

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
STAFF NOTE

Action Item:

Option 9 Application, Fleming County Schools and Campbellsville University.

Staff's Recommendation:

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve the application.

Rationale:

Fleming County and Campbellsville University have submitted an Option 9 application that meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. Campbellsville University holds accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, and its educator preparation programs have been approved by the EPSB.

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.048, 19 KAR 9:110

History/Background:

Existing Policy: KRS 161.048(10) establishes the Option 9 alternative route to certification. This route provides for the expedited certification of a person to teach at any grade level through a cooperative program between a college or university and a school district. The expedited certification program will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification within three (3) school years. The candidate is not certified while completing the route but shall complete a residency/paraprofessional component and receive coaching and mentoring from experienced teachers. 16 KAR 9:110 establishes the standards and procedures for Option 9 and contains sections covering providers, residency, field experience, student teaching, application review, continuance of program approval, revocation for cause, reconsideration, data reports, and professional certificates.

Summary: Fleming County Schools has partnered with Campbellsville University to develop a proposed Option 9 program. In accordance with Section 5 of the regulation, staff reviewed the application and found that it meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. A copy of the application has been provided for review by the EPSB but will be sent under separate cover. As part of the proposal, each party has agreed to take on the following:

Fleming County Schools will:

- Maintain records of field experiences and share such with Campbellsville University.
- Employ the participant in a residency or paraprofessional program within the school district for the duration of the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program. During the third year, participants will be employed full time in the area of certification.
- Assign a cooperating teacher who follows the protocols for observing and evaluating student teachers, including a minimum of four (4) observations.

- Maintain electronic records that ensure all third-year residents meet the student teaching requirements and share such with Campbellsville University.
- No longer accept new candidates to the program if the district decides to end the partnership.
- Not be required to offer employment as a P-5 teacher to a participant upon program completion.

Campbellsville University will:

- Ensure that the completion of coursework and field experience will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification within three (3) years.
- Ensure candidates meet admission requirements in 16 KAR 5:020.
- Assure that candidates document 200 hours of field experience and the eight (8) categories of field experiences through electronic records.
- Provide training, in collaboration with Fleming County Schools, on the code of ethics.
- Accept work experience in place of student teaching.
- Assign a university supervisor to work with the participant during the third year of the program.

In accordance with 16 KAR 9:110, Section 5, initial program approval will be for a period of three (3) years. After that time, the providers may apply for continuing program approval and provide evidence of program quality.

Budget Impact: There will be costs associated with the oversight of this route.

Contact Person:

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