



Office of Professional Licensing and Teacher Certification
Executive Director

TO: NY State School Superintendents

FROM: Robert Bentley, Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Teaching Initiatives

SUBJECT: Scorer Nominations for the New York State School Leadership Assessments

DATE: September 2008

I am writing to request your assistance in nominating practicing school leaders from your district to serve as scorers for the recently developed School Leadership Assessments of the New York State Teacher Certification Examinations (NYSTCE®). Participating as an NYSTCE scorer on the exam contributes to the practitioner's overall professional growth as a school leader. It is critically important to the examination process that we get experienced and high performing school leaders to serve as scorers in order to effectively and consistently implement the high standards for new school leaders. In addition, participation in the scoring process benefits administrators and their school districts by providing an opportunity for professional growth.

The NYSTCE School Leadership Assessments were developed by the New York State Education Department (NYSED), New York State educators, and the Evaluation Systems group of Pearson (formerly National Evaluation Systems™, or NES®), to respond to new school leadership regulations. The School Leadership Assessments are for the following three certification areas:

- **School Building Leader** (formerly School Administration and Supervision)
- **School District Leader** (formerly School District Administrator)
- **School District Business Leader** (formerly School Business Administrator)

Nomination of NYSTCE Scorers

To ensure successful implementation of the School Leadership Assessments, there is a need for qualified practitioners to score the constructed-response components of the examinations. We are seeking your assistance in nominating leaders from your district to participate as scorers. Participating as an NYSTCE scorer provides a significant opportunity for school leaders and makes an important contribution to the profession in New York State. Scorers are provided with a thorough orientation to the methodology of how to score responses, and gain valuable assessment skills in the process.

The participation of school leaders who are presently active in providing educational leadership is essential to the NYSTCE scoring process. Recruitment of minority individuals is especially important so that the population of scorers reflects the ethnic and cultural diversity of New York State schools.

NYSTCE Scorer Eligibility Criteria

NYSED and Evaluation Systems are seeking qualified scorer candidates in the fields listed above. The individuals you nominate should be certified (Permanent or Professional) New York State administrators who are currently providing school leadership in New York State schools (public or private) or have within the last five years.

Scoring Sessions

The NYSTCE is administered several times throughout the year. NYSTCE scoring sessions are conducted at the Evaluation Systems facility in Malta, NY (located 25 miles north of Albany). Scoring sessions are typically one to two days between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Selected scoring participants are contacted by Evaluation Systems approximately six weeks prior to each scoring session.

Scorers are compensated on an hourly basis for orientation and scoring or may request substitute reimbursement to their school district for their time away. Lunch and refreshments are provided at all NYSTCE scoring sessions. Individuals traveling more than 40 miles (one way) to Malta, NY may be approved for travel expense reimbursement and/or overnight accommodations, if necessary.

Scorer Application Process

Enclosed are Scorer Information Packets that include information about the testing program and scoring process, and the Scorer Application Form. To complete the nomination process, nominated leaders should complete the enclosed Scorer Application Form and return it to Evaluation Systems as soon as possible, or before November 1, 2008. The completed application can be mailed in the postage-paid envelope provided or faxed to the attention of Elizabeth Horowitz at 518-899-7436. Please feel free to photocopy the Scorer Application Form and/or share the contents of the enclosed scorer information packet at meetings or with interested individuals.

Thank you in advance for your support of this important endeavor. For further information regarding the scorer application process, please contact:

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