

AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to sections 101, 207, 208, 305, 308, 3001, 3004 and 3009 of the Education Law.

1. The opening paragraph of section 80-5.3 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education shall be amended to read as follows:

A superintendent of schools may assign a teacher to teach a subject not covered by such a teacher's certificate or license for a period not to exceed five classroom hours a week, and [due to the COVID-19 crisis] during the 2020-2021[and/or], 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 school years for a period not to exceed ten classroom hours a week, when no certified or qualified teacher is available after extensive and documented recruitment, and provided that approval of the commissioner is obtained in accordance with the following requirements:

2. Subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of section 80-5.4 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education shall be amended to read as follows:

(ii) In extreme circumstances where there is an urgent need for a substitute teacher and the district has undertaken a good faith recruitment search for a properly certified candidate, and determined that there are no available certified teachers to perform the duties of such position, a substitute teacher, without a valid teaching certificate and who is not working towards certification, but who holds a high school diploma or its equivalent, may be employed by the school district or board of cooperative educational services beyond the 40-day limit, for up to an additional 50 days (90 days total in a school year), if the district superintendent (for districts that are a component district of a board of cooperative educational services and boards of

cooperative educational services) or the superintendent (for school districts that are not a component district of a board of cooperative educational services) certifies that the district or board of cooperative educational services, as applicable, has conducted a good faith recruitment search and there are no available certified teachers that can perform the duties of such position. In rare circumstances, a district or BOCES may hire a substitute teacher beyond the 90 days, if a district superintendent or superintendent attests that a good faith recruitment search has been conducted and that there are still no available certified teachers who can perform the duties of such position and that a particular substitute teacher is needed to work with a specific class or group of students until the end of the school year. The provisions of this subparagraph shall be applicable during the 2020-2021[and], 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 school years[due to the COVID-19 crisis].