



ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT

An official record of actions taken by the AAQEP Accreditation Commission

University of Kentucky
Initial and Advanced Educator Preparation Programs
 Lexington, KY
 November 2023

ACTION

Based on examination of the case record, including the program's self-study and the AAQEP review team's report, the AAQEP Accreditation Commission makes the following determination regarding the initial and advanced educator preparation programs at the University of Kentucky:

	ACCREDITATION - The Accreditation Commission finds that the program meets all AAQEP standards and is accredited for a term of seven years.
X	ACCREDITATION WITH NOTE - The Accreditation Commission finds that the program meets all AAQEP standards and is accredited for a term of seven years with the notations specified below.
	INITIAL ACCREDITATION - The Accreditation Commission finds that the program meets all AAQEP standards and is accredited for a nonrenewable term of five years.
	INITIAL ACCREDITATION WITH NOTE - The Accreditation Commission finds that the program meets all AAQEP standards and is accredited for a nonrenewable term of five years with the notations specified below.
	PROBATIONARY ACCREDITATION - The Accreditation Commission finds that the program meets all AAQEP standards and is accredited for a term of two years, but conditions specified below represent a potential threat to the provider's ability to meet one or more standards.
	DO NOT ACCREDIT - The Accreditation Commission finds that the program does not meet AAQEP standards and does not qualify for accreditation for reasons specified below.
	DISCLAIMER OF DECISION - The Accreditation Commission finds that the evidence available to it is insufficient to sustain an affirmative or adverse decision.

TERM

The accreditation term takes effect immediately and lasts through **December 31, 2030**, or until the University of Kentucky ceases to be a member in good standing of AAQEP, whichever is earlier. Annual Reports are due by December 31 of each year, with the first report being due December 31, 2024. In addition, please refer to AAQEP's [substantive change policy](#) for guidance on program changes that must be reported.

RATIONALE

The Commission evaluated the program's evidence for each AAQEP standard and determined that all four standards are met. The program prepares candidates to work effectively as professional educators who can adapt to different contexts and continue to grow professionally. It exhibits a significant commitment to partnerships with multiple stakeholders, locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally, to strengthen the P-20 education system. The University of Kentucky maintains program quality by analyzing evidence of its effectiveness and making revisions to benefit candidates while demonstrating its capacity to sustain a robust quality assurance system.

STANDARDS REPORT

The Commission has made the following determinations regarding the AAQEP standards based on its review of the program's outcomes, documentation of capacity, assessment system, quality control system, plans for development, and other evidence as reviewed and supplemented by the review team:

Standard	Met	Not Met
1. Candidate/Completer Performance - Program completers perform as professional educators with the capacity to support success for all students.	X	
2. Completer Professional Competence and Growth - Program completers adapt to working in a variety of contexts and grow as professionals.	X	
3. Quality Program Practices - The program has the capacity to ensure that its completers meet Standards 1 and 2.	X	
4. Program Engagement in System Improvement - Program practices strengthen the P-20 education system in light of local needs and in keeping with the program's mission.	X	

CONCERNS AND CONDITIONS

Concerns are minor problems or shortcomings related to one or more aspects of a standard and must be addressed in the provider's next Annual Report(s). *Conditions* are more significant problems that threaten to undermine one or more of the standards and may result in a shorter accreditation term or require resolution before accreditation takes effect.

Standard	Notation	Remedy and timeline
	No concerns or conditions	

OBSERVATIONS, COMMENTS, AND COMMENDATIONS

Observations offer a perspective or a suggestion that is nonevaluative. *Comments* call attention to a program strength or success that is noteworthy but not so significant or pervasive as to warrant citation as a commendation. *Commendations* are awarded when evidence shows outstanding preparation and performance on one or more aspects of a standard or the standard as a whole.

