

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Consent Item:

Request for SARA approval of Franklin University's Initial Certification Programs as Submitted

Staff Recommendation:

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve Franklin University's initial programs as submitted through the SARA process.

Rationale:

Franklin University has met the EPSB's requirements under the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) for program approval. Those requirements include state, regional and Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) accreditation; demonstration that the programs of preparation are not based solely upon the completion of a written or verbal assessment; compliance with the program admission requirements established in 16 KAR 5:020. Initial programs must also demonstrate compliance with 16 KAR 5:040 as it relates to the admission, placement, and supervision of teacher educator candidates in student teaching, subject to the field experience limitations set forth under SARA.

Action Question:

Should the EPSB approve the initial programs submitted by Franklin University?

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.030, 16 KAR 2:010, 16 KAR 5:020, 16 KAR 5:040

History/Background:

Existing Policy: Beginning December 1, 2016, Kentucky became a member of SARA. This agreement among member states, districts and territories establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering of postsecondary distance education courses and programs. It is intended to make it easier for students to take online courses offered by postsecondary institutions based in another state. SARA is overseen by a National Council and is administered by four regional education compacts (i.e, SREB). In order for the Board to approve educator preparation programs that are NC-SARA members, located out-of-state and offered exclusively online, the educator preparation program has to demonstrate compliance with the applicable Kentucky requirements.

Summary: Franklin University is requesting approval for the following programs:

<u>Name of Program</u>	<u>Resulting Certification</u> <u>(Ohio)</u>	<u>Resulting Certification</u> <u>(Kentucky)</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bachelor of Science, Primary Education• Post-Baccalaureate coursework, Primary Education	Grades PK-5	Elementary School (Primary-Grade 5)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Science, Intervention Specialist – Mild to Moderate • Post-Baccalaureate coursework, Mild to Moderate 	Mild/Moderate Educational Needs (Grades K-12)	Learning Behavior Disorders (Primary through Grade 12)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Science, Middle Childhood • Post-Baccalaureate, Middle Childhood 	Grades 4-9 in two of the following areas: Language Arts & Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies	Middle School (Grades 5-9) Base Teaching Certificate in two of the following fields: English, Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Science, Adolescence to Young Adult • Post-Baccalaureate coursework, Adolescence to Young Adult 	Grades 7-12 in one of the following content areas: Integrated Language Arts, Integrated Mathematics, or Integrated Social Studies	Secondary Education (Grades 8-12) Base Teaching Certificate in one of the following fields: English, Mathematics, or Social Studies

Franklin University is currently accredited at the initial licensure level by CAEP through Fall 2026. As evidenced by the application, Franklin University is recognized to grant degrees and certification by the Ohio Department of Education. Each of the bachelor's and post-baccalaureate programs were included in their most-recent CAEP accreditation review in October 2021. A copy of the application is included for EPSB review.

Budget Impact: There is no budgetary impact.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

Staff has reviewed Franklin University's application and determined that they have met the requirements for approval.

Contact Person:

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