

Michigan Department of Education
Office of Professional Preparation Services
DARTEP Update
February, 3 2012

Superintendent Work Groups

Superintendent Flanagan is considering the creation of Work Groups to address various issues in education inclusive of initial and advanced preparation of educators. Information regarding topics and individuals participating in these work groups has yet to be determined. More information will be available in the near future. Please contact Dr. John VanWagoner if you have any questions.

Review of Specialty Programs - Revised Program Review Process:

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is instituting a revised process for reviewing elementary certificate, endorsement area, and experimental programs. It is MDE's aim that this new process will:

- afford institutions greater flexibility in articulating the uniqueness of programs;
- present a pathway, which encourages the development of assessment and use of data to continually reflect on and revise programs; and
- parallel and build toward national accreditation processes (i.e. NCATE, TEAC, CAEP) more closely than previous review processes.

This new review process will consist of three distinct, yet interrelated phases. These phases are outlined below:

PHASE 1 Initial Application	During phase 1, the education unit will provide information about program goals (as claims statements), guiding philosophy, structure/design, and requirements. Additionally, in this section, the education unit will propose methods (including assessments and other indicators) which evaluate the program's success.
PHASE 2 Initial Data	During phase 2, the education unit will provide evidence and explanation about the success of the program (as measured against claims statements). Additionally, the education unit will create an action plan to address any self- or state-identified areas for improvement. Phase 2 information is to be submitted 1 year from the Phase 1 date of approval.
PHASE 3 Evidence and Explanation	During phase 3, the education unit will provide evidence and explanation about the success of the program (as measured against claims statements), and any plans for future action. Phase 3 information is to be submitted 2 years from the Phase 1 date of approval.

OPPS is currently piloting this new review process. Please contact Education Consultants Thomn Bell (bellt1@mi.gov) or Sarah-Kate LaVan (LavanS@mi.gov) by February 28, 2012, if your program(s) would like to be part of this pilot.

ZA to ZS

The Office of Professional Preparation Services (OPPS) conducted a review of all Early Childhood-General and Special Education (ZS) endorsement programs last January. These programs were reviewed by content experts in the field and for the most part these experts were from institutions of higher education. With that being said, it has been the practice of the OPPS to approve programs based on standards and allow institutions to have the ability to utilize these approved programs to recommend new candidates.

In addition, it has been common practice for the OPPS to allow transfer students or candidates that have had some preparation to complete approved programs at an approved institution and/or allow those approved institutions to do a crosswalk between the candidate's previously completed program/coursework and current approved program requirements to determine appropriate experiences and coursework for that particular candidate. In the era of standards, it has been the OPPS's practice to allow institutions to manage these candidates on a case by case basis and utilize the program standards and approved program requirements as the benchmark for developing the appropriate coursework and experiences for these candidates.

Below describes the process which institutions should use to address candidates that have earned a ZA endorsement and are looking to get recommended for the ZS. Items that our office will require will be as follows:

1. Institutions are required to examine each candidate on a case by case basis and determine what courses/field experiences are needed to align to current approved ZS programs. Candidates will be required to complete courses/field experiences as it relates to the courses/field experiences not included in initial preparation. (Please note: Institutions may use multiple courses from previous experiences to meet current standards and course requirements, but must be able to show alignment or crosswalk with current requirements if requested).
2. The candidate must pass the MTTC ZS test prior to recommendation.

In addition MiAECTE decided on a list of requirements that might need to be addressed for these candidates. While this might not apply to all candidates this is

one example of how the requirements for candidates moving from a ZA to ZS might need to complete. The requirements are as follow:

1. A course on inclusive early childhood education for children from birth-to-8 years old
2. A Course on assessment, interventions, and curriculum that addresses differentiated teaching, standards, and learning
3. Supervised field experiences in an inclusive ECE setting serving young children with a variety of disabilities
4. Passing the MTTC for ZS

Please note, the ZS endorsement prepares candidates to teach within the validity of the certificate and endorsement without the additional letter of authorization from the Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services (OSE-EIS) or the Office of Early Childhood Education and Family Services. The ZS endorsed teacher will be able to teach in general education early childhood classrooms, inclusive early childhood classrooms, and in early childhood special education classrooms. These teachers are not adequately prepared to teach self contained Special Education classes in K-3.

With this being said, MDE encourages institutions to continue to dialogue as to how to maintain consistency when working with these candidates. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Thomas Bell at bellt1@mi.gov or via phone at 517/574-0301.

Accreditation Workshop

Hope College is partnering with MDE, TEAC, NCATE, and CAEP to bring an accreditation workshop to Michigan. The workshop will take place starting Wednesday April 11th and will conclude on April 12th (The next day will be the last DARTEP/MACTE meeting of the academic year).

