

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

Statutory Authority: 14 Delaware Code, Section 122(d) (14 **Del.C.** §122(d))
14 **DE Admin. Code** 290

FINAL

REGULATORY IMPLEMENTING ORDER

290 Approval of Educator Preparation Programs

I. Summary of the Evidence and Information Submitted

The Secretary of Education intends to amend 14 **DE Admin. Code** 290 Approval of Educator Preparation Programs. The amendment is to align the regulation to Senate Bill No. 51 as amended by Senate Amendment No. 1 of the 147th General Assembly and align to the changes in the national teacher education accrediting agency. For ease of reading, the regulation was stricken though in its entirety and new language will be represented as underlined. Some language, from the original regulation has been incorporated into the amendment.

The Department took into account feedback from a variety of stakeholders during the drafting process. The Department conducted multiple conversations with educator preparation programs, the State Board of Education, the Professional Standards Board, teachers, administrators, and Districts. It also considered national research and best practices in the field of educator preparation. As a result of these consultations, the Department defined a process for program approval that meets the requirements of the law and raises the bar for candidates and institutions of higher education, with the intention of increasing the supply of high quality teachers for all of Delaware's children.

Notice of the proposed regulation was published in the *News Journal* and the *Delaware State News* on **May 1, 2014**, in the form hereto attached as *Exhibit "A"*. The Department received comments from members of the University of Delaware faculty, the Education Department faculty of Wesley College, Reading Assist, Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens, State Council for Persons with Disabilities and State Board of Education. The comments were each reviewed and considered. The Department has made changes to the regulation for clarification purposes.

II. Findings of Facts

The Secretary finds that it is appropriate to amend 14 **DE Admin. Code** 290 Approval of Educator Preparation Programs in order to align to the changes in the national teacher education accrediting agency.

The amendment includes but is not limited to: 1) inclusion of a Department-led educator preparation program approval and renewal process, replacing the prior process which relied heavily on a partner organization, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE); 2) an update of the name of the partner which will contribute to the Department-led approval process to the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) (formerly NCATE); 3) establishment of rigorous entry requirements as prerequisites for admission into an approved program; 4) the requirement that approved programs have a clinical residency component, supervised by high quality educators, consisting of at least ten weeks of full-time student teaching, with clinical experiences interwoven throughout; 5) the requirement that approved programs for early childhood and elementary school teachers include instruction using research-based strategies for teaching childhood literacy and age-appropriate mathematics content; 6) the requirement that programs conduct ongoing evaluation of their students, aligned to the state-wide educator evaluation system; 7) establishment of rigorous exit requirements for approved programs, including achievement of passing scores on a content-readiness exam and a performance assessment; 8) the requirement that approved programs collaborate with the Department to collect and report data, including data on performance and effectiveness of program graduates by student achievement; 9) the requirement that approved programs report on all aspects of program compliance and outcomes as a prerequisite for ongoing program approval; 10) establishment of a process for public reporting that provides and publishes ratings of programs based on outcomes; and 11) inclusion of definitions for all key terms in this regulation.

III. Decision to Amend the Regulation

For the foregoing reasons, the Secretary concludes that it is appropriate to amend 14 **DE Admin. Code** 290 Approval of Educator Preparation Programs. Therefore, pursuant to 14 **Del.C.** §122, 14 **DE Admin. Code** 290 Approval of Educator Preparation Programs attached hereto as *Exhibit "B"* is hereby amended. Pursuant to the provision of 14 **Del.C.** §122(e), 14 **DE Admin. Code** 290 Approval of Educator Preparation Programs hereby amended shall be in effect for a period of five years from the effective date of this order as set forth in Section V. below.

IV. Text and Citation

The text of 14 **DE Admin. Code** 290 Approval of Educator Preparation Programs amended hereby shall be in the form attached hereto as *Exhibit "B"*, and said regulation shall be cited as 14 **DE Admin. Code** 290 Approval of Educator Preparation Programs in the *Administrative Code of Regulations* for the Department of Education.

V. Effective Date of Order

The actions hereinabove referred to were taken by the Secretary pursuant to 14 **Del.C.** §122 on **June 13, 2014**. The effective date of this Order shall be ten (10) days from the date this Order is published in the *Delaware Register of Regulations*.

IT IS SO ORDERED the 13th day of June 2014.

Department of Education

Mark T. Murphy, Secretary of Education

Approved this 13th day of June 2014

290 Approval of Educator Preparation Programs

1.0 Definitions

The words and terms, when used in this regulation, shall have the following meaning unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

~~“Accreditation” means the decision rendered by NCATE when an institution’s professional education unit meets NCATE standards and requirements.~~

~~“Administrator” means Department of Education Associate charged with oversight of Program Approval for college and university educator preparation Programs.~~

~~“Associate Degree” means a two (2) year degree conferred by a regionally accredited Institution of higher education or by a distance education Institution that is regionally or nationally accredited through an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education.~~

~~“Concurrent Agreement” means the process where an NCATE review and a review by the Delaware Department of Education occur in a concurrent manner.~~

~~“Department” means the Delaware Department of Education.~~

~~“Department Approval” means the process by which a specific professional education Program is recognized by the State Department of Education as meeting state standards for the content and operation of such Programs.~~

~~“Department of Education Program Approval Regulations” means the regulations set forth herein.~~

~~“Educator” means a person licensed and certified by the State under 14 **Del.C.**, Ch 12 to engage in the practice of instruction, administration or other related professional support services in Delaware public schools, including charter schools, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the Standards Board and approved by the State Board but does not include substitute teachers.~~

~~“Higher Education Degree Advanced Level” means post baccalaureate degree Programs for the advanced preparation of teachers, and the initial or advanced preparation of professional school personnel. Programs at the advanced level lead to a master’s, specialist, or doctoral degree, or they may culminate in non-degree licensure at the graduate level.~~

~~“Higher Education Degree Basic (Initial) Level” means programs leading to the initial preparation of teachers, commonly leading to a baccalaureate degree, a master of arts in teaching, or other programs designed to prepare teachers for initial licensure.~~

~~“Institution” means the college or university offering baccalaureate and post baccalaureate degree teacher preparation programs.~~

~~“Institutional Report” means a report submitted to NCATE as part of the review process that provides the institutional and unit context, a description of the unit’s conceptual framework, and evidence that the unit is meeting the NCATE unit standards.~~

~~“National Recognition” means approval of a program that has met the standards of a specialized professional association that is a constituent member of NCATE.~~

~~“NASDTEC” means The National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification. The organization represents professional standards boards, commissions and departments of education in all 50~~

states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Dependent Schools, the U.S. Territories, New Zealand, and British Columbia, which are responsible for the preparation, licensure, and discipline of educational personnel.

