

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
STAFF NOTE

Action Item:

Transylvania University: Accreditation of the Educator Preparation Provider and Approval of Programs

Staff Recommendation:

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should accept the recommendations from the Accreditation Audit Committee (AAC) to grant accreditation for the educator preparation provider (EPP) and approval for the initial level preparation programs at Transylvania University.

Rationale:

16 KAR 5:010 outlines the role and responsibilities of the AAC. The AAC has followed the regulatory procedures.

Action Question:

Should the EPSB grant continuing EPSB state accreditation to the EPP and approve the initial preparation programs at Transylvania University?

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 161.028; 16 KAR 5:010

History/Background:

Existing Policy: 16 KAR 5:010 identifies the requirements and processes for EPPs to demonstrate evidence of meeting standards for accreditation and program approval. EPPs may pursue state accreditation or national accreditation from an EPSB approved accreditor. In accordance with 16 KAR 5:010, Section 2(2), state accreditation is based on the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) standards. All educator preparation programs leading to certification or rank change must be reviewed and approved by the EPSB.

Summary: An EPSB Site Visitors team conducted the virtual site visit evaluation of the EPP on March 6-8, 2022.

Under EPSB guidelines, the site visitors make recommendations on Areas for Improvement (AFI) and the status on standards met or not met. Also, the site team reviews AFIs from the previous accreditation visit.

SITE TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS

EPSB AFIs from previous visit: The site team recommended the removal of one (1) previous AFI based on the NCATE Standards. This AFI was incorporated into the review of current CAEP standards.

Previous AFI #1: Standard 1: Candidate Knowledge, Skills, and Professional Dispositions:
The unit does not identify and assess candidate dispositions in a consistent and coherent manner throughout multiple decision points in the program.
(Addressed in current CAEP Standard R3)

The Site Visitors also recommended the following for Standards Met or Not Met:

Standard 1: Met
Standard 2: Met
Standard 3: Met
Standard 4: Met
Standard 5: Met

ACCREDITATION AUDIT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

On December 9, 2022, the AAC met and reviewed the accreditation materials including the Institutional Self-Study Report, the Formative Feedback Report, the Addendum, the On-site Report, the Report Rejoinder, and the Team Chair's Response to the Rejoinder. The AAC recommended no revisions to the Site Visit Report Findings.

The AAC recommend the following for Standards Met or Not Met:

Standard 1: Met
Standard 2: Met
Standard 3: Met
Standard 4: Met
Standard 5: Met

16 KAR 5:010 requires EPPs to submit each of its program review documents for review prior to its on-site accreditation visit. Transylvania University submitted their programs and received written notification of the results of the program review in a letter dated October 26, 2021.

Pursuant to 16 KAR 5:010, Section 10, the AAC recommends: (1) Accreditation and (2) Approval of the initial level educator preparation programs at Transylvania University.

Budget Impact: KDE resources (staff) to facilitate the review and accreditation processes.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

Content Area Program Reviewers
Program Review Committee
EPSB Site Visitors
AAC

The AAC found that all Standards were met. Pursuant to 16 KAR 5:010, Section 10, the AAC recommends: (1) Accreditation and (2) Approval of the initial level educator preparation programs at Transylvania University.

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