

TOPIC: RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO OFFER PRINCIPAL LICENSURE AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY – GLOBAL CAMPUS

PREPARED BY: DR. ROBERT MITCHELL, ACADEMIC POLICY OFFICER FOR EDUCATOR PREPARATION

I. SUMMARY

This item recommends approval to offer Principal Licensure (3.03) at Colorado State University – Global Campus.

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. Upon receiving an affirmative recommendation, the department reviews the proposed program for the following statutory performance criteria: a comprehensive admission system; ongoing advising and screening of 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. STAFF ANALYSIS

The Colorado State Board of Education approved the content of Colorado State University – Global Campus's Principal Licensure program at its March 11, 2014 meeting. CDE staff transmitted its affirmative recommendation to the department.

This program prepares existing educators to become K12 principals. Completion of the coursework culminates in a recommendation for principal licensure and can later be applied towards the institution's existing Master of Science in Teaching and Learning. Pursuant to C.R.S. §23-1-121(2), department staff reviewed the proposal and confirmed it meets the statutory performance criteria. The following is summarized from CSU-Global Campus's proposal:

1. **Comprehensive admission system:** Applicants are required to possess and document evidence regarding their possession of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution, a current and valid teaching license, a minimum of three-years of successful teaching practice by program conclusion, an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.00, and a recommendation from a current or previous school administrator.
2. **Ongoing screening and advising:** Colorado State University – Global Campus assigns individual advisors for every student. Intervention procedures, if needed, have been established for candidates who are not progressing adequately and include participation from faculty, the internship coordinator and the mentor for the individual candidate.
3. **Course work and field-based training:** Student academic progress is measured and retained by CSU - Global Campus for both faculty and student review. The internship coordinator is responsible for verification that candidates meet at least 300 hours of field-based training and a compiled library of data on each individual candidate is retained. Further, mentors are instructed on key deliverables and assessments that candidates are responsible to demonstrate proficiency. Regular progress reports of candidate development are submitted to the institution's internship coordinator.
4. **Candidate skills and content knowledge:** A CDE review of the content contained within the principal licensure program verified that the proposed licensure program provides instruction and guidance on pedagogical development, educational law and additional content related to effective educational supervision. The Colorado State Board of Education approved the content.
5. **Continual improvement:** Colorado State University - Global Campus has initiated a process where students can provide direct input regarding the quality of the program upon completion. The program will conduct regular reviews of student progress and incorporates formal course evaluations for program self-improvement. The department's Division of Academic Affairs will continue to monitor and work with Colorado State University – Global Campus to ensure the incorporation of viable feedback into the continual improvement process.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission approve the Principal Licensure (3.03) program at Colorado State University – Global Campus.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. §23-1-121-Commission directive - approval of educator preparation programs – review

(2) The commission shall adopt policies establishing the requirements for educator preparation programs offered by institutions of higher education. The department shall work in cooperation with the state board of education in developing the requirements for educator preparation programs. At a minimum, the requirements shall ensure that each educator preparation program complies with section 23-1-125, is designed on a performance-based model, and includes:

(a) A comprehensive admission system that includes screening of a candidate's dispositions for the field in which he or she is seeking licensure, consideration of a candidate's academic preparation for entry into his or her desired endorsement area or areas, and preadmission advising for students who are considering becoming candidates. The department shall work in collaboration with the programs to define any dispositions considered to be appropriate for educators.

(b) Ongoing advising and screening of candidates by practicing educators or faculty members;

(c) Course work and field-based training that integrates theory and practice and educates candidates in the methodologies, practices, and procedures of standards-based education, as described in parts 4 and 10 of article 7 of title 22, C.R.S., and specifically in teaching to the state academic standards adopted pursuant to section 22-7-406, C.R.S., or, beginning December 15, 2012, teaching to the state preschool through elementary and secondary education standards adopted pursuant to section 22-7-1005, C.R.S.;

(d) A requirement that, during the course of the preparation program, each teacher candidate in an initial licensure program complete a minimum of eight hundred hours, each principal and administrator candidate complete a minimum of three hundred hours, and each other advanced degree or add-on endorsement candidate complete appropriate supervised field-based experience that relates to predetermined learning standards and includes best practices and national norms related to the candidate's endorsement;

(e) A requirement that each candidate, prior to graduation, must demonstrate the skills required for licensure, as specified by rule of the state board of education pursuant to section 22-2-109 (3), C.R.S., in the manner specified by rule of the state board;

(f) Comprehensive, ongoing assessment including evaluation of each candidate's subject matter and professional knowledge and ability to demonstrate skill in applying the professional knowledge base.