~~“NCATE” means The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, a national accrediting body for schools, colleges, and departments of education authorized by the U.S. Department of Education.~~

~~“Professional Education Unit” means the school, college, department or other administrative body within an Institution of higher learning that is primarily responsible for the preparation of teachers and other professional education personnel.~~

~~“Program(s)” means the sequence of courses and experiences required by a college or university for the preparation of professional education candidates to teach a specific subject or academic area, to provide professional education services, or to administer schools; except that where used in section 9.0 of this regulation, the word “program(s)” shall mean the program(s) approved pursuant to said section.~~

~~“Proposal for Program Approval for Education Preparation Programs Which Do Not Have Specialized Professional Association (SPA) Approval” means the formal proposal that the Department requires higher education institutions to complete and submit in order to seek approval for teacher education programs in a Professional Education Unit for which there is no national Specialized Professional Association (SPA) or for which the institution has not received approval from the SPA.~~

~~“Secretary” means the Secretary of the Delaware Department of Education.~~

~~“Specialized Professional Association (SPA)” means national bodies such as the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) and the International Reading Association (IRA) whose program review standards have been approved by NCATE.~~

~~“State Program Proposal Review Team” means the team assembled pursuant to section 4.4 of this regulation.~~

~~“State Review Team” means the team assembled by the Department of Education pursuant to section 3.3 of this regulation.~~

15-DE-Reg-642 (11/01/11)

2.0 Prior Approval from the Department Required to Offer Programs

- 2.1 Pursuant to 14 Del.C. §122(b)(22), no individual, public or private educational association, corporation or Institution, including any Institution of post secondary education, shall offer a Program for the training of educators to be licensed in this State without first having procured the assent of the Department for the offering of such a Program. In order to be approved by the Department, Programs of Educator Preparation in Delaware Institutions of higher education that lead to educator licensure and certification shall meet State and, where applicable, national standards appropriate to the Professional Education Unit and the Professional Education Unit's individual Programs. All Professional Education Units and their Programs shall be reviewed through a fair and uniform application of standards.
- 2.2 The Department shall approve an Institution's Educator Preparation Programs. Approval is based on an institutional self study report and an on-site visit by teams, one trained and selected by NCATE and one with Department representation. Institutions seeking approval of Educator Preparation Programs in the state shall meet the Professional Education Unit Standards established by NCATE and the appropriate Program standards established by the Specialized Professional Association. All Programs shall also comply with the state's regulations for Educator licensure and certification, the Delaware Teacher or Administrator Standards, and other applicable regulations and standards as are established by the Department or the Professional Standards Board, in cooperation and consultation with the Department and with the concurrence of the State Board of Education. Units having been accredited by NCATE and Programs receiving national recognition from a SPA will have met the above State regulations and standards.

3.0 NCATE State Partnership Review

National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Standards, Procedures and Policies for the Accreditation of Professional Education Units and Programs.

- 3.1 The Department shall enter into agreements with the higher education governing boards and their Institutions for the purpose of coordination of review procedures on a five (5) year cycle for Institutions receiving their initial accreditation from NCATE and on a seven (7) year cycle for Institutions seeking continuing accreditation. As established by NCATE, such agreements shall include, but are not limited to, Program review timetables; format and content of Institutional reports; selection, number, and role of review team members; and the reporting of Program results.
- 3.2 Accreditation Request

- 3.2.1 Institutions shall submit to NCATE the forms required of NCATE as per established NCATE guidelines to seek accreditation to NCATE twenty four (24) months before the scheduled visit.
- 3.2.2 Program reports submitted to Specialized Professional Associations shall follow the NCATE requirements and shall be submitted to NCATE as per established NCATE guidelines before the on site reviews.

3.3 The State Review Team

- 3.3.1 The state review team assembled by the Department to work concurrently with the NCATE review team shall have up to three (3) members designated by the Department and the Department shall agree to comply with the schedule established by NCATE in the review and on site visits of NCATE accredited Institutions.

- 3.3.1.1 State Review Team members shall be selected in accordance with NCATE Partnership Agreement Guidelines. A list of members shall be given to the Institution at least six (6) months prior to the site review. Substitute members may be selected and the Institution notified of the substitute members closer to the time of the review, if those initially selected are unable to serve.

- 3.3.1.2 State Review Team members shall be selected from the following:

- 3.3.1.2.1 Employees of the Department of Education, one of whom shall be the Administrator.

- 3.3.1.2.2 Persons who have experience in higher education or education administration.

- 3.3.1.3 State Review Team member(s) shall attend a training session on NCATE standards and procedures and State expectations paid for by the Department and conducted by the staff of NCATE.

- 3.3.1.4 The State Review Team members shall be responsible for the following:

- 3.3.1.4.1 Meeting with the NCATE review team and participating in informal deliberations with that group in accordance with NCATE requirements;

- 3.3.1.4.2 Reviewing the reports of the SPAs on those Programs covered by SPA standards, to understand the conclusions reached by the SPA;

- 3.3.1.4.3 Reporting to the Secretary the decisions of the SPA including a description of the conclusions of the SPA and whether the Program was recommended for national recognition, national recognition with conditions or was not recognized by the SPA.

- 3.3.2 Conflict of Interest: Team members from the State shall not participate on a team if they have a close, active association with the Institution to be visited. A close, active association shall be presumed where:

- 3.3.2.1 The member is currently in attendance at, or, within the past ten years, has received a degree from or has been forced to discontinue studies at the Institution;

- 3.3.2.2 The member has children or other close relatives in attendance at the Institution, and those persons are matriculated into the education Programs being reviewed;

- 3.3.2.3 The member has taught, consulted, or otherwise been employed in a paid position, at the Institution within the past five years;

- 3.3.2.4 The member has ever been denied tenure by or forced to leave a position at the Institution;

- 3.3.2.5 The member currently serves on, or has been nominated to, any advisory group at the Institution;

- 3.3.2.6 The member maintains any current close personal or professional relationship with a person at the Institution; or

- 3.3.2.7 The member is an employee of another Institution in the state with a teacher education Program.

3.4 Final Report

- 3.4.1 Institutions, Professional Education Units and Programs approved through NCATE accreditation and SPA recognition shall comply with NCATE self study requirements. Copies of any reports to NCATE shall also be submitted to the Administrator.

- 3.4.2 For Programs being reviewed by a SPA, Professional Education Units shall submit to the Administrator a copy of the materials sent to the Specialty Professional Association.

- 3.4.3 A final report on the reviews shall be forwarded to the Secretary for action. The report shall make recommendations for full approval, provisional approval, or disapproval of the Professional Education Unit and of each of the individual Programs. Units accredited by NCATE and Programs recognized by SPAs shall receive Department Approval.

