

**Michigan Department of Education  
Office of Professional Preparation Services  
DARTEP Update  
October 2012**

**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 their 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.

Applications are available online.

Specialty Area/Endorsement Programs:

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/progapp\\_21902\\_7.doc](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/progapp_21902_7.doc)

Elementary Certificate Programs:

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/Application\\_for\\_Vocational\\_Program\\_Approval\\_12\\_144751\\_7.1.05.doc](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/Application_for_Vocational_Program_Approval_12_144751_7.1.05.doc)

Central Office Administrator:

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Approved\\_central\\_office\\_admin\\_programs\\_6-2-2010\\_323037\\_7.doc](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Approved_central_office_admin_programs_6-2-2010_323037_7.doc)

Principal Preparation Programs:

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Approved\\_Principal\\_Programs\\_349305\\_7.doc](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Approved_Principal_Programs_349305_7.doc)

School Counselor Programs:

**COMING SOON**

Interim Occupational Certificate:

**COMING SOON**

All applications must be sent electronically via email to [educatorprograms@mi.gov](mailto:educatorprograms@mi.gov). Please contact Thomn Bell ([bellt1@mi.gov](mailto:bellt1@mi.gov)) or Sarah-Kate LaVan ([LavanS@mi.gov](mailto:LavanS@mi.gov)) for any questions regarding program review. The Office of Professional Preparation

Services (OPPS) will develop online/virtual technical assistance for completion of applications very soon.

### **Implementation of Approved Elementary Certificate Programs:**

Considering that the current elementary education MTTC test #083 will no longer be offered after July 2013, institutions must begin to advise elementary candidates and applicants they will need to plan to complete the current elementary education program's academic coursework during 2012 or advising candidates into programs approved against the new standards. 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 that current published courses are subject to change during the transition period and that a new test will replace the current test for October 2013 administration.

### **Industrial Technology and Technology and Design Standard Development**

In April 2012, the State Board of Education (SBE) approved standards for the preparation of teachers in Industrial and Technology Education (IX). These standards combine the previous Industrial Technology and the Technology and Design (TX) endorsement programs. Education Preparation Institutions (EPI) must stop admitting candidates into the TX programs at this point. Any EPI wishing to offer the new IX endorsement preparation program must submit application materials (using the new process) to the OPPS. MTTC development has begun for the new IX test. Details will be made available at the December DARTEP meeting.

### **Teacher Quality Grants**

Another round of applications for the Title II A (3) Improving Teacher Quality Competitive Grants Programs will be announced in November on the MDE website. Please be advised the application will be modified, in anticipation of changes in federal funding levels and timelines.

### **Michigan Test for Teacher Certification**

**ALERT: Institutions are reminded not to accept 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 group of Pearson (Evaluation Systems), then 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\\_20092010TestResultsRequestForm.pdf](http://www.mttc.nesinc.com/pdfs/MI_20092010TestResultsRequestForm.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 that choose 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 that 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 a teaching certificate.

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 now available. See [www.mttc.nesinc.com](http://www.mttc.nesinc.com) for details and registration instructions

Teacher education faculty and specialty content area faculty are invited to participate in MTTC test development. Faculty may nominate themselves or others by going to: [www.mirecruit.nesinc.com](http://www.mirecruit.nesinc.com)

Occasionally EPIs contact the MDE with requests to remove MTTC test fields from official annual or 3-year summary reports received from the MDE. Such requests usually occur because a particular subject area endorsement, represented by a test field, is no longer offered, or never was offered at an institution.

The process for removing test fields from official MDE reports begins with the verification roster institutions receive from the testing contractor three days before the date of scheduled MTTC test administration. If an institution observes that 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 that the MDE's official cumulative percentage passing values are higher than an institutions own in-house record.

