§ 210-a. Admission requirements for graduate-level teacher and educational leader programs. Each institution registered by the department with graduate-level teacher and leader education programs shall adopt rigorous selection criteria geared to predicting a candidate's academic success in its program, including but not limited to, achievement of a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher in the candidate's undergraduate program. Each program may exempt up to fifty percent of any incoming class of students from such selection criteria set forth in this section based on a student's demonstration of potential to positively contribute to the teaching profession or other extenuating circumstances pursuant to the regulations of the commissioner. A program shall report to the department the number of students admitted pursuant to such exemption and the selection criteria used for such exemptions.