- 3.4.3.1 Copies of the final report shall be sent to the chief executive officer of the Institution and to the leader of the Professional Education Unit.

- 3.4.4 The report, and the accreditation decision of the NCATE Unit Accreditation Board, and the recognition decisions of the SPAs shall be used to determine whether the Department will approve the Educator Preparation Programs.

- 3.4.5 In addition to individual Program recommendations, a recommendation on whether or not the Department should authorize the university or college to operate Educator Preparation Programs shall also be included.
- 3.4.6 Two copies of the final report and related documents shall be maintained by the Department and submitted to the State Archives as provided by the retention schedule for the State Archives.

4.0 Procedures for Teacher Education Programs in a Professional Education Unit Seeking Approval for Programs for Which There is no Specialized Professional Association (SPA) or for Which the Institution has Not Received Approval from the SPA.

- 4.1 Higher education institutions seeking approval for Educator Preparation Programs in a Professional Education Unit for which there is no Specialized Professional Association (SPA) or for which the institution has not received national recognition from the SPA shall complete the Department's *Proposal for Program Approval for Education Preparation Programs Which do Not Have Specialized Professional Association (SPA) Approval* and shall submit the Proposal to the Department at least six (6) months before the on-site reviews.
 - 4.1.1 In the case where a Program has been submitted to a SPA and subsequently was not granted national recognition by the SPA, the Professional Education Unit shall submit the Department's *Proposal for Program Approval for Education Preparation Programs Which do Not Have Specialized Professional Association (SPA) Approval* within two (2) months of final notification that the Program has not been recognized by the SPA.
 - 4.1.2 In the case where a Program has been submitted to a SPA and no decision has been made about national recognition by the SPA, the Professional Education Unit shall submit the same Program report submitted to the SPA to the Department of Education.
- 4.2 Time lines related to the submission of data and other documentation of the Institution's compliance with Program approval criteria, the submission of Program reports, the role of Department review members, and the procedures for the reporting of Program review results shall follow NCATE guidelines.
- 4.3 At least one year before the impending review, the Institution shall contact the Department. The Institution shall appoint one person to act as liaison for all of the Programs at the Institution under this Non SPA State Review. The Administrator shall meet with the liaison to establish the review process and to report the potential Programs to be reviewed. The decisions made shall be communicated by the Administrator and the liaison to all of the Programs. This process shall be completed nine months prior to the review dates.
- 4.4 Selection, Training and Conduct of the State Program Proposal Review Team Members for the Non SPA State Review
 - 4.4.1 State Program Proposal Review Teams shall consist of at least three (3) members including the Administrator or designee, one of whom shall be the chair, who shall be selected at least six months prior to the review. The Institution shall be notified as to the members chosen for the review.
 - 4.4.1.1 If those initially selected are unable to serve, substitute members may be selected and the Institution notified of the substitute members closer to the time of the review.
 - 4.4.2 Conflict of Interest is the same as defined in 3.3.2
 - 4.4.3 Training of State Program Proposal Review Team Members
 - 4.4.3.1 State Program Proposal Review Team members shall receive training at the Department in the following areas prior to participating in any review; the purpose of the self study, the State Standards and criteria, the procedure for review of Program proposals, timelines for proposal review, the completion of team reports, and the reimbursement of expenses. Information about the NCATE accreditation process and the SPA process for national recognition, including the evaluation of the Professional Evaluation Unit and the background of, rationale for, and the review procedures of NCATE and the SPAs will also be part of the training.
 - 4.4.4 Persons taking part in State Program Proposal Review Team member training shall be reimbursed for expenses in accordance with the Department's guidelines.
- 4.5 The Program shall prepare the Proposal which shows how it meets the Department of Education Program Approval Regulations and the Delaware Licensure and Certification Regulations.
 - 4.5.1 Five (5) copies of the Proposal and all additional documentation shall be submitted as per established NCATE timelines prior to the visit of the State Review Team.
 - 4.5.2 Proposals and additional materials requested for each Program shall be reviewed by appropriate Program Proposal reviewers at the Department and the review on the content and quality of each, where possible, shall be made available to the State Program Proposal Review Team at least three (3) months prior to the on-site visit of the NCATE and State Teams. In the case of a Program submitted to a SPA in accordance with NCATE guidelines, where the SPA has not nationally recognized the Program, the Program proposal

reviewers shall make their Program review available for the State Review Team at least one (1) month prior to the on-site visit. If any aspect of the Proposal is deemed inadequate, the Administrator may contact the Institution to supplement the submission or may return the Proposal to the Program.

- 4.5.3 ~~The State Program Proposal Review Team shall verify the accuracy of the Proposal, consider the Department review and write a draft report on the Program. The report shall make recommendations for full approval, provisional approval, or disapproval of the Program.~~
- 4.6 ~~The final report of the State Program Proposal Review Team members on the Program(s) shall be due to the Administrator or the chair of the team three (3) weeks after the last day of the visit.~~
- 4.7 ~~Within ten (10) weeks of the last day of the visit, the Administrator or the chair of the State Program Proposal Review Team shall submit the final draft of the report to the Program for the correction of factual errors only. The Program shall return the final draft to the Administrator with factual errors and suggested corrections noted, within two (2) weeks.~~
- 4.8 ~~Professional Education Units shall submit a report for any provisionally approved Programs as requested by the Department. The report shall detail how previous weaknesses, if any, have been addressed.~~

5.0 Provisional Program Approval for New Programs

- 5.1 ~~An Institution that has approved educator preparation Programs may request interim provisional Program approval for new education Programs added between regularly scheduled reviews. The following documentation shall be supplied to the administrator:~~
 - 5.1.1 ~~A description of the Program for which approval is sought and other administrative information;~~
 - 5.1.2 ~~The curriculum for the Program, including syllabi for any new courses;~~
 - 5.1.3 ~~Descriptions of the expected outcomes of the Programs and of how those outcomes will be assessed;~~
 - 5.1.4 ~~Vitae for all faculty delivering the Program; and~~
 - 5.1.5 ~~Descriptions of materials, media and resources available for the Program, and how technology is integrated into the curriculum or Program.~~
- 5.2 ~~An Institution currently operating approved educator preparation Programs may seek approval for a new specialization in a currently operating Program in teaching, specialist services or administrative area provided the documentation submitted contains sufficient justification to warrant the new specialization. The Institution is encouraged to collaborate with the Department during the Program's initial planning. The Institution must identify the Program objectives for the new Program from which the curriculum shall be developed.~~
- 5.3 ~~Experimental or innovative Programs that do not meet NCATE standards may be allowed by the Department. Such an allowance may be requested by submitting the material for new Programs, and where the standards are not met, a rationale for the exception(s). Experimental or innovative Programs that are approved by the Department shall be given provisional approval; full approval may not be granted until a full on site review of the Program takes place, or it is recommended and approved by the Secretary.~~
- 5.4 ~~Programs or specializations, such as those described in 5.1, 5.2, and 5.3 above, that have received only paper review, without full on site verification, will be granted provisional approval. Full approval may not be granted until a full on site review of the Institution takes place, or is recommended and approved by the Secretary.~~

