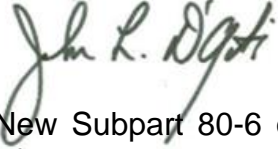




TO: Higher Education Committee

FROM: John L. D'Agati 

SUBJECT: Adoption of a New Subpart 80-6 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education to Implement Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2015 Relating to the Registration Process for any Holder of a Certificate that is Valid for Life (Permanent, Professional and Teaching Assistant Level III) and the Establishment of Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) Requirements for Professional and Teaching Assistant Level III Certificate Holders

DATE: June 6, 2016

AUTHORIZATION(S):  

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Should the Board of Regents adopt regulations to implement Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2015 relating to the registration process for Permanent, Professional and Teaching Assistant Level III certificate holders and to establish continuing teacher and leader education requirements for Professional and Teaching Assistant Level III certificate holders?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

The proposed amendment will be presented to the Higher Education Committee for a second emergency adoption and for permanent adoption at its June 2016 meeting. A Statement of Facts and Circumstances Justifying the Emergency Action is included as Attachment A.

Procedural History

A Notice of Emergency Adoption and Proposed Rule Making was published in the State Register on April 6, 2016. A copy of the proposed amendment is included as Attachment B. Supporting materials are available upon request from the Secretary to the Board of Regents.

Background

Registration

Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2015 amended § 3006 of the Education Law by adding a new subdivision 3 that requires, commencing with the 2016-2017 school year, any holder of a teaching certificate in the classroom teaching service, teaching assistant or educational leadership that is valid for life to register with the department every five years. These certificate holders must be registered in order to engage in the practice of his or her certificate area in New York State. If a certificate holder does not wish to engage in practice in New York, the certificate holder must notify the Department and shall not be subject to penalties for failure to register with the Department.

The statute allows the Department to create a process where certificate holders will be staggered in their registration periods to allow for re-registrations to be distributed as equally as possible. The proposed amendment provides the following registration periods:

- For teachers and school leaders with a permanent or professional certificate or a Level III Teaching Assistant certificate issued prior to July 1, 2016, they shall apply for initial registration during the 2016-2017 school year during his/her month of birth, beginning on July 1, 2016 and shall renew his/her registration in the last year of each subsequent five-year period thereafter.
- For teachers and school leaders with a permanent or professional certificate or a Level III Teaching Assistant certificate issued on or after July 1, 2016, they shall be automatically registered, and the certificate holder shall re-register during the fifth succeeding birthday month thereafter and during each birthday month in the last year of each subsequent five-year period.

Teachers and school leaders will be required to register and re-register through the TEACH system. The application will allow the certificate holder to either register or notify the Department that he/she is not practicing in New York and does not wish to register. In addition, for newly certified certificate holders, registration will be automatic upon certification. If one does not want to be registered because he/she is not practicing in an applicable school, the Department will provide him/her with information on how to register if he/she begins practicing in New York at a later date.

If a certificate holder does not register before his/her specified registration date, he/she shall not be employed in his/her certificate area and may be subject to late fees of \$10 per month. The late fee will not be implemented during the first five year registration period.

The statute also requires certificate holders to notify the Department of a change of name or address within 30 days of such change. The certificate holder may update his/her address and request a name change in his/her TEACH account at any time.

Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE)

Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2015 also added a new section 3006-a to the Education Law to require, commencing with the 2016-2017 school year, holders of a professional certificate in the classroom teaching service or educational leadership service (i.e., school building leader, school district leader, school district business leader) and holders of a Level III Teaching Assistant certificate who are practicing in a New York public school or board of cooperative educational services (BOCES) to complete 100 hours of Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) during each five year registration period.

Consistent with the current professional development requirements for teachers and school leaders in section 80-3.6 of the Commissioner's Regulations, which are now being repealed, the proposed amendment also requires that certificate holders complete the following CTLE requirements in language acquisition to address the needs of English language learner students:

- a CTLE certificate holder who holds a professional certificate in the certificate title of English to speakers of other languages (all grades) or a holder of a bilingual extension under section 80-4.3 of this Title, shall be required to complete a minimum of 50 percent of the required CTLE clock hours in language acquisition aligned with the core content area of instruction taught, including a focus on best practices for co-teaching strategies, and integrating language and content instruction for English language learners; and
- for all other CTLE certificate holders a minimum of 15 percent of the required CTLE clock hours shall be dedicated to language acquisition addressing the needs of English language learners, including a focus on best practices for co-teaching strategies, and integrating language and content instruction for such English language learners; and
- for a CTLE certificate holder who holds a Level III Teaching Assistant certificate, a minimum of 15 percent of the required CTLE clock hours shall be dedicated to language acquisition addressing the needs of English language learners and integrating language and content instruction for such English language learners.

Based on feedback from the field, the proposed amendment provides an exemption from these requirements for teachers/school leaders in districts who possess a waiver from such requirements pursuant to Part 154 of the Commissioner's Regulations because they have less than 5 percent (or 30 enrolled) ELL students. In those districts, teachers and school leaders will not be required to meet this requirement.

The statute further requires that the CTLE be rigorous and completed through a sponsor approved by the Department. The statute defines CTLE as activities designed to improve the teacher or leader's pedagogical and/or leadership skills, targeted at improving student performance, including but not limited to formal CTLE. Such activities shall promote the professionalism of teaching and be closely aligned to district goals for student performance which meet the standards established by the Department. The proposed amendment requires CTLE to be aligned with the following NYS Professional Development Standards created by the Professional Standards and Practices Board:

- Professional development design is based on data, is derived from the experience, expertise and needs of the recipients, reflects best practices in sustained job-embedded learning, and incorporates knowledge of how adults learn.
- Professional development expands all educators' content knowledge and the knowledge and skills necessary to provide developmentally appropriate instructional strategies and assess student progress.
- Professional development is research-based and provides educators with opportunities to analyze, apply, and engage in research.
- Professional development ensures that educators have the knowledge, skill, and opportunity to collaborate to improve instruction and student achievement in a respectful and trusting environment.
- Professional development ensures that educators have the knowledge and skill to meet the diverse needs of all students.
- Professional development ensures that educators have the knowledge and skill to create safe, secure, supportive, and equitable learning environments for all students.
- Professional development ensures that educators have the knowledge, skills, and opportunity to engage and collaborate with parents, families, and other community members as active partners in children's education.
- Professional development uses disaggregated student data and other evidence of student learning to determine professional development learning needs and priorities, to monitor student progress, and to help sustain continuous professional growth.
- Professional development promotes technological literacy and facilitates the effective use of all appropriate technology.
- Professional development is evaluated using multiple sources of information to assess its effectiveness in improving professional practice and student learning.

The statute also contains a provision which allows adjustments to the 100 hour CTLE requirement to be made by the Department for health reasons, military service or good cause acceptable to the Department which may prevent compliance. In addition, the statute also allows a peer review teacher, or a principal acting as an independent trained evaluator, conducting a classroom observation as part of the teacher evaluation system pursuant to section 3012-d to credit his/her time towards meeting his/her CTLE. The proposed amendment also provides an adjustment to the CTLE requirement for a holder of a teaching certificate who achieves certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards for the registration period in which such certification is achieved, provided that the candidate meets the CTLE requirements in language acquisition, to the extent required.