A survey has been created to understand institutions' needs and willingness to participate in this workshop. For more information please contact either Madeline Kukla at kukla@hope.edu or Thomn Bell at bellt1@mi.gov.

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22ELZ27S4FJ>

Reading for Elementary Candidates

MDE is examining the needs of teachers as it relates to being able to teach the content necessary in the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Specifically, the MDE is in the process of revising the Certification Standards for the Preparation of all Elementary Teachers in Reading Instruction (the required 6 credits for initial preparation) to align to the requirements in the CCSS. MDE will be sending a request

to teacher preparation institution to better understand how programs are addressing and preparing all candidates to teach reading as it relates to the CCSS.

Implementation of Approved Elementary Certification Programs:

As institutions will likely be approved to offer proposed elementary certification programs at various times after February 2011, the MDE online published timeline for implementation does not include an explicitly stated deadline for admitting elementary teacher candidates to "old" elementary programs. Considering that the current elementary education Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) test #083 will no longer be offered after July 2013, institution's may want to begin advising elementary candidates and applicants they will need to plan to complete the current elementary education program's academic coursework during 2012. Based on an institution's knowledge of the typical time taken by elementary candidates to complete the academic coursework related to the MTTC #083, the institution should produce its own deadline for admitting candidates to the institution's "old" elementary education program. Institutions may find it useful now to begin publishing that the institution and the MDE are in a transition period of implementing new SBE Standards for Elementary Certification. Current and new elementary education candidates should be advised to anticipate current published courses are subject to change during the transition period and a new test will replace the current test for October 2013 administration. Any institutions yet to complete a program review against new standards, please contact Mr. Thomas Bell as soon as possible to discuss a projected timeline of review.

Social Studies

Similar to Elementary Certificate program review, institutions not being recommended for approval through the first round of applications will have two years to complete a response document, however keep in mind a new test will be in place October 2013 and all candidates taking the new test should be taking coursework which aligns to the new standards.

Industrial Technology and Technology and Design Standard Development

The Industrial and Technology Education (IX) standards were approved at the April 12, 2011 SBE meeting. The MDE will begin to work with Evaluation Systems group of Pearson (Evaluation Systems) to begin the timeline for test development. Institutions wishing to offer or to continue to offer must complete program applications by May 2012.

Michigan Test for Teacher Certification

ALERT: Institutions are reminded not to accept Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) score reports delivered by test takers. If a test taker is not on a score report roster received through secure electronic delivery or direct mail from Evaluation

Systems, the test taker must be told to ask Evaluation Systems to send an official score directly to the institution.

Test takers may print a *Test Results Request Form* located at:

http://www.mttc.nesinc.com/pdfs/MI_20112012TestResultsRequestForm.pdf

The additional score report costs \$15 per test administration date. A score report costs \$15 for two or more tests taken on the same date. Score reports for two or more tests taken on different dates are billed at \$15 per date.

Institutions choosing to accept a score report directly from a test taker are solely responsible for validating the score report against official reports received from Evaluation Systems. Institutions must be ready to provide verification of its validation of a score report used for certificate or endorsement recommendation.

When the MDE or an institution discovers a teaching certificate was issued on the basis of an invalid or fraudulent score report, the MDE's policy is for the institution to inform the MDE, in writing, that the institution is withdrawing the recommendation. As a result of the retraction of a recommendation, the MDE will nullify the teaching certificate.

The new Michigan On-line Educators Certification System (MOECS) application process will assist institutions as MOECS will confirm an appropriate MTTC test has been passed within the 5-year validity before an applicant may generate a request for an institution to submit recommendation for certification or endorsement. However, MOECS is not a substitution for the requirement that institutions retain their own official scores for the applicants they recommend.

The new MTTC contract also provides for computer-based testing (CBT) and full-length practice tests. These enhancements will be phased in, beginning with high-use (so called high-incident) test fields. Full-length practice tests and computer-based testing for the basic skills test and the elementary education test are available. Mathematics elementary and secondary CBTs and full-length practice tests will be available during the 2011-2012 test administration period, details and registration instructions may be found at:

www.mttc.nesinc.com

Occasionally teacher preparation institutions request the MDE to remove MTTC test fields from official annual or 3-year summary reports received from the MDE. The process for removing test fields from official MDE reports begins with the verification roster institutions receive from the Evaluations Systems three days before the date of scheduled MTTC test administration. If an institution observes the verification roster contains test takers scheduled for tests in endorsement areas not available at the institution, those test takers may then be designated on the verification roster as "not eligible". "Not eligible" test takers will be removed from an institutions official MTTC record for that date. MTTC test results for only test takers not identified by an institution as "not eligible" will become part of the official MTTC record.