6.0 Professional Education Units that do not Receive Accreditation by NCATE

- 6.1 ~~Professional Education Units that do not receive NCATE accreditation, and which have exhausted or decided not to use the NCATE rejoinder process, will have a period of time agreed upon by the Institution and the Administrator in which to submit additional materials which demonstrate how the Institution meets the NCATE Standards and SPA Program Standards. Such Units will only be eligible for provisional approval for three (3) years; renewal after that time will be contingent upon a full site review.~~
- 6.2 ~~Programs that do not receive SPA recognition should submit materials to the Department in accordance with the provisions set forth in 4.0.~~
- 6.3 ~~Programs that do not meet the SPA standards, Delaware Teacher or Administrator Standards, or the State's licensure and certification regulations at the full approval level, shall be given either provisional approval or not be approved to operate. All Programs given provisional approval shall:~~
 - 6.3.1 ~~Report annually to the Administrator on the progress made on those standards that were not met.~~
 - 6.3.2 ~~Undergo Program proposal review submission and site review within three (3) years from the date of provisional approval.~~
- 6.4 ~~Institutions that do not receive full or provisional approval through review pursuant to NCATE Standards or Delaware Program Approval Regulations shall not be permitted to operate licensure Programs in Delaware.~~

7.0 Required Format for the State Report

The format of the State Report shall follow the format consistent with NCATE procedures and shall include recommendations on whether the Professional Education Unit and each individual Program shall receive approval to operate in Delaware.

8.0 Rejoinder Process

8.1 NCATE Review

8.1.1 If the Professional Education Unit accreditation is not granted by NCATE, the Institution may contest any of the recommendations through the NCATE rejoinder process. If a Program is not nationally recognized by a SPA, the Institution may contest any of the recommendations through the SPA rejoinder process. The Department shall accept the decision of NCATE or a SPA when their rejoinder process is followed.

8.2 Non-SPA State Review

8.2.1 Within thirty (30) days after the State Review Team visit, the team chair shall prepare a report of the team visit, make a recommendation(s) on the Program(s) and send three copies to the Institution, one to the Institution's president, one to the head of the professional education unit and one to the Institution's liaison for the review process.

8.2.1.1 The Institution shall respond within fifteen (15) days as to the accuracy of the factual information in the report of the team visit.

8.2.2 Intent to contest the recommendations: A letter shall be sent from the Institution's president or the head of the professional education unit designee notifying the Secretary of the intent to contest the recommendations accompanied by a short statement explaining the rationale for contesting the review. The letter must be received in the Office of the Secretary within ten (10) days of the delivery of the reports.

8.2.2.1 The Secretary shall review the materials submitted by the Institution including written statements of position, documents, and comments supporting the claims.

8.2.2.2 The Secretary, after considering the evidence presented and the arguments made by the parties, shall make a decision and so inform the institution's president and the head of the professional education unit in writing of that decision. The decision of the Secretary is final.

10-DE Reg. 835 (11/01/06)

9.0 Alternative Routes for Teacher Licensure and Certification Programs

9.1 Notwithstanding any other provision of this regulation to the contrary, any individual, public or private educational association, corporation or institution, which, pursuant to the provisions of 14 **DE Admin. Code** 1507 and subsection 9.2 below, is approved by the Secretary of Education to operate an Alternative Routes to Teacher Licensure and Certification Program shall be deemed to be an approved teacher preparation program.

9.2 Any individual, public or private educational association, corporation or institution, which is approved by the Secretary of Education to operate an Alternative Routes to Teacher Licensure and Certification Program as set forth in subsection 9.1 above, shall in addition to the provisions of 14 **DE Admin. Code** 1507 and any applicable statute, comply with the following requirements:

9.2.1 Applications for approval will be accepted only when the Secretary of Education shall post a Request For Proposals requesting the same. The application process shall be competitive and the Secretary may elect to approve some, all or none of the applications.

9.2.2 Approved applicants shall enter into a contract with the Department, on a form approved by the Department for an initial term of three (3) years, renewable for an additional five (5) years at the discretion of the Department upon an analysis of the program, during the final year of the contract, by the Department or by an external program assessment entity selected by the Department.

9.2.3 Applications shall be responsive to the Request for Proposals and, in addition to any other requirements, shall address how the applicant will determine the coursework and experiences leading to its participants' application for certification to the Department, shall include intensive pre-service training, teacher evaluations conducted by school administrators, completion of coursework, and measures of teacher effectiveness based upon student performance data.

9.2.4 The Department shall evaluate approved programs based upon the terms and conditions of the Request for Proposals and the applicant's contract with the Department.

15-DE Reg. 642 (11/01/11)

1.0 Prior Approval from the Department Required to Offer Programs

- 1.1 Pursuant to 14 Del.C. §122(b)(22) [and 1280(a)], no individual, public or private educational association, corporation or institution, including any Institution of Higher Education, shall offer an Educator Preparation Program or Alternative Route to Teacher Licensure and Certification Program for the training of educators to be licensed in this State without first having procured the assent of the Department for the offering of such a Program or ARTC Program.
- 1.2 In order to be approved by the Department, Educator Preparation Programs in Delaware Institutions of Higher Education that provide training leading to degrees that contribute towards eligibility for educator licensure and certification shall meet Department requirements, State requirements and, where applicable, national standards appropriate to the Education Preparation Unit and the Education Preparation Unit's individual Programs.
- 1.3 The Department shall approve an Institution's Educator Preparation Programs and Education Preparation Unit(s), which is based on compliance with all Provider, Unit and Program requirements as detailed in this regulation. In addition:
 - 1.3.1 Unit approval is predicated on Provider and/or Unit receipt and maintenance of accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)
 - 1.3.2 Program approval is based on successful completion of the Department approval process as outlined in this regulation, and as detailed in the Educator Preparation Program Guide, and:
 - 1.3.2.1 Receipt and maintenance of Program approval from the Program's relevant Specialized Professional Association; or
 - 1.3.2.2 Successful completion of an approved applicable alternate process as described herein.
- 1.4 ARTC Programs provided by any individual, public or private educational association, corporation or Institution shall meet Department requirements for ARTC Programs, as documented in Section 8.0 of this regulation.
- 1.5 Programs and ARTC Programs shall comply with the State's regulations for Educator licensure and certification and other applicable regulations and standards as are established by the Department or the Professional Standards Board.

