



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents
FROM: Joseph P. Frey
SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment of Section 52.21 of the Regulations of the Commissioner Relating to the Graduate Level Clinically Rich Teacher Preparation Pilot Programs
DATE: November 2, 2010
AUTHORIZATION(S):

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent Agenda)

Should the Board of Regents adopt the proposed technical amendment relating to the graduate level clinically rich teacher preparation pilot programs?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Review of policy.

Proposed Handling

The proposed regulatory amendment is submitted to the Full Board for adoption as an emergency measure at its November 2010 meeting. A statement of facts and circumstances justifying the emergency is attached.

Procedural History

At its April 2010 meeting, the Board of Regents adopted a regulation, effective May 1, 2010, establishing graduate level clinically rich teacher preparation pilot programs. At the October meeting, the Higher Education Committee requested a technical amendment to the regulation to clarify the length of the required clinical experience component.

Background Information

The regulation adopted in April 2010 required, among other things, that the pilot programs include at least one continuous school year of mentored clinical experience. In October, the Board endorsed a technical modification to the one school year

requirement to provide program providers with the flexibility they need to be as innovative as possible. To add this flexibility, the proposed amendment changes the required clinical experience component of the pilot programs to require up to one continuous school year of mentored experience.

Recommendation

VOTED: That subclause (3) of clause (c) of subparagraph (iv) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (b) of section 52.21 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education be amended, effective November 19, 2010, as an emergency action upon a finding by the Board of Regents that such action is necessary for the preservation of the general welfare in order to timely implement the provisions of the proposed amendment to provide program providers with timely notice of the eligibility requirements for the request for proposal process so the Department complete the competitive bidding process for the selection of program providers before the 2011-2012 school year.

Timetable for Implementation

If adopted as an emergency measure at the November Regents meeting, the proposed amendment will become effective on November 19, 2010. It is anticipated that the proposed amendment will be confirmed at the February Regents meeting and become effective as a permanent rule March 30, 2011.

Attachment 1

AMENDMENT OF THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to sections 207, 208, 210, 214, 216, 224, 305, 3001, 3004 and 3006 of the Education Law

Subclause (3) of clause (c) of subparagraph; (iv) of paragraph (5) of section 52.21 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education shall be amended, effective November 19, 2010, to read as follows:

(3) Clinically rich experience component. The clinical experience component of the program shall meet the following requirements:

(i)

(ii) Prior to assigning the candidate to a classroom, the institution shall enter into a written agreement with the high need school wherein the high need school shall agree to establish a plan for [at least] up to one continuous school year of mentored clinical experience by the assigned teacher-mentor for the candidate and support by a team comprised of a faculty member of the program, the school principal or designee, the assigned teacher-mentor, and a school curriculum supervisor or specialist.

(iii) The program shall ensure its candidates receive mentoring support by a teacher-mentor during the entire period they are assigned to the classroom and enrolled in the program, which shall [be at least] include up to one continuous school year of mentoring.

(iv)

**STATEMENT OF FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES
WHICH NECESSITATE EMERGENCY ACTION**

To maximize student growth and achievement in high need schools, the Department established a graduate level clinically rich pilot program for teacher preparation programs. The Department will select program providers for the graduate level clinically rich principal preparation pilot programs through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

In order to ensure that any program selected to offer a clinically rich principal preparation program is of high quality, the Board of Regents will establish a Blue Ribbon Commission to evaluate all applications. The Blue Ribbon Commission will make recommendations to the Board of Regents for those programs that should be authorized to establish clinically rich principal preparation programs, both from collegiate and non-collegiate providers or in combination. The goal is to create a process that will ensure a rigorous programmatic review and to select only the highest quality providers to assist in the preparation of teachers for our high need schools.

At its April 2010 meeting, the Board of Regents established certain eligibility requirements to participate in the clinically rich teacher preparation program, including certain curriculum requirements, a clinical component, mentoring and training requirements. As part of the eligibility requirements adopted in April 2010, program providers were required to complete at least one continuous school year of experience.

In order to provide program providers with the flexibility they need to provide innovative approaches to this new pilot program, the proposed amendment amends the clinical experience requirement to allow providers to provide up to one continuous

school year of clinical experience. An emergency action is necessary for the preservation of the general welfare in order to timely implement the provisions of the proposed amendment to provide program providers with timely notice of the eligibility requirements for the request for proposal process so the Department complete the competitive bidding process for the selection of program providers before the 2011-2012 school year.

It is anticipated that the proposed amendment will be presented to the Board of Regents for adoption as a permanent rule at its February 2011 meeting, which is the first scheduled meeting after the expiration of the 45-day public comment period mandated by the State Administrative Procedures Act.