REMINDERS:

- Institutions must return verification rosters with identified “not eligible” test takers to the testing contractor within 7 days following the date of the test administration.
- MTTC passing percentages reported in the cumulative percentage passing column are a record of the “best attempt” recorded for a test taker during the reporting interval. The cumulative percentage passing does not represent a numerical accumulation of the number of times that a test taker has taken a particular test. Consequently, institutions that keep their own records based on adding up the number of times a test taker takes a test before eventually passing the test will likely observe the MDE’s official cumulative percentage passing values are higher than an institutions own in-house record.
- K-12 teachers and Michigan college and university teacher educators are welcome to participate with MTTC test development. Please invite interested individuals to visit www.mirecruit.nesinc.com for details.

Title IIA(3) Grants for Improving Teacher Quality

Another round of applications for the Title II A (3) Improving Teacher Quality Competitive Grants Program has been announced on the MDE website. The Request for Proposals (RFP) can be found at:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/RFP_2009-2010_rubric_Signed_291634_7.pdf

Please note that the application has been modified, in anticipation of changes in federal funding levels and timelines. There are three categories, all addressing core content. The first category has been expanded to allow for past project participants to “return” to join the proposed “sustained” professional development activities, resulting in an extended evaluation effort. The second category remains the same. The third category allows for current project directors to apply for “continuing funding” to expand their current endeavors. Please contact Donna Hamilton at hamiltond3@mi.gov or 517.241.4546 if you have questions about the RFP.

Principal and Central Office Administrator Preparation Program Applications

The deadline for submitting applications for Principal and Central Office Administrator Preparation Programs is April 23, 2012 and should be sent electronically to Rajah Smart at smartr@mi.gov. Questions regarding Principal and Central Office Administrator Preparation programs should be directed to Mr. Rajah Smart at smartr@mi.gov or 517.335.6615.

National Accreditation

TPIs have made selections of accrediting body and have shown they are currently in good standing. As MDE staff must participate, it is essential to coordinate schedules. Institutions are reminded to contact Dr. Steven Stegink (steginks@mi.gov) and Mr. Thomas Bell (bellt1@mi.gov) BEFORE scheduling an accreditation visit/audit.

Institutions selecting NCATE accreditation must complete a "SPA-like" form for all programs which do not have a SPA. Please refer to the letter dated June 2, 2009 from Dr. Flora Jenkins regarding this subject for more details. If you are in need of technical assistance contact Mr. Thomas Bell.

Endorsement areas that have new state standards may be exempted from submission to the SPA since sufficient data is not available (see letter from Sally Vaughn). However, the institution is encouraged to complete an abbreviated SPA-like report of data for the old program. This report indicates to the BOE team that the institution has a complete assessment system in place for all endorsement areas.

First Aid/CPR

All candidates must have valid Adult and/or Child CPR AND First Aid cards/certificates at the time of recommendation. Recently some organizations have switched over to the Certificates in place of cards. Institutions may choose to use the Certificates in place of cards, however please try to advise candidates to make sure Certificates have signatures.

The MDE has a list of approved providers for CPR and First Aid at the following URL: http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_5683_14795-118868--,00.html

As First Aid and CPR practice evolves the organizations change classes and class titles. Candidates may wish to take classes that are beyond or "advanced" compared to what is required by law. An institution can allow candidates to take courses that are designed for Emergency Response, lifeguard, or other advanced practices as long as the basic requirements of first aid and CPR are met as described by law and the training is completed through an approved provider. For additional questions, please contact Mr. Thomas Bell at bellt1@mi.gov.

Legislative Update

A number of school reform and tenure reform bills were passed this summer: HB 4625, HB 4626, HB 4627 and HB 4628. The bills change the probationary period for tenure from 4 years to 5 years (4625), allows a teacher on continuing tenure to be dismissed or demoted for a reason that is not arbitrary and capricious (4626); amends section 1249 of the revised school code to remove seniority and tenure status as a factor in recall, reduction, hiring, etc., creates the Governor's Council on Educator effectiveness, removes additional coursework to move from the Provisional certificate

to the Professional Education certificate, requires student growth to be a significant factor in teacher evaluations, stipulates termination of teachers with 3 consecutive ineffective evaluations (4627); amends the public employment relations Act to prohibit certain subjects from being included in collective bargaining (4628). Access the full text of these bills at:

[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(p0lpoi45vfxnxi45fcon3h3t\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=home](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(p0lpoi45vfxnxi45fcon3h3t))/mileg.aspx?page=home)

Electronic Certificates

As of Michigan January 18, 2012 Michigan will no longer be printing and mailing educator certificates. Educator certificates are now electronic and accessible through the Michigan Online Educator Certification System (MOECS). Educators will be able to print their own certificates and employers must verify the validity of the certificate via MOECS. TPIs can also verify certificates via MOECS and should no longer require educators to provide a hard copy.

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