

IMPORTANT FOR ALL CANDIDATES!!

State Board of Regents Approves **Extension Of Safety Net Regulations** For Teacher Certifications

The New York State Board of Regents today extended the teacher certification safety net regulations to allow higher education teacher certification programs more time to prepare students for the revised content specialty tests (CST).

Currently, there are a total of 41 single-subject or multi-subject CSTs, 19 of which have been revised and released. There are 14 revised CSTs planned to be released in November 2016. The Board of Regents extended the safety net options for these CSTs. The specific extensions include:

- **New Single-Subject CSTs:** For the 14 CSTs that will be released in November 2016, the new safety net will allow candidates to take and pass either the revised CST or the predecessor CST for certification. Based on concerns from the field, this will provide teacher education programs with additional time to prepare for the revised CSTs. This policy serves to help relieve some of the financial burden on candidates because they will not be required to take and fail the revised CST before taking the predecessor CST. This safety net will expire on June 30, 2019.
- **Previously Revised Single-Subject CSTs:** Conforming changes to the existing safety nets for the previously revised CSTs (those CSTs that became operational in September 2014 or 2015) will allow candidates who apply for certification on or after October 18, 2016 or who have a pending certification application with the Department to take and pass either the revised CST or the predecessor CST for certification. This safety net for those previously revised CSTs will expire on June 30, 2017. These safety nets will expire before the safety net for the newly revised tests (those being released in November 2016).
- **Multi-Subject CSTs:** The amendment allows a candidate on or after October 18, 2016 through June 30, 2017, to receive either a satisfactory passing score on the revised MST B-2, 1-6, and 5-9 or the predecessor MST B-2, 1-6, and 5-9, removing the requirement for the candidate to take the revised tests. Previously, the candidate was required to take and fail the revised test before taking its predecessor. This safety net will expire on June 30, 2017.
- **Multi-Subject CSTs for Grades 7-12:** At its January 2016 meeting, the Board of Regents directed the Department to create a temporary safety net for those candidates who have taken and failed Part Two (the Mathematics portion) of the Multi-Subject: Secondary Teachers Grade 7 - Grade 12 Content Specialty Test. To be eligible for the safety net, a candidate must pass Part One (Literacy and English Language Arts) and Part Three (Arts and Sciences) of the Multi-Subject: Secondary Teachers Grade 7 - Grade 12 CST and then take and fail Part Two (Mathematics) of the CST and then complete a mathematics tutorial. This safety net is extended until June 30, 2018.