

**TOPIC: PROPOSAL TO OFFER CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE BILINGUAL EDUCATION SPECIALIST ENDORSEMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO**

**PREPARED BY: BRITTANY LANE, ACADEMIC POLICY OFFICER FOR EDUCATOR PREPARATION & RESEARCH**

**I. SUMMARY**

This consent item recommends approval to offer Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Bilingual Education Specialist (8.23) teacher endorsement at the University of Northern Colorado.

**II. BACKGROUND**

Pursuant to C.R.S. 23-1-121 the Colorado Commission on Higher Education considers approval 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 initial approval of new educator preparation programs is as follows: Colorado Department of Education (CDE) conducts a review of the endorsement program to ensure that its 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). 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 proposed program for the following statutory performance criteria: admission system; screening and counseling 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).

**III. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVAL**

At its February 13, 2013 meeting, the Colorado State Board of Education approved the content of the University of Northern Colorado proposal to offer Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Bilingual Education Specialist endorsement (endorsement number 8.23 in the *Rules for the Administration of the Educator Licensing Act of 1991*). CDE staff transmitted its affirmative recommendation to DHE.

**IV. DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION REVIEW**

Pursuant to C.R.S. §23-1-121 Department staff reviewed this program and confirmed that it meets performance criteria.

**V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Commission approve the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Bilingual Education Specialist (8.23) endorsement program at the 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.