If a certificate holder does not complete the required CTLE within his/her registration period, he/she shall not be registered by the Department and shall not practice unless and until he/she is registered or conditionally registered. A conditional registration may be issued to allow a candidate up to one year to complete the remaining CTLE hours to remain eligible to practice in a New York State public school or BOCES. When the CTLE has been completed, the CTLE certificate holder will be deemed registered for the remaining registration period. If the CTLE certificate holder continues to practice at an applicable school without his/her registration, he/she may be subject to moral character review pursuant to Part 83 of the Commissioner's Regulations. The proposed amendment also requires CTLE certificate holders to maintain a record of their completed CTLE, similar to other licensed professions.

In addition, the proposed amendment requires that if a CTLE certificate holder returns to practice in an applicable school, he/she will be required to register with the Department prior to resuming practice. If the certificate holder is in the middle of a registration period when he/she becomes inactive and is no longer practicing, he/she must complete a minimum of 20 hours of CTLE for every year that he/she was practicing in an applicable school.

Continuing Teacher and Leader Education Sponsors

Pursuant to Education Law §3006-a (2)(c), as added by Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2015, the Department is required to approve all CTLE sponsors. Under the proposed amendment, the following entities may apply to the Department to become an approved sponsor:

- NYS school districts
- NYS Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES)
- Teacher centers
- New York State institutions of higher education
- Professional organizations and unions
- Any other entity approved by the Department

School districts or BOCES will be required to attest that they have a professional development plan consistent with 100.2(dd) of the Commissioner's Regulations. For teacher centers, IHEs and professional organizations and unions, they will be required to submit an attestation that the CTLE they provide will meet the rigorous CTLE requirements in the regulations. None of these entities will be required to pay a fee. It is also recognized that CTLE can occur on an ongoing basis in a school building on an informal and formal basis and any time spent mentoring can be counted towards required CTLE, provided that such mentoring is part of the school district's or BOCES' professional development plan under section 100.2(dd) of the Commissioner's Regulations. All other entities will be required to apply to the Department on an application form prescribed by the Department with a \$600 fee, they will have to demonstrate how they meet each of the CTLE requirements outlined in the regulation, and they will be subject to the Department's approval. Each sponsor will be approved for a five year period and will then be required to submit a renewal application.

Professional Development Plans

The proposed amendment also retains the requirement in 100.2(dd) of the Commissioner's Regulations for school districts and BOCES to develop a professional development plan, but amends the requirements to require such plan to only include 100 hours instead of the currently required 175 hours to be consistent with the new law. However, the Department encourages school districts and BOCES to provide additional CTLE to their teachers and school leaders to ensure that they remain current with their profession and meet the learning needs of their students.

Input from the Field

The Department sought guidance from the field on key components of these draft regulations, including but not limited to NYSUT, UFT, NYSSBA, NYSCOSS, and district superintendents. The Department specifically sought input on the following issues:

- (1) the definition of "practicing" for purposes of registration and CTLE,
- (2) the timing of registration during the 2016-17 school year and re-registration,
- (3) the definition of "resuming practice" for teachers who become inactive,
- (4) the sponsor approval process (including what types of sponsors should be approved), and
- (5) whether the school districts and BOCES should continue to be required to submit professional development plans.

Attached is a summary of the input we received from the field on these key components and other issues (See Attachment C) prior to adoption of the regulation at the March meeting. Also included is an Assessment of the Public Comment received during the 45-day public comment period on the proposed amendment (See Attachment D).

Recommendation

Department staff recommends that the Board of Regents take the following actions at its June meeting:

VOTED: That a new Subpart 80-6 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education be added, as submitted, effective June 20, 2016, as an emergency action upon a finding by the Board of Regents that such action is necessary for the preservation of the general welfare in order to timely implement the provisions of Subpart C of Part EE of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2015 to ensure that teachers and school leaders are provided with sufficient notice of the new registration requirements and to ensure that there are a sufficient number of approved sponsors by July 1, 2016 so that teachers and leaders can comply with the new continuing teacher and leader education requirements by the statute's stated effective date and to ensure that the emergency adoption taken at the March 2016 meeting remains continuously in effect until it can be adopted as a permanent rule; and it is further

VOTED: That a new Subpart 80-6 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education be added, as submitted, effective, July 1, 2016.

Timetable for Implementation

If adopted at the June 2016 Regents meeting, the proposed amendment will become effective as an emergency rule on June 20, 2016 and as a permanent rule on July 1, 2016.

STATEMENT OF FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH NECESSITATE
EMERGENCY ACTION

The proposed rule is necessary to implement the provisions of Subpart C of Part EE of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2015 which establishes the registration and continuing teacher and leader education requirements for certain teachers and school leaders.

A Notice of Proposed Rule Making was published in the State Register on April 6, 2016. Since the Board of Regents meets at fixed intervals, the earliest the proposed rule can be presented for regular (non-emergency) adoption, after expiration of the required 45-day public comment period provided for in the State Administrative Procedure Act (SAPA) would be the June Regents meeting. Furthermore, pursuant to SAPA section 203(1), the earliest effective date of the proposed rule, if adopted at the June meeting, would be July 29, 2016, the date a Notice of Adoption would be published in the State Register.

Emergency action is therefore necessary for the preservation of the general welfare to timely implement the provisions of Subpart C of Part EE of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2015, which becomes effective July 1, 2016. The new law requires, commencing with the 2016-2017 school year, any holder of a teaching certificate in the classroom teaching service, teaching assistant or educational leadership that is valid for life to register with the department every five years. The statute also requires holders of a professional certificate in the classroom teaching service or educational leadership service (i.e., school building leader, school district leader, school district business leader) and holders of a Level III teaching assistant certificate employed in a school district or board of cooperative educational services in New York State to complete

certain continuing teacher and leader education requirements beginning on July 1, 2016. Emergency action was needed at the March 2016 meeting in order to provide these teachers and school leaders with sufficient notice of the new registration requirements and to ensure that there are a sufficient amount of approved sponsors by July 1, 2016 so that teachers and leaders can comply with the new continuing teacher and leader education requirements by the statute's stated effective date.

Because the Board of Regents meets at scheduled intervals, the earliest the proposed amendment could be presented for regular (non-emergency) adoption, after publication in the State Register and expiration of the 45-day public comment period for as provided for in State Administrative Procedure Act (SAPA) is the June 2016 Regents meeting. Furthermore, pursuant to SAPA section 203(1), the earliest effective date of the proposed amendment, if adopted at the June Regents meeting, is June 29, 2016, the date a Notice of Adoption would be published in the State Register. Therefore, emergency action is needed to adopt the proposed rule in order to ensure that the emergency rule adopted at the March meeting will remain in effect continuously until it can be adopted as a permanent rule.

