

TOPIC: RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION GENERALIST TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM AT COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY

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I. SUMMARY

This action item is for initial approval to offer Special Education Generalist (9.06) teacher endorsement at Colorado Mesa University. This endorsement goes with the already approved Master of Arts in Education degree.

II. BACKGROUND

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: Colorado Department of Education (CDE) conducts a review of the 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 then 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 January 9, 2013, the Colorado State Board of Education approved the content of this proposal. CDE staff transmitted its affirmative recommendation to DHE.

IV. DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION REVIEW

Pursuant to C.R.S. 23-1-121, the department confirmed that the proposal meets the performance criterion of at least 800 hours of supervised field-based experience when offered with initial licensure, as well as the other performance measures in this statute.

V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission approve the Special Education Generalist (9.06) teacher endorsement at Colorado Mesa University.

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.