



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

Stephen L. Bowen
COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT: #VI.D.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Stephen L. Bowen, Commissioner*

DATE: June 13, 2012

SUBJECT: Request from the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development for Extension of Current State Program Approval for its Educator Preparation Programs from the Fall of 2013 to the Fall of 2014

BACKGROUND: A joint State and National Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (NCATE) program approval visit to the University of Maine has been scheduled to be conducted November 2 - 6, 2013 for the purpose of reviewing the University's undergraduate and graduate educator preparation programs for both State program approval and for continuing national accreditation. On January 1, 2013 NCATE and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) will formally merge to become known thereafter as the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). While this merger has been in the works for over two years and has involved accommodations for different program standards and for varied program review protocols many programmatic details are still being resolved. One of the on-going accreditation requirements embedded within the new CAEP standards is the requirement that all educator preparation programs for accreditation consideration must have a minimum of three (3) years of consistent, viable and verifiable data that demonstrates high standards for program accountability and for outcomes-based decision making.

While the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) has always been required to have and to maintain a viable assessment system during the 2010-2011 academic year College administration and faculty, recognizing that their current system was too modest and limited, determined that a significantly more robust data collection, monitoring and reporting capacity was necessary. Consequently, a comprehensive data management system was identified, settled upon and adopted; College-wide implementation of the Tk20 system began in the fall of 2011. Consensus exists that the Tk20 System was the right choice for meeting the College's data management needs and requirements.

However, by the time of the scheduled November 2-6, 2013 joint State program approval and national accreditation visit the College will have comprehensive student and programmatic data available for only two of the three years required for national accreditation consideration (academic years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013). Given this circumstance the College will not be able to meet one of the key accreditation standards. With extension of its current State program approval to the fall of 2014 the College would also have student and programmatic data for the academic year 2013-2014 thereby meeting the three year requirement. For this reason, the request for extension was made by the Dean of the College of Education and Human Development, Dr. Anne E. Pooler (see attached letter).

Chapter 114, Part 3.11, *Action by the State Board of Education*, subsection e) reads as follows:

Requests for extensions for existing approval, due to extraordinary circumstances, may be granted at the discretion of the State Board of Education; however, such extensions shall not extend the date when the subsequent approval is due. The Board will only consider such requests in emergency situations.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education act favorably upon the request from the University of Maine to extend current State program approval for its educator preparation programs from the fall of 2013 to the fall of 2014. It is understood that, with this grant of extension, the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), soon to become the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), will honor the State Board's action regarding this matter and collaborate with the Department of Education in rescheduling the joint State and CAEP visit to the University of Maine on mutually convenient dates during the fall of 2014.

* Prepared by Harry Osgood,
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