It is anticipated that the emergency rule will be presented to the Board of Regents for adoption as a permanent rule at the June 2016 Regents meeting, which is the first scheduled meeting after expiration of the 45-day public comment period mandated by the State Administrative Procedure Act for proposed rulemakings.

AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to Education Law sections 101, 207, 210, 212, 215, 3001, 3004, 3006, 3006-a, 3009 and Subpart C of Part EE of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2015.

1. A new Subpart 80-6 is added to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, effective June 20, 2016, to read as follows:

Subpart 80-6

Registration Requirements for Holders of a Permanent or Professional Certificate in the Classroom Teaching Service and Educational Leadership Service and Holders of a Teaching Assistant Level III Certificate and the Establishment of Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) Requirements for Holders of Professional Certificates in the Classroom Teaching and Educational Leadership Service and Teaching Assistant Level III Certificate Holders for the 2016-2017 School Year and Thereafter.

§ 80-6.1. Definitions.

As used in this Subpart:

(a) *Applicable school* means a school district or board of cooperative educational services located in New York State. For purposes of this definition, the City School District of the City of New York and any of its components shall be considered a single school district.

(b) *Certificate holder* means all holders of a permanent or professional certificate in the classroom teaching service or educational leadership service (i.e., school building

leader, school district leader, school district business leader) and holders of a Level III teaching assistant certificate.

(c) Continuing teacher and leader education certificate holder (CTLE certificate holder) means all holders of a professional certificate in the classroom teaching service or educational leadership service (i.e., school building leader, school district leader, school district business leader) and holders of a Level III teaching assistant certificate employed in a school district or board of cooperative educational services in New York State.

(d) Practicing means employed 90 days or more during a school year by a single applicable school in New York in a position requiring certification pursuant to this Part. For the purposes of this definition, a day of employment shall include a day actually worked in whole or in part, or a day not actually worked but a day paid. In addition, the City School District of the City of New York and any of its components, including but not limited to community school districts, high school divisions, special education divisions and the Chancellor's district, shall be considered together a single applicable school in New York.

(e) Registration period means the five-year registration period described in subdivisions (c) and (d) of section 80-6.2 of this Subpart and each subsequent five-year period thereafter.

§ 80-6.2. Registration requirements.

(a) During each five-year registration period, commencing with the 2016-2017 school year, certificate holders shall register with the Department, on a form prescribed by the Commissioner.

(b) Registration periods for each certificate holder shall be in accordance with schedules established by the Department.

(c) Any individual who was issued a permanent or professional certificate in the classroom teaching service or educational leadership service (i.e., school building leader, school district leader, school district business leader) or a Level III teaching assistant certificate prior to July 1, 2016, shall apply for initial registration during the 2016-2017 school year during his/her month of birth, beginning on July 1, 2016 and shall renew his/her registration, on a form prescribed by the Department, in the last year of each subsequent five-year period thereafter.

(d) Any individual who is issued a permanent or professional certificate in the classroom teaching service or educational leadership service (i.e., school building leader, school district leader, school district business leader) or a Level III teaching assistant certificate on or after July 1, 2016, shall be automatically registered, and the certificate holder shall re-register during the fifth succeeding birthday month thereafter and during each birthday month in the last year of each subsequent five year period.

(e) Any certificate holder not practicing in an applicable school, may allow his/her registration to lapse without being subject to the late fee as prescribed in subdivision (f) of this section, if he/she notifies the Department in a timeframe and manner prescribed by the Commissioner that he/she is no longer practicing in an applicable school. At such time as the certificate holder may choose to resume practicing in an applicable school, the certificate holder shall register with the Department, on a form prescribed by the Commissioner.

(f) Failure to register may subject a certificate holder to a late fee of \$10 per month. Any instance where a certificate holder willfully fails to register or fails to provide

notice that he/she is not practicing in an applicable school pursuant to subdivision (e) of this section may constitute grounds for moral character review under subdivision seven of section three hundred five of this chapter.

(g) When a certificate holder pays his/her late fee by a personal check or credit card and it is subsequently not honored by the issuing institution, the certificate holder must subsequently pay by a certified check, a bank check, or a money order. The replacement payment shall include any late fee charges required under subdivision (f) of this section.

(h) Any certificate holder who fails to submit a replacement fee as required in subdivision (g) of this section shall have his/her registration voided 60 days from the date the department sends notification that said late fee was not honored by the issuing institution.

(i) Each certificate holder shall notify the Department of any change of name or address no later than 30 days after such change through the online TEACH System.

§ 80-6.3. Mandatory continuing teacher and leader education requirements.

(a) Requirements for CTLE certificate holders (holders of professional certificates in the classroom teaching service, educational leadership service and Level III teaching assistant certificate holders).

(1) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2) of this subdivision and subdivision (b) of this section, commencing with the 2016-2017 school year, a CTLE certificate holder shall be required to successfully complete 100 clock hours of acceptable CTLE during the registration period; provided that:

(i) a CTLE certificate holder who holds a professional certificate in the certificate title of English to speakers of other languages (all grades) or a holder of a bilingual extension under section 80-4.3 of this Title, shall be required to complete a minimum of 50 percent of the required CTLE clock hours in language acquisition aligned with the core content area of instruction taught, including a focus on best practices for co-teaching strategies, and integrating language and content instruction for English language learners; and

(ii) for all other CTLE certificate holders a minimum of 15 percent of the required CTLE clock hours shall be dedicated to language acquisition addressing the needs of English language learners, including a focus on best practices for co-teaching strategies, and integrating language and content instruction for such English language learners; and

(iii) for a CTLE certificate holder who holds a Level III teaching assistant certificate, a minimum of 15 percent of the required CTLE clock hours shall be dedicated to language acquisition addressing the needs of English language learners and integrating language and content instruction for such English language learners.

(2) Exemption from language acquisition requirements. For a teacher or school leader who is employed by a school district or BOCES with an approved exemption pursuant to section 154-2.3(k) of this Title because there are fewer than 30 English language learner students enrolled or English language learners make up less than five percent of the district's or BOCES total student population as of a date as established by the Commissioner, the teacher or school leader shall be exempt from the language acquisition CTLE requirements prescribed in this subdivision for each such year that they are employed in a school district or BOCES with an approved exemption.

(3) The CTLE requirement prescribed in this subdivision may be completed at any time during the registration period and CTLE completed during a prior registration period may not be carried over.

(b) Adjustments to the requirement.

(1) An adjustment to the CTLE requirement prescribed, in terms of clock hours and/or the time for completing CTLE, may be granted by the Commissioner, provided that the CTLE certificate holder documents good cause that prevents compliance, which shall include any of the following reasons: poor health certified by a health care provider, extended active duty in the Armed Forces, or other good cause acceptable to the Department which may prevent compliance.

(2) A peer review teacher, or a principal acting as an independent trained evaluator, conducting a classroom observation as part of the teacher evaluation system pursuant to Education Law §3012-d may credit such time towards his/her CTLE requirement.

