



TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents
FROM: William P. Murphy *William P. Murphy*
SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment to Section 80-1.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Creating Safety Nets for the Arts Content Specialty Tests (CSTs)

DATE: October 8, 2020

AUTHORIZATION(S):

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SUMMARY

Issue for Decision (Consent)

Should the Board of Regents adopt the proposed amendment to Section 80-1.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education creating safety nets for the Arts Content Specialty Tests (CSTs)?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Review of Policy.

Proposed Handling

The proposed amendment is submitted to the Full Board for adoption as a permanent rule at its October 2020 meeting. A copy of the proposed amendment is attached.

Procedural History

The proposed amendment was initially presented to the Full Board for discussion at its July 2020 meeting. A Notice of Proposed Rule Making was published in the State Register on July 29, 2020. Following the 60-day public comment period required under the State Administrative Procedure Act, the Department received no comments on the proposed amendment. Supporting materials are available upon request from the Secretary to the Board of Regents.

Background Information

At its September 2017 meeting, the Board of Regents approved the implementation of the New York State P-12 Learning Standards for the Arts in all schools beginning July 1, 2018. The approval of the new standards prompted the Department to redevelop the Content Specialty Tests (CSTs) for certification in Dance, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts. Through the test redevelopment process, the test frameworks and items were redeveloped to ensure that candidates for certification in the arts subject areas can demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and abilities reflected in the new standards.

It is anticipated that the revised CSTs in Dance, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts will become operational in November 2020. The test framework for the revised Arts CSTs are available online for candidates and teacher preparation programs to assist in the preparation of candidates for the redeveloped tests.

Proposed Amendment

The Department is proposing to create a safety net for the CSTs in Dance, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts that would become effective when the revised CSTs in Dance, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts become operational. When available, a candidate would be able to take either the applicable revised CST or the applicable predecessor CST in Dance, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts for one year after the revised CSTs become operational. The proposed safety nets allow candidates to be held harmless during the one-year transition period from the predecessor CSTs to the revised CSTs.

Related Regents Items

September 2017: [New York P-12 Learning Standards for the Arts \(Dance, Music, Theater, Visual and Media Arts\)](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/917p12a1.pdf)
(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/917p12a1.pdf>)

July 2020: [Proposed Amendment to Section 80-1.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Creating Safety Nets for the Arts Content Specialty Tests \(CSTs\)](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/720brd3.pdf)
(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/720brd3.pdf>)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED: That Section 80-1.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education be amended, as submitted, effective November 4, 2020.

Timetable for Implementation

If adopted at the October 2020 meeting, the proposed amendment will become effective on November 4, 2020.

AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to Education Law sections 207, 305, 3001, 3003, 3004 and 3009.

1. Subparagraph (vi) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of section 80-1.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education shall be added to read as follows:

(vi) When the revised content specialty examination(s) in dance, music, theater and visual arts become available, a candidate may take either the applicable revised content specialty examination or the applicable predecessor content specialty examination in dance, music, theater and visual arts, for one year after the applicable revised content specialty examination(s) become operational.