

**TOPIC: REAUTHORIZATION OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION UNIT AT UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO**

**PREPARED BY: IAN MACGILLIVRAY, ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

**I. SUMMARY**

This item recommends reauthorization of the educator preparation unit and educator preparation programs at University of Northern Colorado. Department staff, in collaboration with Colorado Department of Education, conducted an onsite reauthorization visit at University of Northern Colorado on March 13, 2013.

**II. BACKGROUND**

Pursuant to C.R.S. §23-1-121 the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) considers reauthorization of all educator preparation programs at public and private institutions of higher education, after receiving an affirmative recommendation from the State Board of Education. The process for reauthorization of educator preparation programs is as follows: Colorado Department of Education (CDE) conducts a review of the endorsement programs to ensure that the content is designed and implemented in a manner that will enable a candidate to meet the requirements for licensure in Colorado (C.R.S. §22-60.5). Department of Higher Education (DHE) reviews the unit and its programs for the following statutory performance criteria: admission system; ongoing advising and screening of educator candidates; integration of theory and practice in coursework and field based training; supervised field based experience; and assessment of candidates' subject matter and professional knowledge and ability to apply the professional knowledge base [C.R.S. §23-1-121(2)]. DHE and CDE then jointly conduct an on-site visit of the unit and its educator preparation programs. CDE then makes a recommendation to the State Board of Education, which then makes a recommendation to DHE. Upon receiving an affirmative recommendation, DHE makes a recommendation to CCHE.

**III. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVAL**

At its meeting on May 15, 2013, the Colorado State Board of Education approved the content of the educator preparation programs at University of Northern Colorado, noted with asterisks below. Not all endorsement programs' content was reviewed by CDE because this shortened version of a state reauthorization visit was meant as a "hold over" between regular reauthorization visits to align UNC's cycle for state reauthorization with that of its national accrediting body to make concurrent visits possible in the future, per §23-1-121(7). UNC is approved to offer all of the endorsements listed below. CDE staff transmitted State Board of Education's approval to DHE.

- Administrator (3.04)
- Art (8.04)
- Audiologist (11.01)
- Counselor, School (11.09)
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (8.22)
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Bilingual Education Specialist (8.23)
- Drama (8.07)
- Early Childhood Education (8.01)\*
- Early Childhood Special Education (9.08)\*
- Early Childhood Special Education Specialist (9.04)\*
- Elementary Education (8.02)\*
- English Language Arts (8.09)\*
- Foreign Language (8.10)
- Gifted Education Specialist (9.05)
- Librarian, School (10.02)
- Mathematics (8.14)
- Music (8.15)
- Nurse, School (11.05)
- Orientation and Mobility Specialist, School (11.03)
- Physical Education (8.16)
- Principal (3.03)
- Psychologist, School (11.06)
- Reading Specialist (10.04)
- Reading Teacher (10.03)
- Science (8.17)
- Social Studies (8.18)
- Speech (8.19)
- Speech/Language Pathologist, School (11.08)
- Special Education Director (10.05)
- Special Education Generalist (9.06)\*
- Special Education Specialist (9.01)
- Special Education Specialist: Deaf/Hard of Hearing (9.03)
- Special Education Specialist: Visually Impaired (9.02)

#### **IV. DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION REVIEW**

Pursuant to C.R.S. §23-1-121 Department staff reviewed the educator preparation unit and its programs and confirmed that they meet performance criteria.

#### **V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Commission reauthorize the educator preparation unit and educator preparation endorsement programs at University of Northern Colorado.**

#### **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.

**VII. STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

§22-60.5 C.R.S.

§23-1-121 C.R.S.