(3) A holder of a certificate in the classroom teaching service who achieves certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards shall be deemed to have met the CTLE requirement, for the registration period in which such National Board Certification is achieved, provided that the CTLE certificate holder must continue to meet the applicable required CTLE requirements in language acquisition as described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of this section.

§ 80-6.4. Measurement of continuing teacher and leader education.

(a) CTLE credit shall only be granted for CTLE acceptable to the Department and conducted by a sponsor approved by the Department pursuant to section 80-6.10 of this Subpart.

(b) For credit-bearing university or college courses, each semester-hour of credit shall equal 15 clock hours of CTLE credit, and each quarter-hour of credit shall equal 10 clock hours of CTLE credit for purposes of this section. For all other approved continuing teacher and leader education courses, one CTLE credit hour shall constitute a minimum of 60 minutes of instruction/education.

§ 80-6.5. Conditional registration.

(a) The Department, in its discretion, may issue a conditional registration to a CTLE certificate holder who attests to noncompliance with the CTLE requirements of this section, provided that such CTLE certificate holder meets the following requirements:

(1) the CTLE certificate holder agrees to remedy such deficiency within the conditional registration period: and

(2) the CTLE certificate holder agrees to complete any additional CTLE during such conditional registration period that the Department may require.

(b) The duration of a conditional registration shall be determined by the Department and shall not exceed one year and shall not be renewed or extended absent good cause.

(c) If a CTLE certificate holder does not submit evidence, satisfactory to the Department, of completion of the required hours of CTLE within the duration of such

conditional registration period, his/her registration shall be denied and the CTLE certificate holder shall not be permitted to practice at an applicable school. If the CTLE certificate holder continues to practice at an applicable school without his/her registration, he/she shall be subject to moral character review pursuant to Part 83 of the Commissioner's regulations.

§ 80-6.6. Renewal of registration.

(a) At the end of each registration period, a CTLE certificate holder shall submit an application for re-registration on a form and in a format prescribed by the Commissioner.

(b) CTLE certificate holders shall certify to the Department that they have either complied with the CTLE requirements as prescribed in this Subpart during their prior registration period, or are eligible for an adjustment to the CTLE requirements, as prescribed in subdivision (b) of section 80-6.3 of this Subpart.

(c) A CTLE certificate holder who has not satisfied the mandatory CTLE requirements shall not practice in an applicable school until he/she has met such requirements and has been registered or conditionally registered.

(d) CTLE hours taken during one registration period may not be transferred to the subsequent registration period.

§ 80-6.7. Recordkeeping requirements.

CTLE certificate holders shall maintain a record of completed CTLE, which shall include: the title of the program, the total number of hours completed, the number of hours completed in language acquisition addressing the need of English language learners, the sponsor's name and any identifying number, attendance verification, and the date and location of the program. Such records shall be retained for at least three years from the end of the registration period in which the continuing teacher and leader education was completed and shall be available for review by the Department upon request.

§ 80-6.8. Requirement for CTLE certificate holders resuming practice in an applicable school.

(a) A CTLE certificate holder returning to practice in an applicable school shall be required to register with the Department prior to resuming practice.

(b) A CTLE certificate holder, who is in the middle of a registration period when he/she becomes inactive and is no longer practicing in an applicable school, must complete a minimum of 20 hours of CTLE for every year of the registration period that he/she was practicing in an applicable school.

§ 80-6.9. Acceptable continuing teacher and leader education.

(a) Acceptable CTLE must be taken from a sponsor approved by the Department pursuant to section 80-6.11 of this Subpart.

(b) Acceptable CTLE shall be study in the content area of any certificate title held by the individual or in pedagogy, and include any required study in language acquisition addressing the needs of English language learners as described in section 80-6.3 of

this Subpart. Acceptable CTLE must be conducted through activities designed to improve the teacher or leader's pedagogical and/or leadership skills, targeted at improving student performance, including but not limited to formal CTLE activities. Such activities also shall promote the professionalization of teaching and educational leadership, as applicable, and be closely aligned to district goals for student performance.

§ 80-6.10. Sponsor approval.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (e) of this section, an entity seeking approval by the Department as a provider of CTLE under this section shall submit an application on forms prescribed by the Commissioner accompanied by a fee of \$600.

(b) Any of the following entities may apply to the Department to be an approved sponsor of CTLE:

(1) school districts;

(2) board of cooperative educational services;

(3) teacher centers;

(4) New York State institutions of higher education;

(5) professional organizations and unions; and

(6) any other entity approved by the Department.

(c) Department review of sponsors.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (e) of this section, the Department shall conduct a review of any entity that applies for sponsor approval to offer CTLE under this Subpart.

(2) To be an approved sponsor, each applicant shall submit evidence satisfactory to the Department that the applicant:

(i) has and will maintain adequate resources to offer the course work and training;

(ii) has and will ensure that faculty who will offer the course work or training have demonstrated their competence to offer the course work or training;

(iii) certifies in writing that the course work or training will be conducted through use of a curriculum which, at a minimum:

(a) will expand educators' content knowledge and the knowledge and skills necessary to provide developmentally appropriate instructional strategies and assesses student progress;

(b) is research-based and provides educators with opportunities to analyze, apply, and engage in research;

(c) is designed to ensure that educators:

(1) have the knowledge, skill, and opportunity to collaborate to improve instruction and student achievement in a respectful and trusting environment;

(2) have the knowledge and skill to meet the diverse needs of all students;

(3) have the knowledge and skill to create safe, secure, supportive, and equitable learning environments for all students;

(4) have the knowledge, skill, and opportunity to engage and collaborate with parents, families, and other community members as active partners in children's education;

(d) uses disaggregated student data and other evidence of student learning to determine professional development learning needs and priorities, to monitor student progress, and to help sustain continuous professional growth;

(e) promotes technological literacy and facilitates the effective use of all appropriate technology; and

(f) evaluates using multiple sources of information to assess its effectiveness in improving professional practice and student learning.

(iv) certifies, in writing, that certification of completion forms obtained from the Department will be issued to students upon completion of the course work or training for their use in documenting satisfaction of the requirement of course work or training for CTLE purposes; and

(v) certifies, in writing, that it will maintain and produce evidence of completion for all students who complete the course work or training and that it will submit such evidence to the Department, in a time and format prescribed by the commissioner.

(d) Sponsors that are approved by the Department pursuant to the requirements of this section shall be approved for a five-year term. At the expiration of such term, the sponsor must reapply to the Department for approval, on a form prescribed by the Commissioner, which shall be accompanied by a \$600 fee.

(e) The Department may review approved sponsors during the term of approval to ensure compliance with the requirements of this Subpart and may request information from a sponsor and may conduct a site visit pursuant to such review. A determination by the Department that the services offered by the sponsor are inadequate, incomplete or otherwise unsatisfactory pursuant to the standards set forth

in this Subpart, may result in the termination of the sponsor's approved status. Any of the entities described in paragraphs (1) through (5) of subdivision (b) of this section shall not be required to pay any of the required fees for initial approval or renewal of approval under this section and shall be subject to a streamlined review by the Department.

