

TOPIC: APPROVAL OF CREDIT WAIVER AND SECONDARY MATHEMATICS TEACHER ENDORSEMENT WITH B.S. APPLIED MATHEMATICS AT UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

PREPARED BY: DR. IAN MACGILLIVRAY, DR. JULIE CARNAHAN

I. SUMMARY

This action item requests initial approval of a secondary mathematics teacher endorsement with a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Applied Mathematics at the University of Colorado Boulder; approval of a credit waiver of 128 credits; and lifting of the four-year graduation agreement for this proposed teacher preparation program.

II. BACKGROUND

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is already authorized to offer a BS in Applied Mathematics through their College of Engineering. All engineering majors at CU Boulder must have at least 128 credits to maintain national accreditation. Pairing secondary mathematics teacher preparation with this bachelor's degree creates another pathway for undergraduates to enter the teaching profession and helps fill the state's need for highly qualified mathematics teachers. Lifting the four-year graduation agreement gives the program greater flexibility and the students more options to complete the program and meet CDE licensing requirements.

Pursuant to C.R.S. 23-1-121, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education determines approval of all teacher preparation programs at public and private institutions of higher education, upon receiving an affirmative recommendation from the State Board of Education. The process for reviewing and approving proposed teacher preparation programs is as follows: The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) conducts a review of proposed programs to ensure that the content of each program is designed and implemented in a manner that will enable a teacher candidate to meet the requirements for teacher licensure in Colorado (C.R.S. 22-60.5); CDE then makes a recommendation to the State Board of Education, which makes a recommendation to the Department of Higher Education (DHE). Upon receiving an affirmative recommendation, DHE reviews the program proposals for the following statutory performance criteria: admission system; screening and counseling of teacher candidates; integration of theory and practice in coursework and field based training; supervised field based experience (at least 800 hours); and assessment of candidates' subject matter and professional knowledge and ability to apply the professional knowledge base (C.R.S. 23-1-121.2). In the case of private institutions, DHE will review the proposal only for supervised field based experience (C.R.S. 23-1-121.5).

III. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVAL

At its meeting on August 13, 2009, the Colorado State Board of Education approved the content of this program proposal. CDE staff transmitted their affirmative recommendation to DHE.

IV. DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION REVIEW

Pursuant to C.R.S. 23-1-121, the Department confirmed that the program proposal meets all performance criteria.

V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission approve the proposal to offer a mathematics endorsement with the University of Colorado Boulder's B.S. in Applied Mathematics; grants a credit waiver of 128 credits; and lifts the four-year graduation agreement for this teacher preparation program.

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Copies of all relevant statute, policy, and the letter of approval from the State Board of Education are on file in the Academic Affairs Office.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. §22-60.5
C.R.S. §23-1-121