

The NYSED has received various questions regarding the certification options for School District Leader and School District Business Leader (SDL & SDBL) candidates, and how the assessments (exams) affect their options. Hopefully, this email will clear up any confusion.

Candidates who completed all SDL/SDBL program requirements, **except** the SDSL/SDBL assessment requirements, in either the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 academic year were able to complete their program and receive a college recommendation for Professional SDL/SDBL certification without passing the SDL/SDBL assessments. With the college recommendation, they were also then eligible to apply for, and obtain, the Emergency COVID-19 certificate in these titles.

Beginning with the 2021-22 academic year, candidates must once again pass the SDL/SDBL assessment to complete their program and receive a college recommendation for Professional SDL/SDBL certification at this time. Without a college recommendation, the candidate cannot obtain the Emergency COVID-19 certificate.

Note: The Emergency COVID-19 certificate remains available in TEACH because some candidates are eligible to obtain it. Not all candidates are eligible, as explained above.

The Department is continually reviewing flexibilities as the pandemic evolves and IHE staff should continue to monitor NYSED webpages for any updates.

Sincerely,

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