



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

September 29, 2008

Dear Dean/Director:

The Office of Professional Preparation Services (OPPS) has considered the Teacher Preparation Policy Study Group recommendation that the number of endorsement areas be reduced. While some aspects of that recommendation require further study, there are eliminations that can be implemented without harming candidates, teacher preparation institutions, or local education agencies.

The following endorsement areas are to be eliminated effective January 1, 2009. Institutions are hereby advised not to admit new candidates to these programs effective January 1, 2009:

Academic Study of Religion *

Anthropology

Behavioral Studies

Cultural Studies

Environmental Studies

Humanities

Philosophy *

Recreation*

*programs have no Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC)

Since 2000, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has already eliminated Astronomy, Driver and Safety Education, Bilingual Latin, and, through revisions in the Business areas, Secretarial Science, as well as several Vocational titles.

The OPPS requires institutions to send in rosters of candidates currently active in approved endorsement programs that are being eliminated. The MDE will allow candidates to receive their endorsements if completed by January 1, 2011. No MTTC tests will be given in these areas during the 2011-12 testing cycle which begins October 2011.

These endorsements will continue to be displayed on current certificates as they are renewed.

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The MDE Research Collaborative will be asked to study the implications of eliminating the following endorsements, which do not appear to be critical to the Michigan Merit Curriculum but which are popular with candidates:

Psychology

Sociology

Technology and Design, or Industrial Technology

If you have questions regarding the elimination of program areas, please direct them to Dr. Catherine Smith at smithc15@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Flora L. Jenkins, Ph.D.

Director

Office of Professional Preparation Services

c: Bruce Umpstead
MDE Research Group
MDE Client Services
Catherine Smith