Standard	Notation
2, 4	<p>Comment: The Commission notes that the program's active collaboration with its stakeholder community is a model that builds candidates' capacity for their own professional engagement and continued growth.</p> <p>This comment pertains to Aspect 4a, which requires engaging with partners to support high-need schools and reduce disparities in educational outcomes, and Aspect 2e, which seeks evidence that program completers are able to establish goals for their own professional growth and engage in self-assessment and reflection.</p>
3	<p>Comment: The Education Program faculty and staff made significant and notable efforts to continue high-quality assessment system development, implementation, and ongoing use for continuous improvement following a significant external event impacting the quality assurance system.</p> <p>This comment pertains to Aspect 3d, which seeks evidence of effective internal quality assurance processes for the admission and monitoring of candidates, and Aspect 3e, which addresses the program's engagement in continuous improvement through an effective quality assurance system.</p>

SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION

This action for the Initial and Advanced Educator Preparation Programs includes the following:

Degree granted by the institution or organization (or nondegree program of study)	Certificate, License, Endorsement, or Other Credential granted by the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board
<i>Programs that lead to initial teaching credentials</i>	
Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education	Elementary Education, P-5
Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education	Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education, B-P
Bachelor of Science in Special Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Learning and Behavior Disorders, P-12 ● Moderate to Severe Disabilities, P-12
Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology and Health Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health Education, P-12 ● Physical Education, P-12
Bachelor of Arts in Middle School Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Middle School English, 5-9 ● Middle School Mathematics, 5-9 ● Middle School Science, 5-9 ● Middle School Social Studies, 5-9
Bachelor of Science in STEM Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Secondary Biology, 8-12 ● Secondary Chemistry, 8-12 ● Secondary Earth Science, 8-12 ● Secondary Mathematics, 8-12 ● Secondary Physics, 8-12
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art Education	Art Education, P-12
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Education	Integrated Music, P-12
Bachelor of Science in Career and Technical Education	Agriculture Education, 5-12
Master of Arts in English Education	Secondary English, 8-12
Master of Arts in Social Studies Education	Secondary Social Studies, 8-12
Master of Arts in Teaching STEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Secondary Biology, 8-12 ● Secondary Chemistry, 8-12 ● Secondary Earth Science, 8-12 ● Secondary Mathematics, 8-12 ● Secondary Physics, 8-12

Master of Arts in Teaching World Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chinese, P-12 ● French, P-12 ● German, P-12 ● Japanese, P-12 ● Latin, P-12 ● Russian, P-12 ● Spanish, P-12
Master of Science in Career and Technical Education	Agriculture Education, 5-12
Nondegree Graduate Special Education: Learning and Behavior Disorders	Learning and Behavior Disorders, P-12
Nondegree Graduate Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education	Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education, B-P
Nondegree Graduate Visual Impairment Education	Visual Impairment, P-12
Alternative Certification in Special Education: Moderate to Severe Disabilities	Moderate to Severe Disabilities, P-12
Alternative Certification in Visual Impairment	Visual Impairment, P-12
Alternative Certification in Teaching World Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chinese, P-12 ● French, P-12 ● German, P-12 ● Japanese, P-12 ● Latin, P-12 ● Russian, P-12 ● Spanish, P-12
<i>Programs that lead to additional or advanced credentials</i>	
Master of Arts in Special Education: Visual Impairment	Visual Impairment, P-12
Master of Fine Arts in Art Education (Teacher Leader)	Teacher Leader Endorsement (Art)
Master of Arts in Special Education (Teacher Leader)	Teacher Leader Endorsement (Special Education)
Master of Arts in Early Childhood Education (Teacher Leader)	Teacher Leader Endorsement (Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education)
Master of Arts in STEM Education (Teacher Leader)	Teacher Leader Endorsement (STEM Education)

Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language	ESL Endorsement
Nondegree Teaching English as a Second Language	ESL Endorsement
Nondegree School Superintendent	School Superintendent, P-12
Specialist in Education Leadership	School Principal, P-12
Master of Arts in Education Leadership (Teacher Leader)	Teacher Leader Endorsement (Education Leadership)
Specialist in Education Leadership (Teacher Leadership)	Teacher Leader Endorsement (Education Leadership)
<i>Programs that lead to credentials for other school professionals or to no specific credential</i>	
Master of Arts in Literacy	Literacy Specialist
Master of Arts in Library Science	School Media Librarian, P-12
Master of Arts in Orientation and Mobility	Orientation and Mobility, P-12
Specialist in School Psychology	School Psychology
Master's in Social Work	School Social Work

NOTE: Accreditation actions are based on examination of the case record, including the provider's self-study and the AAQEP review team's report. Decisions are the sole responsibility of the AAQEP Accreditation Commission and may not be modified by staff or quality assurance reviewers.