AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to sections 207, 305, 3001, 3006 and 3009 of the Education Law

1. Subclause (1) of clause (b) of subparagraph (iv) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of section 52.21 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended, effective April 29, 2014, to read as follows:

(1) The department shall conduct a registration review in the event that fewer than 80 percent of students, who have satisfactorily completed the institution's program during a given academic year and have also completed one or more of the examinations required for a teaching certificate, pass each such examination that they have completed; provided that for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 academic years, the department shall not conduct a registration review based solely upon students having less than an 80 percent passage rate on the teacher performance assessment. However, programs with less than an 80 percent passage rate for the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 academic years on the teacher performance assessment will be required to submit a professional development plan to the Department that describes how the program plans to improve the readiness of faculty and pass rate for candidates on the teacher performance assessment. For purposes of this clause, students who have satisfactorily completed the institution's program shall mean students who have met each educational requirement of the program, excluding any institutional requirement that the student pass each required examination of the New York State teacher certification examinations for a teaching certificate in order to complete the program. Students satisfactorily meeting each educational requirement may include students who earn a degree or students who complete each educational requirement without earning a degree. For determining this percentage, the department shall consider the performance on each certification examination of those students completing an examination not more than five years before the end of the academic year in which the program is completed or not later than the September 30th following the end of such academic year, academic year defined as July 1st through June 30th, and shall consider only the highest score of individuals taking a test more than once.

2. Paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of section 80-3.3 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended, effective April 29, 2014, to read as follows:

(2) Examination. The candidate shall meet the examination requirement by meeting the requirements in one of the following subparagraphs:

(i)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, for candidates who have completed all requirements for initial certification on or before April 30, 2014 and who apply for certification on or before April 30, 2014, the candidate shall submit evidence of having achieved a satisfactory level of performance on the New York State Teacher Certification Examination liberal arts and sciences test, written assessment of teaching skills, and content specialty test(s) in the area of the certificate on or before April 30, 2014, except that a candidate seeking an initial certificate in the title of Speech and Language Disabilities (all grades) shall not be required to achieve a satisfactory level of performance on the content specialty test. Instead of meeting the examination requirements of this subdivision, a candidate applying for certification on or before April 30, 2014 may achieve a satisfactory level of performance on the set of certification examinations described in subdivision (b) of this section, except that such candidate may receive a satisfactory level of performance on either the teacher performance assessment or the written assessment of teaching skills.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, for candidates applying for certification on or after May 1, 2014 or candidates who applied for certification on or before April 30, 2014 but did not meet all the requirements for an initial certificate on or before April 30, 2014, such candidates shall submit evidence of having achieved a satisfactory level of performance on the New York State Teacher Certification Examination teacher performance assessment, the educating all students test, the academic literacy skills test and the content specialty test(s) in the area of the certificate, except that a candidate seeking an initial certificate in the title of Speech and Language Disabilities (all grades) shall not be required to achieve a satisfactory level of performance on the content specialty test or the teacher performance assessment and a candidate seeking an initial certificate in the title of Educational Technology Specialist (all grades) shall not be required to achieve a satisfactory level of performance on the teacher performance assessment. Provided however, if a candidate applies for and meets all the requirements for an initial certificate on or before June 30, 2015 (including completing and submitting for scoring the teacher performance assessment), except the candidate does not receive a satisfactory score on the teacher performance assessment, the candidate may meet the requirements for an initial certificate, if subsequent to receiving a score for the teacher performance assessment and prior to June 30, 2015, a candidate receives a satisfactory level of performance on the written assessment of teaching skills examination in lieu of a satisfactory level of performance on the teacher performance assessment.

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(ii) . . .

(c) . . .

3.. Section 80-3.4 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended, effective April 29, 2014, as follows:

Section 80-3.4. Requirements for the professional certificate in the classroom teaching service.

(a) . . .

(b) Requirements for professional certificates in all titles in classroom teaching service, except in a specific career and technical subject within the field of agriculture, business and marketing, family and consumer sciences, health, a technical area, or a trade (grades 7 through 12). The candidate shall meet the requirements in each of the following paragraphs:

(1) . . .

(2) . . .

(3) Examination.

(i) (a) . . .

(b) Candidates who hold a transitional C certificate for career changers and others holding a graduate academic or graduate professional degree, pursuant to the requirements of section 80-5.14 this Part, and who apply for certification on or after May 1, 2014 or candidates who apply for professional certification on or before April 30, 2014 but do not meet all the requirements for a professional certificate on or before April 30, 2014 shall submit evidence of having a achieved a satisfactory level of performance on the New York State Teacher Certification Examination teacher performance assessment. Provided however, if a candidate applies for and meets all the requirements for a professional certificate on or before June 30, 2015 (including completing and submitting for scoring the teacher performance assessment), except the candidate does not receive a satisfactory score on the teacher performance assessment, the candidate may meet the requirements for a professional certificate, if subsequent to receiving a score for the teacher performance assessment and prior to June 30, 2015, a candidate receives a satisfactory level of performance on the written assessment of teaching skills examination in lieu of a satisfactory level of performance on the teacher performance assessment.

(ii) . . .

(c) . . .

4. Subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of section 80-5.13 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended, effective April 29, 2014, to read as follows:

(ii) Examination.

(a) A candidate who applies for an initial certificate on or before April 30, 2014, and who has completed all other requirements for an initial certificate or who has completed all requirements for an initial certificate except completion of their registered Transitional B program, on or before April 30, 2014 shall submit evidence of having achieved a satisfactory level of performance on the New York State Teacher certification examination written assessment of teaching skills test, and any other examination required for the provisional or initial certificate, as applicable, and/or a bilingual education extension of such certificate, as applicable, on or before April 30, 2014 or a satisfactory level of performance on teacher performance assessment, if applicable for that certificate title, and any other examination required for the provisional or initial certificate, as applicable, and/or a bilingual education extension of such certificate, as applicable.

(b) A candidate who applies for [certification] an initial certificate on or after May 1, 2014 or who applies for [certification] an initial certificate on or before April 30, 2014 but does not meet all the requirements for [a professional] an initial certificate on April 30, 2014, shall submit evidence of having achieved a satisfactory level of performance on the teacher performance assessment, if applicable for that certificate title, and any other examination required for the provisional or initial certificate, as applicable, and/or a bilingual education extension of such certificate, as applicable. Provided however, if a candidate applies for and meets all the requirements for an initial certificate on or before June 30, 2015 (including completing and submitting for scoring the teacher performance assessment), except the candidate does not receive a satisfactory score on the teacher performance assessment, the candidate may meet the requirements for an initial certificate, if subsequent to receiving a score for the teacher performance assessment and prior to June 30, 2015, a candidate receives a satisfactory level of performance on the written assessment of teaching skills examination in lieu of a satisfactory level of performance on the teacher performance assessment.