2. Subdivisions (a) through (i) of section 80-3.6 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education shall be redesignated as subdivisions (b) through (j) of this section and a new subdivision (a) shall be added to section 80-3.6 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, effective June 20, 2016, to read as follows:

(a) Applicability. The professional development requirements of this section shall apply until the 2016-2017 school year.

3. Subdivision (dd) of section 100.2 shall be amended, effective June 20, 2016, to read as follows:

(dd) Professional development. For purposes of this subdivision, professional development includes any continuing education required under Subpart 80-6 of this Title.

(1) Requirement.

(i) By September 1, 2000, and annually by September 1st of each school year thereafter, each school district and board of cooperative educational services (BOCES) shall adopt a professional development plan that meets the content requirements prescribed in paragraph (2) of this subdivision. The purpose of the plan shall be to improve the quality of teaching and learning by ensuring that teachers participate in substantial professional development in order that they remain current with their profession and meet the learning needs of their students. The plan shall also ensure

that holders of level III teaching assistants certificates and that substitute teachers who work on a long-term basis, as defined in section 80-5.4 of this Title, are provided the opportunity to participate in the professional development program of the district or BOCES.

(ii) Such professional development plan may be a part of a comprehensive education plan of the district or BOCES, provided that the professional development plan meets all of the requirements of this subdivision, including the requirements related to collaboration with the professional development team in the development of the plan as prescribed in paragraph (3) of this subdivision, or may be a free-standing plan of the district or BOCES.

(iii) A school district or BOCES shall include as part of its professional development plan a description of the professional development activities provided to all professional staff and supplementary school personnel who work with students with disabilities and English language learners to assure that they have the skills and knowledge necessary to meet the needs of students with disabilities and English language learners, respectively.

(2) Content of the plan. The professional development plan shall be structured in a format consistent with commissioner's guidelines and shall include:

(i)

(ii) a description of:

(a) how the school districts or BOCES provide all teachers they employ substantial professional development opportunities directly related to student learning needs as identified in the school district or BOCES report card and other sources as determined by the school district or BOCES. For plans covering the time period,

February 2, 2004 and thereafter, each school district or BOCES shall describe in its plan how it will provide teachers it employs holding a professional certificate and/or Level III teaching assistant certificate with opportunities to [maintain such certificates in good standing based upon successfully completing] complete 175 hours of professional development or 100 hours of continuing teacher and leader education, as required every five years [as prescribed in] under Part 80 of this Title;

(b) teachers' expected participation in professional development, including but not limited to an estimate of the average number of hours each teacher is expected to participate in professional development in the school year covered by the plan;

(c) the alignment of professional development with New York standards and assessments, student needs, including but not limited to linguistic, cultural diversity and special needs, and teacher capacities;

(d) the articulation of professional development across grade levels;

(e) the efforts made to ensure that professional development is continuous and sustained and that the methods and approaches for delivering professional development have been shown to be effective; and

(f) the manner in which the school district or BOCES will measure the impact of professional development on student achievement and teachers' practices; and

(iii) provision for the training of employees holding a teaching certificate or license in the classroom teaching service, school service, or administrative and supervisory service in school violence prevention and intervention. Each such employee shall be required to complete at least one training course in school violence prevention and intervention, which shall consist of at least two clock hours of training that includes but is not limited to, study in the warning signs within a developmental and social

context that relate to violence and other troubling behaviors in children; the statutes, regulations, and policies relating to a safe nonviolent school climate; effective classroom management techniques and other academic supports that promote a nonviolent school climate and enhance learning; the integration of social and problem solving skill development for students within the regular curriculum; intervention techniques designed to address a school violence situation; and how to participate in an effective school/community referral process for students exhibiting violent behavior. Upon request of the employee who successfully completes such training course, the school district or board of cooperative educational services shall provide the employee with a certificate of completion attesting to the completion of the two clock hours of training in school violence prevention and intervention; and

(iv) for plans covering the time period February 2, 2004 and thereafter, provision for a mentoring program.

(ee) The purpose of the mentoring program shall be to provide support for new teachers in the classroom teaching service in order to ease the transition from teacher preparation to practice, thereby increasing retention of teachers in the public schools, and to increase the skills of new teachers in order to improve student achievement in accordance with the State learning standards.

(ff) The professional development plan shall describe how the school district or BOCES will provide a mentoring program for teachers in the classroom teaching service who must participate in a mentoring program to meet the teaching experience requirement for the professional certificate, as prescribed in section 80-3.4 of this Title.

(gg) The mentoring program shall be developed and implemented consistent with any collective bargaining obligation required by article 14 of the Civil Service Law,

provided that nothing herein shall be construed to impose a collective bargaining obligation that is not required by article 14 of the Civil Service Law.

(hh) The information obtained by a mentor through interaction with the new teacher while engaged in the mentoring activities of the program shall not be used for evaluating or disciplining the new teacher, unless withholding such information poses a danger to the life, health, or safety of an individual, including but not limited to students and staff of the school; or unless such information indicates that the new teacher has been convicted of a crime, or has committed an act which raises a reasonable question as to the new teacher's moral character; or unless the school district or BOCES has entered into an agreement, negotiated pursuant to article 14 of the Civil Service Law whose terms are in effect, that provides that the information obtained by the mentor through interaction with the new teacher while engaged in the mentoring activities of the program may be used for evaluating or disciplining the new teacher.

(ii) The professional development plan shall describe the following elements of the mentoring program:

(jj) the procedure for selecting mentors, which shall be published and made available to staff of the school district or BOCES and upon request to members of the public;

(kk) the role of mentors, which shall include but not be limited to providing guidance and support to the new teacher;

(ll) the preparation of mentors, which may include but shall not be limited to the study of the theory of adult learning, the theory of teacher development, the elements of a mentoring relationship, peer coaching techniques, and time management methodology;

(mm) types of mentoring activities, which may include but shall not be limited to modeling instruction for the new teacher, observing instruction, instructional planning with the new teacher, peer coaching, team coaching, and orienting the new teacher to the school culture; and

(nn) time allotted for mentoring, which may include but shall not be limited to scheduling common planning sessions, releasing the mentor and the new teacher from a portion of their instructional and/or noninstructional duties, and providing time for mentoring during superintendent conference days, before and after the school day, and during summer orientation sessions.

(oo) For plans covering the time period July 1, 2015 and thereafter, each school district or BOCES shall describe in its plan how it will provide:

(a) a holder of a professional certificate in the certificate title of English to speakers of other languages (all grades) and a holder of a bilingual extension under section 80-4.3 of this Title with a minimum of 50 percent of the required professional development clock hours for such certificate title in language acquisition aligned with the core content area of instruction taught, including a focus on best practices for co-teaching strategies, and integrating language and content instruction for English language learners; and

(b) all other holders of professional certificates in the classroom teaching service, a minimum of 15 percent of the required professional development clock hours in language acquisition addressing the needs of English language learners, including a focus on best practices for co-teaching strategies, and integrating language and content instruction for such English language learners; and

(c) a holder of a level III teaching assistant certificate, a minimum of 15 percent of the required professional development clock hours in language acquisition addressing the needs of English language learners and integrating language and content instruction for such English language learners;

(d) a school district or board of cooperative educational services may seek permission on an annual basis from the commissioner for an exemption from the professional development requirements in this subparagraph where there are fewer than 30 English language learner students enrolled or English language learners make up less than five percent of the district's or board of cooperative educational services' total student population as of such date as established by the commissioner. The process for such exemption can be found in section 154-2.3(k) of this Title.

