

The Office of Higher Education (OHE) newsletter describes the current and upcoming activities related to higher education, with a particular focus on the preparation of educators. This newsletter, past newsletters, and a subscription link are available online on the [OHE website](#).

Last year, the Legislature tasked the Department with preparing a report providing “an overview of teacher diversity throughout the state” (Ed. Law §305 (58)). In developing the draft report, the Department conducted new analysis from our student, teacher, and leader data collections; consulted with partners to review relevant literature on educator diversity both statewide and nationally; and reached out to education leaders throughout our P-20 system for their expertise and insights. This outreach included a survey of educator preparation deans and superintendents, which yielded a 77% response rate; our appreciation goes out to those who participated.

Juniors, seniors, or graduate students who are currently enrolled in an approved educational preparation program preparing them for New York State Initial certification, or who are recently certified, can [participate in a field test](#) for the redeveloped Content Specialty Tests (CSTs) in the following subject areas through December 21, 2019: English Language Arts (ELA), English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Health, Mathematics, Physical Education, and Social Studies. By participating in a field test, candidates preview actual test questions, gain valuable practice in computer-based testing, and provide input