**December 2016**

**SED Update**

**Special Education**

**New- Special Education Field Advisory**: **Changes in Allowable Testing Accommodations on the Grades 3-8 New York State English Language Arts Assessments**

Beginning with the 2017 administration of the Grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA) Assessments, students with disabilities whose Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) or Section 504 Accommodations Plans (504 Plans) document that tests be read aloud (by way of human reader or technology) must be provided this testing accommodation in accordance with the specifications in the IEP/504 Plan. In previous years, only directions were to be read to students on the Grades 3-8 ELA Assessments; no other portion of the test was to be read aloud regardless of the circumstances. Additionally, this testing accommodation will be provided to students upon declassification with documentation indicating the accommodation will continue.

[**http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/testing-accommodations-ela-grades-3-8.htm**](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/testing-accommodations-ela-grades-3-8.htm)

**Testing Accommodation Decision-Making Tool for “Tests Read”**

[**http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/documents/attachment-decision-making-tool-for-tests-read.pdf**](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/documents/attachment-decision-making-tool-for-tests-read.pdf)

**Parts 200 and 201 of the Regulations of the Commissioner: Updated October 2016**

[**http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/lawsregs/documents/regulations-part-200-201-oct-2016.pdf**](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/lawsregs/documents/regulations-part-200-201-oct-2016.pdf)

**General Information**

**Proposed Amendment of Section 100.6 of the Commissioner’s Regulations Relating to the Establishment of Criteria for the Approval of Work-Readiness Assessments for Earning the New York State Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential**

The proposed regulations require that, on or after April 3, 2017, students who seek to use Option 2, must pass a work readiness assessment approved by the Commissioner. The criteria and conditions for assessments to be placed on the Commissioner’s approval list are set forth in the proposed amendment. The Department will be working on a request for qualifications process to identify work-readiness assessments that meet these criteria.

[**http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1116brca4.pdf**](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1116brca4.pdf)

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