July 15, 2014

TO: Chief School Administrators
    Charter School Lead Persons

ROUTE TO: School/District Contact Person

FROM: Robert R. Higgins, Ph.D., Director
       Office of Certification and Induction

SUBJECT: Removal of Price Caps for Alternate Route Providers

Over the past several months, the Department of Education has been examining educator preparation practices in New Jersey and nationwide. Our goal is to ensure that teacher candidates have access to the best possible preparation for the challenging profession of education – and that students have access to the most effective teachers, even in the earliest stages of a teacher’s career. In June, the State Board adopted new regulations that raise the bar for entry into preparation programs and for acquisition of professional certification. We continue to work with educators on other ways improve the experience of preparation providers and candidates.

As part of this ongoing effort (announced last year), the Department will lift the price cap previously in place for alternate route providers, effective for the 2014-15 academic year. The current price cap has capped tuition costs at $1,500 per candidate for a 200-hour program, thus potentially limiting program quality and discouraging some providers from entering the market. In order to allow providers with the flexibility to enhance their offerings, the state will now allow each alternate route provider to establish the fees for instruction at its regional training center. We have encouraged providers to consider both candidate affordability and program quality when setting their program costs.

Procedure for Candidates
- Alternate route candidates will need to determine the best program on an individual basis and let their district contact person know which site they wish to attend. Please encourage candidates to select a second and third choice in case the first choice is not available. Note that classes are dependent on sufficient enrollment.

Procedure for Districts
- When hiring an alternate route teacher who must attend a regional training center, the district should direct the candidate to the licensing website at: http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/advisories/applicant.htm. This site contains
contact information and/or links to the websites of all providers of regional training center instruction.

The following is a list of approved alternate route providers with contact information:

**Approved 200 Hour Regional Training Center Providers for Elementary K-5/6, Elementary N-8, N-12 Subject Area, ESL Alternate Route Teachers**

- Elizabeth Regional Training Center: Stephen J. Williams, ElizabethRegCent@aol.com, 908-601-4025, www.Elizabeth.k12.nj.us
  - Fee: $1,650
- Monmouth University – Long Branch: Dr. Jason Barr, jbarr@monmouth.edu, http://www.monmouth.edu/academics/schools/education/provisionalprogram.asp
  - Fee: $1,500
- Essex Provisional Teacher Training Consortium – Montclair: Dr. Jeanne Pryor, info@ecpttp.org
  - Fee: $1,500
  - Fee: $1,500
- Rowan University – Blackwood, Glassboro, West Deptford: Lynne Levy, levy@rowan.edu, www.rowan.edu/colleges/education/alternateroute
  - Fee: $1,450
- Rutgers University – Center for Effective School Practices – Camden, Hackensack, Mercer, Newark, Paterson, Somerset, Mary Ellen Morris, alternate@rutgers.gse.edu
  - Fee: $1,450
- Saint Peter’s College – Jersey City, Kearny, North Plainfield, Sayreville: James Jacobson, Michelle Cassaro, JJacobson@saintpeters.edu, MCassaro@saintpeters.edu, 201-761-6190
  - Fee: $1,450
- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey – Stockton College, Toms River: Michael Hinman, alternate@stockton.edu, http://tinyurl.com/StocktonAltRte
  - Fee: $2,000

**Career and Technical Education (CTE) Provider**

- Candidates for CTE certification must attend the CTE program through Brookdale Community College and will automatically be enrolled when registered in the Provisional Teacher Program: Kelly Canonico, kcanonico@brookdalecc.edu, http://continuinged.brookdalecc.edu/careerdevelopment/teacher-education/alternateroute/cte/, 732-224-2319
  - Fee: To be determined