(3) Development and adoption of the plan.

(i) The requirement in this subparagraph shall be applicable to all BOCES and school districts, except the City School District of the City of New York. The requirements of subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph shall be applicable to the City School District of the City of New York.

(a) The plan shall be developed through collaboration with a professional development team. The team members shall be designated for appointment in the manner prescribed in this clause, except as prescribed in clause (b) of this subparagraph. The board of education or BOCES shall appoint the members of the team, a majority of which shall be teachers, which shall include the superintendent of schools or his or her designee in the case of school districts or the district superintendent or his or her designee in the case of BOCES; school administrators upon designation by the administrators' collective bargaining organization; teachers

upon designation by the teachers' collective bargaining organization; at least one parent upon designation by the established parent groups in the district or in their absence, by the superintendent in the case of a school district or district superintendent in the case of a BOCES; and one or more curriculum specialists, meaning a teacher or administrator whose primary job responsibility involves the development or evaluation of curricula, upon designation by the district or teachers' collective bargaining organization or both. In addition, the team shall include at least one representative of a higher education institution, provided that the board of education or BOCES determines that a qualified candidate is available to serve after conducting a reasonable search. The team may include other individuals, such as representatives of professional development organizations or the community at large. In school districts or BOCES in which teachers or administrators are not represented by a collective bargaining organization, teachers or administrators shall be designated by their peers in a manner prescribed by the Board of Education or BOCES.

(b) Notwithstanding the requirements of clause (a) of this subparagraph, members of the professional development team employed in or representing a school under registration review, pursuant to subdivision (p) of this section, including but not limited to teachers, administrators, curriculum specialists and parents, shall not be designated for appointment as prescribed in clause (a) of this subparagraph, but shall instead be recommended by the superintendent of the school district for appointment by the board of education.

(c) The board of education or BOCES shall permit the professional development team a period of at least 180 days to develop its recommended professional

development plan and shall convene such team on or before October 1st, except that for the 1999-2000 school year, such team shall be convened by October 8, 1999.

(d) Such team shall submit to the board of education or to the BOCES a recommended professional development plan by a date specified by the board of education or BOCES. The board of education or BOCES may accept or reject the recommendations of the team in whole or part. Components of the plan not approved by the board of education or BOCES shall be returned to the team for further consideration. Any subsequent modification in the professional development team's recommendation to the board of education or BOCES shall be presented to the board of education or BOCES on or before June 1st, and the board of education or BOCES shall act on the plan by June 30th. The final determination on the content of the professional development plan shall be the determination of the board of education or BOCES.

(e) The professional development plan shall be adopted by the board of education or BOCES at a public meeting. Each year, the board of education or BOCES shall evaluate the effectiveness of the plan. The board of education or BOCES may adopt a multi-year plan or an annual plan, provided that in the case of a multi-year plan the professional development team shall be required to review the plan on an annual basis, and submit to the board of education or BOCES recommended revisions, if necessary. The board of education or BOCES shall determine whether to approve the recommended revisions.

(ii) The requirements of this subparagraph shall be applicable to the City School District of the City of New York.

(a) Each community school district, high school division, special education division and the chancellor's district shall have a professional development plan.

(b) Each plan shall be developed through collaboration with a professional development team. The team members shall be designated for appointment in the manner prescribed in this clause, except as prescribed in clause (c) of this subparagraph. In the case of a community school district, the board of education of the community school district shall appoint the members of the team for the community school district. In the case of a high school division, special education division, and the chancellor's district, the Chancellor of the City School District of the City of New York shall appoint the members of the team. The team, a majority of which shall be teachers, shall include the superintendent of the district for which the team was formed or his or her designee; school administrators upon designation by the administrators' collective bargaining organization; teachers upon designation by the teachers' collective bargaining organization; at least one parent upon designation by the established parent groups in the district, or, in their absence, by the chancellor in the case of a high school division, a special education division or a chancellor's district, or by the board of education of the community school district in the case of a community school district; one or more curriculum specialists, meaning a teacher or administrator whose primary job responsibility involves the development or evaluation of curricula, upon designation by either or both the teachers' collective bargaining organization, or by the chancellor in the case of a high school division, a special education division or a chancellor's district, or by the board of education of the community school district in the case of a community school district. In addition, the team shall include at least one representative of a higher education institution, provided a qualified candidate is available to serve after conducting a reasonable search. The team may include other individuals, such as representatives of professional development organizations or the community at large.

(c) Notwithstanding the requirements of clause (b) of this subparagraph, members of the professional development team employed in or representing a school under registration review, pursuant to subdivision (p) of this section, including but not limited to teachers, administrators, curriculum specialists and parents, shall not be designated for appointment as prescribed in clause (b) of this subparagraph but shall instead be recommended by the chancellor for appointment by the board of education of the community school district in the case of community school districts, and appointed by the chancellor without being designated by any other party in the case of high school divisions, special education divisions and the chancellor's district.

(d) In the case of high school divisions, special education divisions and the chancellor's district, the chancellor shall convene the professional development team on or before October 1st, except for the 1999-2000 school year when such team shall be convened by October 8, 1999. The chancellor shall permit the team a period of 180 days to develop its recommended professional development plan. Such team shall submit to the chancellor a recommended professional development plan by a date specified by the chancellor. The chancellor may accept or reject the recommendations of the team in whole or part. Components of the plan not approved by the chancellor shall be returned to the team for further consideration. Any subsequent modification in the professional development team's recommendation to the chancellor shall be presented to the chancellor on or before June 1st, and the chancellor shall act on the plan by June 30th. The final determination on the content of the professional development plan shall be the determination of the chancellor, in accordance with Education Law, section 2590-h(14). In the event that the team does not make a recommendation to the chancellor by the date specified by the chancellor, the

chancellor may promulgate a professional development plan without such recommendation.

