

TOPIC: REVISIONS TO POLICY SECTION I, PART P: EDUCATOR PREPARATION POLICY

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I. SUMMARY

This action item recommends revisions to CCHE Teacher Education Policy I, P to comply with 2011 legislative changes as enacted by S.B. 11-245. The attached recommended policy revisions to Commission policy Section I, Part P: Teacher Education reflect the current statute (C.R.S 23-1-121) as revised by Senate Bill 11-245.

II. BACKGROUND

The existing Teacher Education policy I,P addresses the procedures for initial approval of teacher preparation programs and the 5-year reauthorization cycle for teacher education programs at public and private institutions of higher education. In response to Senate Bill 11-245, staff reviewed and revised Section I, Part P: Teacher Education Policy (Attachment A) to meet the requirements of legislation and to improve the wording of the policy. The following is a brief description of the substantive changes that are recommended:

- a. Change the name of the policy from Teacher Education Policy to Educator Preparation Policy, as well as all references to “teacher education” within the policy language, to reflect that DHE has the authority to review, and CCHE to approve, all educator preparation programs (e.g., principal, school counselor, special service providers) per S.B. 11-245. Previous authority was limited to initial teacher licensure programs only.
- b. S.B. 11-245 gives DHE the authority to review and CCHE the authority to approve all educator preparation programs at public, private, and proprietary institutions of higher education. Previous authority was limited to public institutions only for initial review of new programs.
- c. S.B. 11-245 gives DHE the authority to review and CCHE the authority to approve all educator preparation programs at the undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, and graduate levels whether or not they lead to a degree or an endorsement on a CDE educator license. Previous authority was limited to initial teacher licensure programs.
- d. Language and requirements have been added that support the move towards more outcomes based measures for accountability (rather than just inputs).
- e. New language directs CDE and DHE to share relevant data with each other and with the educator preparation programs and to collaborate on the annual report on the effectiveness of educator preparation, as well as the effectiveness of DHE and CDE’s review and reauthorization system for educator preparation programs.

S.B. 11-245 had the support of every educator preparation program at every public, private, and proprietary institution of higher education in Colorado the bill passed the Colorado General Assembly unanimously.

III. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission approves the attached recommended revisions to Section 1, Part P: Teacher Preparation Policy.

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Copies of all relevant statute are on file in the Academic Affairs Office.

VII. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

§23-1-121 C.R.S.