2.0 Definitions

The words and terms, when used in this regulation, shall have the following meaning unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Accreditation" means the decision rendered by CAEP that an Education Preparation Provider meets CAEP standards and requirements.

"Administrator" means the Department of Education employee charged with oversight of Program Approval for Educator Preparation Programs.

"Alternative Routes to Teacher Licensure and Certification Program (ARTC Program)" means a program provided by any individual, public or private educational association, corporation or Institution which includes components that can include but are not limited to coursework, clinical experiences, and training, and which upon participation and/or completion renders Candidates eligible for certification and/or licensure in Delaware.

"Annual Cohort" means the set of individuals who matriculate into a Program or Exit a Program in the same year. The Department may provide further specific guidance for the application of the definition of Annual Cohort for individual metrics and contexts in the Educator Preparation Program Guide.

"CAEP" means Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, a national accrediting body for Education Preparation Providers.

"Candidate" means an individual enrolled in an Educator Preparation Program or ARTC Program who is preparing for or serving in a position as an educator in schools that serve students in pre-school through grade twelve.

"Capstone Clinical Residency" means student teaching that consists of at least 10 consecutive weeks, encompassing at least 200 hours, overseen by a High Quality Cooperating Teacher and a High Quality Clinical Supervisor. Programs may adjust the schedule of the Clinical Capstone Residency to comply with embedded LEA vacation schedules, holidays, and unforeseen official school closures.

"Certified Reviewer" means an individual trained by the test vendor to score performance assessments.

"Clinical Experience" means guided, hands-on, practical application of Candidate knowledge and theory to Candidate practice through collaborative and facilitated learning activities in field-based assignments.

"College Ready" means a cut score deemed to be passing on nationally normed test, predetermined by the assessment provider to indicate readiness to attend and probability of success at a college or university.

"Department" means the Delaware Department of Education.

“Department Approval” means the process by which an Educator Preparation Program or Educator Preparation Provider is recognized by the Department of Education as meeting State standards for the content and operation of such Programs.

“Department of Education Program Approval Regulations” means the regulations set forth herein.

“Educator” means a person licensed and certified by the State under 14 Del.C. Ch. 12 to engage in the practice of instruction, administration or other related professional support services in Delaware public schools, including charter schools, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the Delaware Professional Standards Board (PSB) and approved by the State Board but does not include substitute teachers.

“Educator Preparation Provider (Provider)” means a regionally accredited college, university or other post-secondary institution authorized to confer degrees and approved to operate in the State of Delaware. Providers may operate approved Educator Preparation Programs and ARTC Programs.

“Educator Preparation Program (Program)” means the sequence of courses and experiences required by an Educator Preparation Provider for the preparation of Candidates to become educators in a specific area, subject, or category, leading to the conferral of a degree that contributes to eligibility for licensure; except that where used in Section 8.0 of this regulation, the word “program(s)” shall mean the program(s) approved pursuant to said section.

“Educator Preparation Program Guide (Guide)” means the manual developed by the Department of Education and as may be amended from time to time that contains the prescribed forms, procedures, guidance and information about the reporting processes and other relevant information and documents for Educator Preparation Programs.

“Educator Preparation Unit (Unit)” means the school, college, department or other administrative body responsible for the preparation of educators at a regionally accredited nonprofit or for-profit institution of higher education (e.g. a college of education within a university).

“Entrance” means matriculation into a Program.

“Exit” means completion of a Program by a Candidate.

“High Quality Clinical Supervisor” means a supervisor of a Candidate who is employed by the Educator Preparation Program, trained or experienced in the field which ~~they are the individual is~~ supervising, trained to work with and provide feedback to Candidates, and who meets the standards for this role as defined through the CAEP Accreditation Standards.

“High Quality Cooperating Teacher” means an educator employed by a Local Education Agency or private school, collaboratively selected by the employer and the Educator Preparation Program, who oversees the Candidates’ Capstone Clinical Residency and who has:

- At minimum received a Satisfactory rating on all five components of the DPAS-II educator evaluation system or has an equivalent rating on a state, LEA- or private-school approved educator evaluation system in his or her most recent summative evaluation; and
- Satisfactorily completed training in teacher mentoring or supervision.

“Institution of Higher Education (Institution)” means an accredited college, university or other post-secondary institution authorized to confer degrees and approved to operate in the State of Delaware.

“Local Education Agency (LEA)” means a public board of education or other public authority legally constituted within Delaware for either administrative control or direction of, or to perform a service function for, public elementary or secondary schools in a school district, or for a combination of school districts.

“National Recognition” means approval of a Program that has met the standards of a Specialized Professional Association that is a constituent member of CAEP.

“Secretary” means the Secretary of the Delaware Department of Education.

“Self-Study Report” means the report resulting from the process that a Provider, its Unit and Programs conduct to evaluate themselves against CAEP standards, in a format specified and accepted by CAEP. The self-study report discusses the findings of this process and is the primary report prepared by the Provider for site visitors.

“Specialized Professional Association (SPA)” means a member of CAEP that is a national organization of teachers, professional education faculty, and/or other school professionals who teach a specific content area, teach students at a specific developmental level teach students with specific needs or provide services to students.

“Student Teaching” means the period during which a Candidate serves as a teacher in a school, plans and delivers independent instruction to students on a regularly scheduled basis, develops or prepares instructional materials, and evaluates students in any pre-school through grade twelve school setting.

3.1 Entry Requirements

3.1.1 Programs shall establish rigorous entry requirements as pre-requisites for Program Entrance. At a minimum, Programs shall require Candidates to have a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or have a GPA in the top 50th percentile for coursework completed during the most recent two years of the applicants general education, whether secondary or post-secondary; or demonstrate mastery of general knowledge, including the ability to read, write, and compute, by achieving a score deemed to be College Ready on a test of general knowledge normed to the college-bound population.

3.1.1.1 Each Program may waive these admissions requirements for up to 10% of the Candidates admitted in an Annual Cohort. Programs shall implement strategies to ensure that Candidates admitted under such a waiver receive assistance to demonstrate competencies to successfully meet requirements for licensure and certification.

3.1.2 Programs shall collaborate with any Institutions with which they have articulation agreements, including community colleges, to ensure that incoming Candidates meet the required entry thresholds for acceptance into the Program.

3.1.3 Beginning July 1, 2014, Programs shall apply the requirements as delineated in this section to all entering Candidates. Guidance for application of the requirements to students currently enrolled in an institution as of July 1, 2014 but who have not yet entered a Program will be included in the Guide.

