all appropriate technology.

Standard 10: Evaluation

- Professional development is evaluated using multiple sources of information to assess its effectiveness in improving professional practice and student learning.

CTLE Sponsors

Sponsors must meet the CTLE standards in the statute.

- **Examples of proposed sponsor categories:**
 - School districts
 - BOCES
 - Teacher Centers
 - NYS Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs)
 - Professional Organizations/Unions
 - SED-approved education programs

Options for Implementation

Option 1

- **Permanent certificate holders:**
 - Access the registration system during the 2016-2017 school year in their month of birth.
 - No CTLE required
- **Professional and TA Level III certificate holders:**
 - Access the registration system during the 2016-2017 school year in their month of birth.
 - For CTLE (“rolling CTLE”): phase in the new requirement based on when the certificate holder’s current PD period expires. Any PD previously completed would be counted. Remaining PD would be converted to the new 100 hour requirement, and the certificate holder would complete the prorated CTLE in the remaining time of the 5 year cycle.

Options for Implementation

Option 2

- **Permanent certificate holders:**
 - Access the registration system during the 2016-2017 school year in their month of birth.
 - No CTLE required
- **Professional and TA Level III certificate holders:**
 - Access the registration system during the 2016-2017 school year in their month of birth.
 - For CTLE: a new 5 year cycle would begin upon registration during the month of birth in the 2016-2017 school year.

Concerns/Challenges Regarding Implementation

- **Challenges for option 1: complexity to ensure that all certificate holders maintain accurate records of their registration and CTLE requirement periods.**
- **Some certificate holders will need assistance accessing TEACH or creating TEACH accounts.**
- **If a person was certified prior to 1983, the certification records may not be in the TEACH system. Staff will need to search microfilm and if found enter the certification record in TEACH.**

Concerns/Challenges Regarding Implementation

- Last year approximately 209,000 teachers were reported in BEDS. Not all of these teachers hold the professional certificate at this time, but each year thousands of teachers move from an initial certificate to a professional certificate and will then be required to complete 100 hours of CTLE within 5 years.
- We are estimating 300,000 to 350,000 registrations in the first year.
- Approximately 107,000 people hold Professional or Teaching Assistant Level III certificates. Those that register will be required to complete CTLE.
- Communication to the certificate holders.