### **Individualized Development Plan Tool**

A model Individualized Development Plan (IDP) is now available as an electronic tool, for use by beginning teachers and their mentors. Teacher preparation programs are invited to use the tool with their pre-service candidates. It can be found at:

<https://www.solutionwhere.com/midemo/cw/main.asp>

More information about accessing the IDP can be found at:

[http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530\\_5683\\_5703---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_5683_5703---,00.html)

### **Addressing the Achievement Gap**

The MDE has made it a priority to examine the policies and practices that perpetuate the growing Achievement Gap in Michigan's schools. The MDE has narrowed its focus to address Achievement Gap issues of African American males. In effort to address the systematic issues that perpetuate the Achievement Gap the MDE is looking to partner with EPIs and examine the way in which we prepare educators. Specifically, the MDE is interested to learn about how Michigan's EPIs are preparing administrator and teacher candidates on issues of cultural competence, using data to meet the needs of individual learners, valuing diverse ideas, and developing practices to recruit unrepresented candidates specifically African American Men into their programs. Additionally, the MDE would like to learn of any faculty or staff that has researched this topic and has developed strategies to eliminate/reduce this gap. Should you have any questions, please contact Sarah-Kate Lavan ([lavans@mi.gov](mailto:lavans@mi.gov)) or Thomn Bell ([bellt1@mi.gov](mailto:bellt1@mi.gov)) regarding these initiatives.

### **National Accreditation**

The MDE is working with the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) as a pilot state in developing a new partnership agreement. Once initial drafting of the partnership agreement has been completed, MDE staff will work with the Michigan Association for the Colleges of Teacher Education (MACTE) to finalize the document and make recommendations to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. This agreement will impact EPIs going through the accreditation process starting in 2015.

For questions regarding this process or accreditation pathways please contact Thomn Bell 517/ 574-0301 or [bellt1@mi.gov](mailto:bellt1@mi.gov).

### **State School Aid Act**

Within the most recent State School Aid Act, changes were made to encourage online professional development (PD), if school districts are using the Section 101 provision for counting PD hours in lieu of instruction. The following is an excerpt of a letter from the MDE regarding this new requirement.

As used in this subsection, "qualifying professional development" means professional development that is focused on 1 or more of the following:

- (a) Achieving or improving adequate yearly progress as defined under the no child left behind act of 2001, Public Law 107-110.
- (b) Achieving accreditation or improving a school's accreditation status under section 1280 of the revised school code, MCL 380.1280.
- (c) Achieving highly qualified teacher status as defined under the no child left behind act of 2001, Public Law 107-110.
- (d) Integrating technology into classroom instruction.
- (e) Maintaining teacher certification.

Per the updated legislative language above, "...professional development provided online is **ALLOWABLE AND ENCOURAGED**, as long as the instruction has been approved by the district..." This means that online professional development is no longer a requirement for counting the 38 hours of professional development as part of the instructional year.

The Michigan Legislature also left the ultimate authority to approve online professional development with the local school district. It is helpful to point out that the MDE currently has approved online offerings from Michigan Virtual University and also considers any online offering approved by an intermediate school district approved.

### **Teacher Preparation Institution Performance Scores**

The 2012 performance scores are available on the MDE website at:

[http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530\\_5683\\_5703-220335--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_5683_5703-220335--,00.html)

### **Student Teacher Exit and Supervisor Survey URLs**

The Fall/Winter 2012 Survey URLs were sent to EPIs on October 2, 2012 and are scheduled to close February 1, 2013 unless otherwise requested. If you have questions regarding the surveys please contact Dana Utterback at [utterbackd@mi.gov](mailto:utterbackd@mi.gov).

### **Professional Standards and Practices**

The process of recommending individuals for certification using the Michigan Online Educator Certification System (MOECS) has been progressing nicely. Just a reminder, please do not enter the application onto MOECS unless the court documents are being immediately faxed to the OPPS. The application processing is often delayed because the court documents are not faxed immediately. Also, please review the court documents prior to faxing. If the records indicate the charges were not prosecuted or dropped, unless there is another conviction, the applicant will need to check "no" to the conviction question. Finally, if the offense for which the applicant is convicted shows 2nd or 3rd offense, the applicant must provide court documents for all of the convictions (i.e., 1st offense, 2nd offense, 3rd offense, etc).

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