3.2 Clinical Experiences (Provisions in this subsection shall be applicable to Candidates in Programs beginning July 1, 2015)

3.2.1 Educator Preparation Programs shall have Clinical Experiences required throughout the Program and aligned with Program curriculum. Clinical Experiences should align with the area, subject, or category of certification being sought by Candidates; such Experiences shall be designed and incorporated into the Program by the Provider, and begin in the first year of the Program. Programs should provide Candidates the opportunity to reflect on Clinical Experiences within the classroom setting.

3.2.1.1 Educator Preparation Programs for teachers shall have a Capstone Clinical Residency in which the Candidate is:

3.2.1.1.1 Supervised on-site by a High Quality Cooperating Teacher;

3.2.1.1.2 **[Receives A recipient of]** ongoing support from a High Quality Clinical Supervisor; and

3.2.1.1.3 Responsible for the instruction and classroom management of a roster of students.

3.2.1.2 Educator Preparation Programs for administrators must include Clinical Experiences totaling a minimum of two-hundred and forty (240) hours equitably distributed within the Program. The clinical hours must be completed under the mentorship of **[a]** currently employed administrator **[deemed with an]** effective or highly effective **[summative rating]** under **14 DE Admin. Code 108.**

3.2.1.3 Educator Preparation Programs for Specialists must include a supervised practical experience in the specialty area being pursued. Such experiences should align with requirements for certification of the specialty being pursued. Practical experience in the specialty area may include but is not limited to a supervised internship, a practicum, or clinical experience.

3.3 Instruction and Content Components

3.3.1 Instruction in literacy and mathematics for prospective elementary school teachers

3.3.1.1 All approved Educator Preparation Programs for prospective elementary school teachers shall provide instruction on research and evidence-based best practices and strategies for teaching childhood literacy. Programs for elementary and early-childhood teachers shall include instruction aligned to Candidates' certification area in content and pedagogy, and to Delaware approved standards for English Language Arts, designed to provide Candidates a deep conceptual understanding of the content, beyond basic procedural understanding. Instructional topics shall include but not be limited to:

3.3.1.1.1 Foundational concepts of oral and written learning;

3.3.1.1.2 Knowledge of the structure of language including: phonology, orthography, morphology, semantics, syntax, discourse organization;

3.3.1.1.3 Developmental understanding and knowledge of learning disabilities and their impact on literacy and learning;

3.3.1.1.4 Explicit research and evidence-based instructional strategies for teaching phonemic awareness, phonics and word recognition, fluent and automatic reading of text, vocabulary, text comprehension, conventions of language, and written and spoken expression; and

3.3.1.1.5 Language acquisition, specifically as it relates to learners of English language learners.

3.3.1.2 All approved Educator Preparation Programs for prospective elementary school teachers shall provide instruction on research and evidence-based best practices and strategies for teaching childhood numeracy. Programs for elementary and early-childhood teachers shall include instruction aligned to Candidates' certification area in content and pedagogy aligned to Delaware approved standards for mathematics, designed to provide Candidates a deep conceptual understanding of the content, beyond basic procedural understanding. Instructional topics shall include but not limited to:

3.3.1.2.1 State standard-aligned content areas, such as counting and cardinality, operations and algebraic thinking, numbers and operations in base ten, measurements and data, geometry, fractions, ratios and proportional relationships; the number system, expressions and equations, statistics and probability; and

3.3.1.2.2 State-standard aligned strategies for instruction including teaching students to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them; reason abstractly and quantitatively; construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others; model with mathematics; use appropriate tools strategically; attend to precision; look for and make use of structure; look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

3.3.2 Programs for all teachers shall include instruction in content that is aligned to current and approved Delaware content standards.

3.3.3 Programs for all teachers shall include instruction in educational technology that is aligned to approved Delaware standards.

3.3.4 Programs for all teachers shall include instruction in pedagogy that is aligned with the Delaware professional standards for teaching.

3.4 Exit Requirements

3.4.1 Programs shall establish rigorous Exit requirements, which shall include but not be limited to achievement of passing scores on both a Content-Readiness Exam and a Performance Assessment, where such exam and assessment in the appropriate area, subject or category is available and approved by the Department.

3.4.1.1 Content-Readiness Exam (This subparagraph shall take effect for Candidates exiting after January 1, 2015.)

3.4.1.1.1 Where a content readiness exam is applicable and available in area, subject, or category of specialization sought, the Candidate shall achieve a passing score on an examination as established by the [Professional] Standards Board, in consultation with the Department and with concurrence of the State Board.

3.4.1.2 Performance Assessment (This subparagraph shall take effect July 1, 2016.)

3.4.1.2.1 Where a performance assessment is applicable and available in an area appropriate to the Program in which a Candidate is enrolled, the Candidate shall achieve a passing score as a requirement to Exit the Program. Acceptable performance assessments and their cut scores shall be selected by the Department, in collaboration with Delaware educators, the Professional Standards Board, and the State Board of Education.

3.4.1.2.2 The performance assessment must consist of an evaluation of a Candidate's teaching or professional practice via a portfolio of clinical assignments, including an evaluation of independent teaching or practice.

3.4.1.2.3 The performance assessment may not be scored by any employees of the Educator Preparation Program or Unit, and shall be scored by Certified Reviewers.

3.5 Candidate Evaluation

3.5.1 Programs shall conduct an annual evaluations of each Candidate, which shall consist of a minimum of three (3) formally documented observations of Candidates, resulting in Candidates receiving feedback about their practice.

3.5.2 Observations and evaluations of Candidates shall be aligned to a Delaware State-approved educator evaluation system and include measures of student progress.

3.5.3 Results of Candidate evaluations shall inform Program interaction with the Candidate, including feedback, placement, remediation, or supports.

3.6 Reporting Requirements

3.6.1 All approved Educator Preparation Programs shall provide the Department with data on Program graduates, graduate performance, and graduate performance and effectiveness, as well as comply with reporting for all requirements listed in Section 3.0 via Department data submission specifications and processes as outlined in Section 6.0 and in the Guide. Failure to comply with data reporting and collection requests shall result in revocation of Program approval.

