






**TO:** Higher Education Committee

**FROM:** John D'Agati 

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Addition of a New §80-5.27 to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Creation of a Transitional K Certificate for Certain New York State Licensed and Registered Health Professionals to Teach Health Education in the Classroom

**DATE:** March 8, 2018

**AUTHORIZATION(S):**  

## SUMMARY

### Issue for Discussion

Should the Board of Regents adopt a proposed addition of a new §80-5.27 to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education relating to the creation of a Transitional K certificate for certain New York State licensed and registered health professionals to teach health education in the classroom?

### Reason(s) for Consideration

Review of Policy.

### Proposed Handling

The proposed amendment is submitted to the Higher Education Committee for discussion at its March 2018 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 March 28, 2018. Supporting materials for the proposed amendment are available upon request from the Secretary to the Board of Regents.

## **Background Information**

At this time, a candidate pursuing an initial teaching certificate in health education through a “traditional” education preparation pathway must meet the following requirements:

- (1) Completion of a NYS registered program in health education
- (2) A recommendation by the higher education institution for certification in health education
- (3) Certification exams:
  - Educating All Students (EAS)
  - Health Education Content Specialty Test (CST)
  - Health Education edTPA
- (4) Workshops: Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) 6-hour training
- (5) Fingerprint Clearance

In addition, candidates may pursue a health education certificate through a Transitional B pathway, as an additional certificate, and through individual evaluation.

## **Proposed Amendment**

At this time, the Department is proposing a new Transitional K pathway for the following New York State licensed and registered health professionals to obtain a health education certificate:

- (a) Physician
- (b) Physician assistant
- (c) Nurse practitioner
- (d) Registered professional nurse

To qualify for the Transitional K certificate, the candidate must meet the following requirements:

- (1) Valid license and registration: The candidate must hold a valid New York State license and registration in one of the following professional titles:
  - Physician
  - Physician assistant
  - Nurse practitioner
  - Registered professional nurse
- (2) Education: The candidate shall hold a bachelor’s degree or higher
- (3) Workshops: The candidate must complete all the required workshops

- (4) Employment and support commitment. The candidate must have an employment and support commitment from a public school, non-public school or BOCES.

The certificate will be valid for three years from the date issued, during which time the holder can pursue the additional requirements for an Initial certificate in the classroom teaching service, and eventually a professional certificate if they wish to do so. To obtain Initial certification, in addition to meeting the requirements for the Transitional K certificate, candidates will need to meet the following additional requirements:

- (1) Pedagogical coursework: Complete nine semester hours of pedagogical coursework in the following:
  - human development and learning, including, but not limited to, the impact of culture, heritage, socioeconomic level, and factors in the home and community that may affect a student's readiness to learn;
  - teaching students with disabilities and special health-care needs within the general education classroom, including assistive technology; and
  - curriculum and/or instruction, including instructional technology.
- (2) Examination: Take and pass the Educating All Students (EAS) examination and the Content Specialty Test in Health Education.

To obtain Professional certification, in addition to the requirements for the Initial certification, candidates will need to complete an additional nine semester hours of pedagogical coursework in the following:

- Teaching Literacy Skills Methods – 3 semester hours
- Instruction and/or Assessment
- Classroom Management

### **Related Regents Items**

Not Applicable.

### **Recommendation**

Not Applicable.

### **Timetable for Implementation**

Following the 60-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 July 2018 meeting. If adopted at the July 2018 meeting, the proposed amendment will become effective on August 2, 2018.

AMENDMENT OF THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to Education Law §§101, 207, 305, 3001 and 3004.

§80-5.27 Transitional K certificate for physicians and physician assistants, nurse practitioners and registered professional nurses for a certificate in health education (all grades).

(a) General requirements.

(1) Time validity. The transitional K certificate shall be valid for three years from its effective date during which time a candidate shall complete all additional requirements for an initial certificate in the classroom teaching service in health education (all grades).

(2) Limitations. The transitional K certificate shall authorize a candidate to teach health education (all grades) only in a school district for which a commitment for employment has been made.

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

(1) Education. A candidate shall hold a bachelor's degree or higher 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.

(2) License and registration. Candidates shall hold a valid New York State license and registration pursuant to Title VIII of the Education Law in one of the following professional titles:

(i) Physician;

(ii) Physician assistant;

(iii) Nurse practitioner; or

(iv) Registered professional nurse.

(3) Coursework/Workshops: 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, a 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 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

(4) Employment and support commitment. The candidate shall have satisfactory evidence of having a commitment from a public school, non-public school or BOCES of at least three years of employment as a teacher within the public school, non-public school or BOCES in health education, which shall include a plan for mentoring and instructional support, over the three years of employment.

2. A new section 80-3.13 shall be added to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education as follows:

§80-3.13 Exception for Health Education (all grades). In lieu of meeting the education and examination requirements for an initial certificate, as prescribed in section 80-3.3(b) of this Subpart, a candidate who is issued a Transitional K certificate may meet the

following requirements for an initial certificate as a teacher of health education (all grades):

(1) Coursework. The candidate shall complete nine semester hours of coursework that includes study in each of the following subjects:

(i) human development and learning, including, but not limited to, the impact of culture, heritage, socioeconomic level, and factors in the home and community that may affect a student's readiness to learn;

(ii) teaching students with disabilities and special health-care needs within the general education classroom, including assistive technology; and

(iii) curriculum and/or instruction, including instructional technology.

(2) Examination. Candidates shall submit evidence of having achieved a satisfactory level of performance on the educating all students test and the New York State Teacher Certification Examination content specialty test in Health Education.

(b) Professional certificate. In lieu of meeting the education and examination requirements prescribed in section 80-3.4(b) of this Subpart, a candidate issued an initial certificate under the requirements of subdivision (a) of this section shall meet the following requirements for a professional certificate as a teacher of health education (all grades):

(1) License and registration. The candidate shall hold a valid license and registration as a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or registered professional nurse pursuant to title VIII of the Education Law.

(2) Coursework. The candidate shall complete while under the initial certificate, nine semester hours of coursework in pedagogical core which shall include coursework in each of the following areas of pedagogy:

(i) teaching literacy skills methods—3 semester hours;

(ii) instruction and assessment; and

(iii) classroom management.

(3) Experience. The candidate shall satisfactorily complete three years of experience as a teacher of health education in any grade in any school in which New York State certificate as a health education teacher is required. The candidate who completes this requirement in total or part through experience in New York public schools shall be required to participate in a mentored program in the first year of employment.