(e) In the case of community school districts, each board of education of the community school district shall submit to the Chancellor of the City School District of the City of New York a recommended professional development plan by a date specified by the chancellor. Such professional development plan shall be developed through collaboration with the community school district's professional development team. Each board of education of a community school district shall convene its professional development team on or before October 1st, except for the 1999-2000 school year when such team shall be convened by October 8, 1999. The board of education of the community school district shall permit its professional development team a period of at least 180 days to develop its recommendations for the professional development plan. Such team shall submit to the board its recommended professional development plan by a date specified by the board. Components of the plan not accepted by the board of education of the community school district shall be returned to the team for further consideration and submitted to the board by a date specified by the board. The board of education of the community school district may accept or reject the recommendations in whole or in part. The board shall adopt final recommendations for the district's professional development plan for submission to the chancellor. The chancellor may accept or reject the recommendations of the board of education of the community school district in whole or part. Components of the plan not approved by the chancellor shall be returned to the board of education of the community school district for further consideration. Any subsequent modification in the board's recommendation to the chancellor shall be presented to the chancellor on or before June 1st, and the

chancellor shall act on the plan by June 30th. The final determination on the content of the professional development plan shall be the determination of the chancellor, in accordance with Education Law, section 2590-h(14). In the event that the board of education of the community school district does not make a recommendation to the chancellor by the date specified by the chancellor, the chancellor may promulgate a professional development plan without such recommendation.

(f) Each year, the chancellor shall evaluate the effectiveness of the plan for each district. The chancellor shall promulgate a multi-year or an annual plan for each district, provided that in the case of a multi-year plan for a high school division, special education division and the chancellor's district, such district's professional development team shall be required to review the plan on an annual basis; and in the case of a multi-year plan for a community school district, the board of education of the community school district shall be required to review the plan on an annual basis in collaboration with its professional development team. Such districts shall submit to the chancellor recommended revisions, if necessary. The chancellor shall determine whether to approve the recommended revisions.

(4) Reporting requirement.

(i) Professional development plan.

(a) Each year, the superintendent of a school district, the district superintendent of a BOCES, and in the case of the City School District of the City of New York, the Chancellor, shall be required to certify to the commissioner, in a form and on a timetable prescribed by the commissioner, that:

(1) the requirements of this subdivision to have a professional development plan for the succeeding school year have been met; and

(2) the school district or BOCES has complied with the professional development plan applicable to the current school year.

(b) The commissioner may request a copy of the professional development plan for review and may recommend changes to the plan to meet the learning needs of the students in the school district or BOCES.

(ii) Professional development. School districts and BOCES shall report to the department in a form and a timetable prescribed by the department, information concerning the completion of professional development for regularly employed certificate holders, who are subject to the [professional development] continuing teacher and leader education requirement prescribed in [section 80-3.6] Subpart 80-6 of this Title. Prior to reporting such information to the department, the school district or BOCES shall be required to consult with the certificate holder to verify the accuracy of the information. For purposes of this reporting requirement, *regularly employed certificate holders* shall mean certificate holders who are employed by the school district or BOCES in a position requiring teaching certification for 90 days or more in the July 1st through June 30th professional development year, prescribed in [section 80-3.6] Subpart 80-6 of this Title. In the case of the City School District of the City of New York, the 90 days or more of employment shall include the combined number of days employed in a position requiring teaching certification at any of its components, including but not limited to community school districts, high school divisions, special education divisions, and the Chancellor's district, in the professional development year.

In computing the number of days employed, a day of employment shall include a day actually worked in whole or in part or a day not actually worked but a day paid.

(5) Recordkeeping requirements.

(i) School districts and BOCES shall be required to maintain a record of professional development successfully completed by certificate holders, who are subject to the professional development requirement and/or continuing teacher and leader education requirements prescribed in [section 80-3.6] Part 80 of this Title, and who take professional development and/or continuing teacher and leader education offered by the school district or BOCES or by entities on behalf of the school district or BOCES. Such record shall include: the name of the [professional] certificate holder, [his or her teacher certification identification number,] the title of the program, the number of hours completed, and the date and location of the program. Such record shall be retained by the school district or BOCES for at least seven years from the date of completion of the professional development by the [professional] certificate holder and shall be available for review by the department.

(ii) School districts and BOCES shall maintain documentation of the implementation of the mentoring program described in the professional development plan. Such documentation shall include for each individual receiving mentoring pursuant to the mentoring program: the name of that individual, his or her teacher certificate identification number, the type of mentoring activity, the number of clock hours successfully completed in the mentoring activity, and the name and the teacher certificate identification number of the individual who provided the mentoring. Such record shall be maintained by the school district or BOCES for at least seven years from

the date of completion of the mentoring activity and shall be available for review by the department.

(6) Notwithstanding the requirements of this subdivision, participation in professional development outside the regular school day or regularly scheduled working days of the school year shall be volitional for teachers, unless otherwise agreed upon as a term or condition of employment pursuant to collective bargaining under article 14 of the Civil Service Law.

(7) Variance. A variance shall be granted from a requirement of this subdivision, upon a finding by the commissioner that a school district or BOCES has executed prior to October 7, 1999 an agreement negotiated pursuant to article 14 of the Civil Service Law, whose terms continue in effect and are inconsistent with such requirement.

Attachment C

Comments on the Registration and CTLE Regulation

Issues	SAANYS	NYSUT	Lynda Quick (CA BOCES DS)	NYSCOSS (multiple sources)	Daniel White (Monroe BOCES)	NYSSBA	UFT
Definition of Practicing	Proposes “working or desires to work in NYS schools” rather than current 90 day requirement	Proposes current definition of practicing (90 days of employment)	Define “practicing” as 90 days		Suggests “90 consecutive days of regular employment in his or her area(s) of certification”	Define “practicing” as 90 days	
Timing of Registration	Make registration automatic upon professional certification	*Suggests staggering over several years *Make registration automatic upon certification *Allow 60 days to comply with registration	*Make registration automatic upon certification in TEACH *If birthday month is used, suggests the Department send reminders	Use dates that coincide with the school year instead of birthdate	*Use month of birth for initial registration *For reregistration, use a month (i.e., September) or date (i.e., January 1) for everyone	In agreement with month of birth registration schedule in draft regulation	Concern with month of birth registration due to confusion, but suggests sending reminders before a certificate holder is subject to late fees or penalties
Resuming Practice	No additional CTLE before resuming practice—may create hiring difficulties	No additional CTLE before resuming practice (opposes the 10 hour requirement)	*Suggests CTLE before resuming practice, but define minimum period of inactivity before requiring additional CTLE (may be hard to find providers) *Concern they may not be able to find providers		Additional CTLE before resuming practice should be defined by the length of period of inactivity	*In agreement with requiring CTLE before resuming practice, with clarifications *Concern that those that have not practiced for an entire CTLE registration period are	No additional CTLE requirement for those resuming practice