4.0 Program Approval Process

- 4.1 Units must submit an application for new Program approval to the Administrator in a format and timeline determined by the Department as outlined in the Guide, to include the following documentation:
 - 4.1.1 A description of the Program for which approval is sought and other administrative information, including the plan for implementing Department mandated Program components as defined in Section 3.0 of this regulation;
 - 4.1.1.1 Units may seek approval for a new specialization in a currently operating Program area provided the documentation submitted contains sufficient justification to warrant the new specialization.
 - 4.1.1.2 Experimental or innovative Programs that do not meet CAEP standards may be allowed by the Department. Such an allowance may be requested by submitting the material for new Programs, and where the standards are not met, a rationale for the exception(s).
 - 4.1.2 Documentation that the Program is SPA certified, or documentation of the non-SPA process in Section 5 of this regulation;
 - 4.1.3 A needs assessment demonstrating the demand for such Program graduates in the employment market and demand by potential Candidates;
 - 4.1.4 The curriculum for the Program, including syllabi for any new courses;
 - 4.1.5 Descriptions of the expected outcomes of the Programs and of how those outcomes will be assessed;
 - 4.1.6 Vitae for all faculty delivering instruction in or administering the Program; and
 - 4.1.7 Descriptions of materials, media and resources available for the Program, and how technology is integrated into the curriculum or Program.
- 4.2 The Department will review submitted reports and provide approval of the Program or rejection of the proposal, notifying representatives of the Program, Unit and Provider.
- 4.3 New Programs will be given provisional approval if the application meets standards based on Departmental review. Upon the first Departmental provisional approval, the Unit is authorized to proceed with the Program identified in the application, and to admit Candidates to the Program.
- 4.4 Upon receipt and review of the first annual report aligned with the requirements stated in Section 3.0 and Section 6.0, the Department may extend provisional approval for up to four additional years.
- 4.5 Full (non-provisional) Program approval may be granted after the submission and approval of data and reporting as noted in Section 6.0 for the first Cohort to Exit the Program.
- 4.6 Programs in good standing as of July 1, 2014 will be deemed to be approved and will enter into the Program review cycle in accordance with Section 6.0.

5.0 Program Approval Process Where No SPA is Available

- 5.1 The approval process for proposed Programs for which there is no SPA shall consist of Department review of an application, and may also include an on-site review if deemed necessary by the Department to confirm information in the application.
 - 5.1.1 Receipt of approval described in this section shall contribute to provisional Program approval as described in Section 4.0.
 - 5.1.2 All Programs approved pursuant to this section must also complete all requirements in Section 4.0 to receive provisional Program approval.
- 5.2 At least one year before Program approval is required, Providers seeking approval for proposed Programs for which there is no SPA shall notify the Department of their intent to initiate the review process.
- 5.3 Application
 - 5.3.1 At least six months before the approval is required the Provider shall submit the application for non-SPA Program approval to the Department, as outlined in the Guide.
 - 5.3.2 The application shall include but not be limited to:
 - 5.3.2.1 A description of the proposed Program;
 - 5.3.2.2 A detailed description and outline of proposed Program content and coursework;
 - 5.3.2.3 Alignment with content standards relevant to the proposed Program.
 - 5.3.3 Applications shall be reviewed by a Department review team, which shall consist of at least three (3) members including the Administrator or designee, one of whom shall be the chair. The Provider shall be notified as to the members chosen for the review.

- 5.3.3.1 Experts in the content of the proposed Program shall be included on the review team. The Department may select members of the review team from outside the Department if a content expert in the field of the proposed Program is not available within the Department.
- 5.3.3.2 If those initially selected are unable to serve, substitute members may be selected and the Provider notified of the substitute members closer to the time of the review.
- 5.3.3.3 Prior to participating in the review, review team members shall receive training by the Department in the procedure for review of Program proposals and timelines for proposal review.

5.4 On-Site Visit

- 5.4.1 If the Department determines it necessary after review of the application, an on-site visit may be conducted in which the review team meets with representatives of the Provider to review the proposed Program application.

5.5 Review

- 5.5.1 Upon completion of the application review and any necessary on-site visit, the review team shall complete a report on the proposed Program. The report will contain the Department's determination of approval or disapproval of the proposed Program.
 - 5.5.1.1 Proposed Programs approved by the process in this Section may continue in the Program approval process as described in Section 4.0.
- 5.5.2 The Administrator or the chair of the review team shall provide a copy of the report to the Provider. Providers shall have 30 calendar days after Departmental provision of the report to submit a response in writing pointing out any perceived factual errors and providing any available documentation to support those claims.
- 5.5.3 The Administrator shall review a Provider's response and amend the report if necessary.

6.0 Program Review and Reporting

6.1 Compliance with Program Requirements

- 6.1.1 Units shall provide evidence as to their adherence to Program requirements as outlined in this regulation.
- 6.1.2 Units shall be required to submit the CAEP annual report to the Department simultaneously with submission to CAEP, and provide the Department with timely communication and materials regarding the formal CAEP and SPA review processes as described in the CAEP State agreement.
- 6.1.3 Units shall submit data and reports annually demonstrating each Program's compliance with requirements outlined in Section 3.0, in a format determined by the Department and outlined in the Guide. These reports shall include but not be limited to documentation of compliance with the following measures:
 - 6.1.3.1 Entrance requirements as stated in subsection 3.1, including documentation of the admission requirements by which members of the cohort were accepted, as delineated in subsection 3.1;
 - 6.1.3.2 Requirements for Clinical Experiences as stated in subsection 3.2, including documentation certifying placements with High Quality Cooperating Teachers and High Quality Clinical Supervisors;
 - 6.1.3.3 Instruction and Content requirements as stated in subsection 3.3;
 - 6.1.3.4 Exit requirements as stated in subsection 3.4, including Candidate passage rates on Content Exams and Performance Assessments, as well as rate of Candidate Exit of the Program, and documentation of Candidates who do not Exit the Program;
 - 6.1.3.5 Candidate evaluation requirements as stated in subsection 3.5, including documentation of evaluation processes, remediation policies, and identification of the top quintile of Candidates in a Cohort, as defined by the Program.
- 6.1.4 Units shall compile and report data for each graduating cohort and for the most recent five (5) years of Program cohorts on a selection of metrics. Metrics, as outlined in the Guide may include but not be limited to:
 - 6.1.4.1 Program completion, including number and demographics of completers, non-completers and demographics.
 - 6.1.4.2 Placement in Delaware schools by Subject-area, grade-level, and LEA employer, including placement in high-needs schools and subjects.
 - 6.1.4.3 Performance including pass rates and cut scores on Program performance assessments and content-exams, average DPAS-II [or other Department approved evaluation system] ratings, including student growth component, and measures of employer or supervisor satisfaction with job performance.
 - 6.1.4.4 Retention including but not limited to retention as an educator each year.

6.1.5 The Department may conduct monitoring or an interim review of an approved Program on an as-needed basis.

6.1.6 Programs are subject to full CAEP review at the request of the Department

6.2 Data Compilation and Review

6.2.1 The Department will review all data, reports and outcomes outlined in subsection 6.1 and create and publish reports, including a report with a scorecard for each Unit and Program.

