



Robert G. Bentley  
Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Teaching Initiatives

Dear New York State Educator:

Thank you for your interest in the New York State Teacher Certification Examinations™ (NYSTCE®). On behalf of the New York State Education Department (NYSED), I encourage you to fill out an application and also nominate other exemplary New York State educators for participation in test development activities.

### **Background Information**

The NYSTCE address New York State Education Law and Commissioner's Regulations, which require prospective New York State educators to pass designated tests as a requirement for receiving state certification. Since the implementation of the NYSTCE, the New York State Education Department has periodically reviewed and redeveloped the tests to ensure that they are current and consistent with significant emerging state and national standards. Currently, additional items are being developed for a number of the NYSTCE test fields. Newly developed items will be reviewed by committees of New York State educators, including a Bias Review Committee and field-specific Content Advisory Committees.

The NYSED works with the Evaluation Systems group of Pearson, our test contractor, in conducting test development and administration activities.

### **Involvement of New York State Educators**

The NYSED is committed to involving exemplary New York State educators in all aspects of the test development process. This helps us ensure that certified teachers have the knowledge and skills that are important for the job of an educator in New York State public schools. Therefore, the involvement of New York State public school educators and college and university faculty who are currently teaching is critical.

### **Advantages of Participation**

Participation in NYSTCE activities provides New York State educators with an opportunity to get together with a group of colleagues from across New York State to support their profession, to learn about assessment, and to contribute to the quality of public education in the state. Many educators who have participated in NYSTCE Content Advisory Committee sessions in the past consider that their experience has enhanced their professional development. The NYSED has included being an NYSTCE test development committee member among the types of professional development suggested for educators and their school districts.

### **Application and Nomination Process**

Applications should be sent to Evaluation Systems by fax or mail. The NYSED reviews applications and establishes committee membership. The NYSED also encourages you to nominate other exemplary educators by submitting nomination forms to Evaluation Systems.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to e-mail the New York State Committee Recruitment Group at Evaluation Systems at [EvaluationSystemsCRG@nesinc.com](mailto:EvaluationSystemsCRG@nesinc.com).

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Robert G. Bentley'.

Robert G. Bentley  
Assistant Commissioner