



TO: Higher Education Committee

FROM: John L. D'Agati 

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment to Section 80-5.17 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Conditional Initial Certificate Requirements

DATE: April 25, 2019

AUTHORIZATION(S):  

SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

Should the Board of Regents adopt the proposed amendment to §80-5.17 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education relating to conditional initial certificate requirements?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Review of Policy.

Proposed Handling

The proposed amendment is submitted to the Higher Education Committee for discussion at its May 2019 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 May 22, 2019. Supporting materials for the proposed amendment are available upon request from the Secretary to the Board of Regents.

Background Information

A Conditional Initial certificate in the classroom teaching service is available for candidates who complete a teacher preparation program in another state equivalent to a New York State teacher preparation program and hold a valid out-of-state certificate equivalent to the certificate sought, but do not have three years of acceptable out-of-state teaching experience. Candidates can receive the Conditional Initial certificate if they meet all of the requirements for an Initial certificate in the classroom teaching service except for receipt of a satisfactory passing score on the edTPA. This nonrenewable certificate is valid for one year, giving candidates one year to fulfill the examination requirement while being certified. Upon successful completion of the edTPA, candidates receive their Initial certificate.

A Conditional Initial certificate for prospective school building leaders is also available for candidates who hold a valid out-of-state certificate equivalent to a New York State Initial School Building Leader certificate, but do not meet the three-year endorsement requirement. Candidates can receive the Conditional Initial certificate if they meet all of the requirements for an Initial School Building Leader certificate except for receipt of a satisfactory passing score on the Educating All Students test and/or the New York State assessment for school building leadership. This two-year, nonrenewable certificate allows candidates to meet the examination requirements while being certified. Candidates receive their Initial certificate after passing both exams.

Section 80-5.17(c) of the Commissioner's Regulations describes when candidates must submit evidence of meeting their examination requirement(s) and is set forth below:

(c) To meet the requirements for a full initial certificate in the certificate title of the conditional initial certificate, the candidate shall be required to submit to the commissioner, at least 60 days prior to the expiration of the conditional initial certificate, satisfactory evidence of meeting the examination requirement for the initial certificate title sought, as prescribed in this Part. If the candidate meets such examination requirement and all other requirements for the initial certificate title sought, the commissioner shall issue the initial certificate.

Proposed Amendment

Section 80-5.17(c) of the Commissioner's Regulations could be interpreted to mean that candidates must submit evidence of satisfactory completion of the examination requirement(s) at least 60 days prior to expiration of the Conditional Initial certificate, and that they can only be eligible for an Initial certificate during the validity period of the Conditional Initial certificate or they cannot earn the Initial certificate. The proposed amendment repeals §80-5.17(c) to confirm that candidates may be eligible for an Initial certificate during the entire validity period of the Conditional Initial certificate and even after their Conditional Initial certificate expires.

Related Regents Items

N/A

Recommendation

N/A

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 September 2019 meeting. If adopted at the September 2019 meeting, the proposed amendment will become effective on September 25, 2019.

AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to sections 207, 305, 3001, 3004, 3006, 3006-a and 3009 of the
Education Law.

Subdivision (c) of section 80-5.17 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of
Education is repealed.