

TOPIC: APPROVAL OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ENDORSEMENT WITH M.A.T. AT METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE OF DENVER

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I. SUMMARY

This action item requests initial approval for Metropolitan State College of Denver (Metro) to offer an elementary education (8.02) endorsement with the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) degree.

II. BACKGROUND

At its last meeting, the Commission approved Metro's new M.A.T. degree and a special education generalist (9.06) endorsement to be offered with it. This proposal is to offer an elementary education endorsement with the already approved M.A.T. degree.

Pursuant to C.R.S. 23-1-121, the Commission determines approval of all teacher preparation programs at public and private institutions of higher education in the state, conditioned on a positive recommendation from the State Board of Education. The process for the initial approval of teacher preparation programs is as follows: The institution of higher education submits documentation to both the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and the Colorado Department of Higher Education (DHE). The CDE conducts a review of the program to ensure that the content 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). The DHE reviews the program 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). The CDE then makes a recommendation to the State Board of Education, which then makes a recommendation to the DHE.

III. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION REAPPROVAL

At its meeting on March 11, 2010, the Colorado State Board of Education approved the content of Metro's elementary education endorsement (with M.A.T.) program. CDE staff transmitted its affirmative recommendation to the department.

IV. DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION REVIEW

Pursuant to C.R.S. 23-1-121.4, the department confirmed that Metro's elementary education endorsement (with M.A.T.) program meets all statutory criteria.

V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission approve Metro's elementary education endorsement (with M.A.T.) program.

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Copies of all relevant statute, policy, the final report from the on-site review team, and the letter of approval from the State Board of Education are on file in the Academic Affairs Office.

VII. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

22-60.5 C.R.S.
23-1-121 C.R.S.