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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](#).

Candidates can earn extensions on their certificates, if they hold an appropriate, valid base certificate. The Board of Regents [adopted an emergency measure](#) to allow the Emergency COVID-19 certificate to serve as a base certificate for certain extensions and the severe or multiple disabilities annotation. The Board of Regents also [adopted an emergency measure](#) to revise the Emergency COVID-19 certificate, including adding certificate titles to the list of emergency certificates and expanding the options for earning an emergency certificate for candidates who applied for certain Emergency COVID-19 extensions and annotations and hold an appropriate, valid Emergency COVID-19 base certificate.

The Board of Regents [adopted an emergency measure](#) to extend the expiration date of Teaching Assistant Level I certificates, Level I Renewals, Level II certificates, Pre-Professional certificates, and Pre-Professional Renewals from August 31, 2020 to January 31, 2021 to provide candidates with the time needed to work in schools and complete the requirements for the next level Teaching Assistant certificate given the COVID-19 crisis. The certificate expiration dates have been automatically changed in TEACH. In addition, the emergency measure allows teaching assistant experience that is gained while a candidate holds the Emergency COVID-19 Teaching Assistant certificate to satisfy the experience requirement for the Teaching Assistant Level II, Level III, and Pre-Professional certificates.

Please inform candidates who are seeking certain certificates and extensions that they may be eligible for the Emergency COVID-19 certificate, allowing them to work in New York State public schools or districts for one year while taking and passing the required exam(s) for the certificate or extension sought. With this one-year emergency certificate, candidates would not need to take certification exams immediately and could take them at a later date. Information about the new emergency certificate is available on the [Emergency COVID-19 certificate webpage](#)



