

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Consent Item:

Western Kentucky University: Approval of Proficiency Plan

Staff Recommendation:

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve Western Kentucky University's submitted proficiency plan.

Rationale:

The proposed educator preparation programs follow the regulatory requirements for program approval as established by the EPSB.

Action Question:

Should the EPSB approve the educator preparation proficiency plan submitted by Western Kentucky University?

Applicable Statutes and Regulation:

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.030, 16 KAR 2:010, 16 KAR 5:030

History/Background:

Existing Policy: KRS 161.028 and KRS 161.030 require that educators and other professional school personnel hold certificates of legal qualifications for their respective positions to be issued upon completion of programs of preparation. The traditional means of recognizing competency and proficiency for educator preparation is by earning academic credits. 16 KAR 5:030 provides an alternate means for recognizing competency and proficiency other than academic credit. This regulation outlines the criteria for an educator preparation provider (EPP) to submit a plan for EPSB approval that sets forth the process by which the EPP will conduct proficiency evaluations. The regulation became effective in August 2018. The Guidelines for Approval of Proficiency Evaluation Plans were presented to the EPSB during its December 2018 meeting. In June of 2019, Western Kentucky University received proficiency approval for: Biological Science, Chemistry, Chinese, English, IECE, LBD, Math, Middle School (English, Math, Science, Social Studies), PE, Physics, Social Studies, Spanish, German, French, ESL Endorsement, Gifted Endorsement, ICT Endorsement, MSD, Reading Endorsement, CTE Principal, Director of Pupil Personnel, Director of Special Education, School Principal, School Superintendent, Supervisor of Instruction (Certification Only). In February 2024, Western Kentucky University received proficiency approval for: School Media Librarian and Instructional Computer Technology Endorsement.

Summary: Western Kentucky University is requesting approval for its proficiency evaluation plan for the following initial graduate and advanced programs: Family and Consumer Science and Business and Marketing Education.

The submitted proficiency plan adequately addresses the components of the application which includes:

1. Identification of the programs for which it intends to have proficiency as a pathway to certification.
2. Description of the process to evaluate a candidate's proficiency, who is involved in the process, and the process used to measure the applicable performance-based standards.
3. Description how candidates will demonstrate meeting the admission criteria of 16 KAR 5:020 as applicable.
4. Identification of the requirements candidates must demonstrate before being exited from the program. A description of how the exit requirements will be demonstrated is included as well as the process by which the EPP will report candidates in the EPSB Admission/Exit System.
5. Inclusion of a Sample Employment Eligibility letter.

Budget Impact: There is no budgetary impact.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness staff have reviewed the submitted documentation and finds it meets the requirements for approval.

Contact Person:

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