

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Consent Item:

Northern Kentucky University Program Approval: Learning and Behavior Disorders

Staff Recommendation:

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve Northern Kentucky University's Learning and Behavior Disorders program as recommended by the Program Review Committee.

Rationale:

The submitted programs have demonstrated compliance with the EPSB regulations for admission and standards alignment requirements. The proposed educator preparation programs follow the appropriate regulations (16 KAR 5:010; 16 KAR 2:010) outlining program requirements for program approval as established by the EPSB. The programs have completed the review process and received a recommendation for approval from the Program Review Committee

Applicable Statutes and Regulation:

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.030, 16 KAR 5:010, 16 KAR 5:020, 16 KAR 2:010

Action Question:

Should the EPSB approve the Learning and Behavior Disorders Initial Undergraduate program submitted by Northern Kentucky University?

History/Background:

Existing Policy: KRS 161.028 and KRS 161.030 require the EPSB to establish curricula for educator preparation programs in Kentucky and approve such programs for Educator Preparation Providers. The Educator Preparation Branch and the Program Review Committee evaluated the program review documents submitted for approval against performance-based program certification guidelines established by the EPSB. The program proposal meets all the requirements set forth by the EPSB.

Summary: Northern Kentucky University is seeking approval for Learning and Behavior Disorders Initial Undergraduate Baccalaureate program in order to address the shortage of teachers for students with Learning and Behavior Disorders in Kentucky. The university is seeking to re-establish the undergraduate program that was previously approved. This program would give Northern Kentucky University Learning and Behavior Disorders programs at the Initial Undergraduate, Initial Graduate and Advanced Masters Rank I and Rank II levels. Given the current shortage of special educators in Kentucky, it is important to have additional options for individuals to obtain initial certification in special education. The approval of this Learning and Behavior Disorders program will increase the university's ability to serve the needs of individuals seeking a special education initial teacher certification and increase the number of certified teachers available for employment in the schools.

Budget Impact: There is no budgetary impact.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

OELE staff and the Program Review Committee have reviewed this program proposal and determined that the programs meet the requirements for approval. The proposal has completed the review process and received a recommendation for approval from the Program Review Committee per 16 KAR 5:010.

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