6.2.2 The scorecard will include but is not limited to:

6.2.2.1 Metrics as described in subsection 6.1.

6.2.2.2 A ranking based on analysis of all required data points and information.

6.2.2.3 The process, standards, and methodologies for each rating are determined by the Department and outlined in the Guide.

6.2.3 The Department will compile Program level reports with annual data for Programs for Cohorts of 10 Candidates. For Programs with Cohorts of fewer than 10 the Department will compile reports using up to the most recent 5 years of data, provided that this provides a cumulative cohort of at least 10 graduates. The Department may also publish reports using Unit-level data.

6.2.4 Department reports will be provided to the Program prior to being released to the public.

6.2.4.1 Programs shall have 30 calendar days after Departmental provision of the report to submit a response in writing pointing out any perceived factual errors, and to provide any documentation deemed necessary to support those claims.

6.2.4.2 The Administrator shall review a Program's response and amend the report if necessary.

7.0 Renewal, Oversight, and Revocation

7.1 Review

7.1.1 The Department will regularly review Program outcomes every two years. Initial review cycles for Programs approved prior to July 1, 2014 will be described in the Guide.

7.1.2 Programs which meet the requirements and standards on the Department report will be considered approved. Approval shall be valid for two years.

7.1.3 Programs which fail to meet the requirements and standards addressed in Section 6 above will be placed on probation.

7.2 Probation

7.2.1 Following the process detailed in Section 6.0, if the approved Program fails to meet the standards and benchmarks, reporting or compliance requirements set forth by this regulation and in the Guide, it shall be placed on probation.

7.2.2 Programs which are deemed non-compliant with requirements for Program approval as stated in Section 3.0 or who do not comply with data sharing pursuant to Section 6.0, or who lose CAEP or SPA approval, by revocation or by expiration, may be placed on Probation status or may face immediate revocation of Department approval.

7.2.3 Programs may continue to accept Candidates for entry while on the first probation cycle.

7.2.4 Probation shall last two years or until the next Program review cycle unless via annual reporting requirements the Program provides significant and sufficient evidence to substantiate meeting full Program approval, as decided by the Department. If a Program provides such evidence, it may be removed from Probation after one year.

7.2.5 While a Program is on probation it must continue to provide all annual reporting.

7.2.6 The Department will monitor Program progress towards meeting the goals for the Program cited in by the Department throughout the probationary period, including review of required data reports and monitoring visits as deemed necessary.

7.2.7 If, after the first two year probation cycle, a Program is deemed by the Department to have not made satisfactory progress toward meeting Program standards, reporting and/or compliance requirements as set forth in this regulation and the Guide, its approval may be revoked.

7.2.8 Probation may be renewed after the first two (2) year probation cycle has been completed if the Program is deemed to be making satisfactory progress. However no new Candidates may enter the Program during this time. Within 30 days of the notification to the Program that its probation is renewed for a second two-year cycle, the Program must notify each Candidate individually in writing of its probationary status, and provide documentation of the notification to the Department.

7.2.9 Programs that fail to meet the standards for approval after four years on probation will have approval revoked.

7.3 Revocation

7.3.1 If a Unit fails to meet the standards, reporting or compliance requirements set forth by this regulation, its approval shall be revoked.

7.3.2 If a Program fails to meet the standards, reporting or compliance requirements set forth by this regulation, its approval shall be revoked.

7.3.3 The Department will make the final determination regarding revocation of state approval.

7.3.4 If upon review of a Program the Department decides that it will move to revoke Program approval, the Department will notify the Unit, the Program, and appropriate representatives of the Institution in writing.

7.3.5 Upon provision of such notification, Program approval is considered revoked. The Program may not recruit or accept new Candidates. Candidates enrolled in the Program who have accumulated enough credits to be on track for graduation within the current academic year may Exit. Within 30 days of the notification to the Program that its probation is renewed for a second two-year cycle, the Unit must notify each Candidate individually in writing of the revocation of Program approval, and provide documentation of the notification to the Department.

7.3.6 A Unit must wait two years after approval of a Program has been revoked before it can apply to the Department for approval of a Program that is substantially the same as the one revoked.

7.4 Rejoinder

7.4.1 An Education Preparation Unit or Program subject to a decision of Revocation may file a petition with the Department for review of that decision not later than 30 calendar days after the notice of revocation has been provided.

7.4.2 The petition for review of revocation decision shall include a short statement explaining the rationale for contesting the decision. The petition shall be accompanied by a statement of position and evidence supporting the rationale.

7.4.3 The Department shall review the materials submitted by the Institution including written statements of position, documents, and comments supporting the claims.

7.4.4 The Department, after considering the evidence presented and the arguments made by the petitioner, shall make a decision and inform the petitioner in writing of that decision, within sixty (60) working days of receipt of the materials. The decision of the Department is final.

8.0 Alternative Routes for Teacher Licensure and Certification Programs

8.1 Notwithstanding any other provision of this regulation to the contrary, any individual, public or private educational association, corporation or institution, which, pursuant to the provisions of 14 **DE Admin. Code** 1507 and subsection 8.2 below, is approved by the Secretary of Education to operate an Alternative Routes to Teacher Licensure and Certification Program shall be deemed to be an approved ARTC Program.

8.2 Any individual, public or private educational association, corporation or institution, which is approved by the Secretary of Education to operate an Alternative Routes to Teacher Licensure and Certification Program as set forth in subsection 8.1 above, shall in addition to the provisions of 14 **DE Admin. Code** 1507 and any applicable statute, comply with the following requirements:

8.2.1 Applications for approval will be accepted only when the Secretary of Education shall post a Request For Proposals requesting the same. The application process shall be competitive and the Secretary may elect to approve some, all or none of the applications.

8.2.2 Approved applicants shall enter into a contract with the Department, on a form approved by the Department for an initial term of three (3) years, renewable for an additional five (5) years at the discretion of the Department upon an analysis of the ARTC Program, during the final year of the contract, by the Department or by an external ARTC Program assessment entity selected by the Department.

8.2.3 Applications shall be responsive to the Request for Proposals and, in addition to any other requirements, shall address how the applicant will determine the coursework and experiences leading to its participants' application for certification to the Department, shall include intensive pre-service training, teacher evaluations conducted by school administrators, completion of coursework, and measures of teacher effectiveness based upon student performance data.

8.2.4 The Department shall evaluate approved ARTC Programs based upon the terms and conditions of the Request for Proposals and the applicant's contract with the Department.

10 DE Reg. 835 (11/01/06)

15 DE Reg. 642 (11/01/11)