Issues	SAANYS	NYSUT	Lynda Quick (CA BOCES DS)	NYSCOSS (multiple sources)	Daniel White (Monroe BOCES)	NYSSBA	UFT
						treated more leniently in terms of the number of CTLE hours that must be completed before resuming practice than those who were in the middle of a registration period when becoming inactive.	
Sponsor Approval	*All who meet the sponsor requirements *Only "for profit entities" should have to pay approval fee	*Districts, BOCES, teacher centers, NYS Higher Ed. Institutions, and professional unions/organizations should be automatically approved *The "other entities" should go through a rigorous approval process	*BOCES, SED regulated entities should be automatically approved *Maintain a list of approved consultants and allow all districts to utilize their services *No fee for BOCES/schools/etc.	*District and BOCES should not have to pay approval fee *Asks that Department provide a list of acceptable PD offerings, but NO approval process *Appears that CTLE selection is entirely up to certificate holder and divorced from an attachment to district and instructional goals	*Public schools, BOCES, approved charter schools, and accredited HE institutions should be automatically approved *Only private entities, professional organizations, labor unions should be required to pay fee (& use RFQ process)	Only entities subject to Department jurisdiction should be approved sponsors	
PD Plans	No PD plans (repeal 100.2(dd)) but require	*Keep PD plan requirement, and include provision in	No PD plans (repeal 100.2(dd)), but use caution if language is included, should		*Require PD plans, but define "sufficient" so that districts understand that the	No PD plan requirement	Should require districts to include in PD plan how it will

Issues	SAANYS	NYSUT	Lynda Quick (CA BOCES DS)	NYSCOSS (multiple sources)	Daniel White (Monroe BOCES)	NYSSBA	UFT
	districts to provide sufficient CTLE time to employees	the regulation clarifying the district's responsibility to provide enough opportunities to meet the requirements *Fee should only apply to "other entities"	require districts to provide sufficient CTLE then it should be limited to certificate holders employed in the district		content and/or modality is non-negotiable		be possible for employees to comply with new CTLE requirement
Additional	Recommends a waiver process for 15% ELL requirement	*Extend late fee to 60 days *Districts should be responsible for reporting PD to the Department, not the teachers *District should be responsible for providing enough PD to meet requirement	Recommends a waiver process for 15% ELL requirement (districts with less than 5%/Part 154)	*Would like an exemption from 15% ELL requirement included		*Recommends no regulatory provision requiring districts to provide sufficient CTLE hours *Clarify when a replacement fee is due *Clarify CTLE/PR requirements for permanent certificate holders	Recommends no 15% dedication to addressing ELL learners (also concerned with 50% ELL requirement for bilingual extensions)

8 NYCRR Subpart 80-6

ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Since publication of a Notice of Proposed Rule Making in the State Register on April 6, 2016, the State Education Department (SED) received the following comments:

1. COMMENT:

Several commenters request that the Department does not implement late fees for certificate holders that do not register during the 2016-2017 school year.

DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:

SED agrees. The Department will not impose any late fees on certificate holders that fail to register during the 2016-2017 school year.

2. COMMENT:

Several commenters suggested that there should be an appeals process in the future for certificate holders who miss their registration deadline, in order to appeal the \$10 late fee.

DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:

Section 80-6.2(f) provides that failure to register *may* subject a certificate holder to a late fee of \$10 per month. Given the fact that the late fee is discretionary, if an applicant disagrees with the Department's determination that a late fee shall be imposed (e.g., because the licensee was in inactive status), the licensee shall have an opportunity to be heard in a time and manner prescribed by the Department.

3. COMMENT:

Several commenters suggested that NYSED require all certificate holders who are required to initially register this year to register on July 1, 2016 rather than during their birthday month during the 2016-2017 school year. Commenters noted that using

the birthday month would be hard for districts and BOCES to track, and suggested that all professional and Level III certificate holders begin registration on July 1, 2016 rather than their birthday month.

DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:

Education Law §3006(3), as added by Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2015, allows the Department to stagger initial registrations so that registrations are distributed as equally as possible throughout the year, which the Department believes is necessary in order to avoid an overload in the online TEACH system. The Department chose the birthday month of the certificate holder in an effort to make it easier for candidates to remember when they must register and to distribute initial registrations throughout each month of the year. The Department has also tried to make it easier for first time certificate holders to register by making initial registration automatic on the date of issuance of their certificate.

4. COMMENT:

Several commenters suggested that current NYSED approved CTLE providers (school districts, BOCES, teacher centers, NYS colleges, NYSUT and other professional organizations) should not have to register every five years. They noted that if a school or BOCES is merged, joined, etc., NYSED will know about it and can adjust the NYSED records.

DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:

Education Law 3006-a requires that CTLE programs be taken from sponsors approved by the Department, including but not limited to school districts. It also requires that CTLE activities promote the professionalism of teaching and be closely aligned to district goals for student performance which meet the standards prescribed

by the Commissioner. These regulations were carefully drafted to ensure that CTLE activities meet the requirements of the statute while also making it as simple as possible for school districts, BOCES, teacher centers and professional organizations to become approved sponsors and to be renewed as approved sponsors. For instance, the Department has streamlined the application process to become an approved sponsor and to renew their application and these entities are not required to pay a fee for initial approval or renewal of their registration and the five-year requirement for re-registration is consistent with the current requirements for professional development plans as required under 100.2(dd) of the Commissioner's Regulations.

5. COMMENT: Several commenters suggested that professional development hours completed during the current five-year cycle (before July 1, 2016) be counted towards fulfilling CTLE requirements for certificate holders once the new CTLE requirement begins.

DEPARTMENT RESPONSE: The law requires that CTLE be completed during the five-year registration period beginning on or after July 1, 2016. Therefore, professional development completed before this date cannot be carried over. In addition, the statute requires that "to fulfill the CTLE requirement, programs must be taken from sponsors approved by the Department..." Because professional development hours completed prior to July 1, 2016 may not have been taken from a sponsor approved by the Department under the new statute, these hours cannot be counted toward the certificate holders' five-year registration period under the new law which requires CTLE programs to be taken from sponsors approved by the Department.

6. COMMENT:

Several commenters disagree that those certificate holders who fail to notify the department of a name or address change within 30 days be subject to moral character review, because it is threatening and difficult to enforce.

DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:

Education Law §3006(3)(d) provides that a willful failure to register or to provide notice of an address change within 180 days of such change may constitute grounds for moral character review. Since this is a statutory provision, no change is warranted.

7. COMMENT:

Several commenters suggested that CTLE recordkeeping remain as currently for school districts and BOCES, including submission of professional development plans. The concern is that the forms and terms used as part of the professional development plans are negotiated with the unions and it will be hard to revise to include requirements for English language learners, program titles, locations, and to add additional columns.

DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:

The Department has retained the requirement for professional development plans in 100.2(dd) of the Commissioner's Regulations for school districts and BOCES to develop a professional development plan, but amended the requirements to require such plans to only include 100 hours instead of the currently required 175 hours to be consistent with the CTLE requirements in Education Law §3006-a. However, the Department encourages school districts and BOCES to provide additional CTLE to their teachers and school leaders to ensure that they remain current with their profession and meet the learning needs of their students.

8. COMMENT:

Several commenters support the change from 175 hours to 100 hours for both teachers and educational leaders, but do not support this same increase for teaching assistants because they are generally not teachers of record and in most cases act as classroom aides, and do not currently attend and/or participate in more thorough trainings that are offered to teachers and leaders.

DEPARTMENT RESPONSE:

Education Law §3006-a(2)(a) requires holders of Level III teaching assistant certificates to complete 100 hours of CTLE. Since this is a statutory requirement, no regulatory change is warranted.