
3A

Information

Legislative Committee

Possible 2013 Legislative Concepts

Executive Summary: This agenda item provides possible legislative concepts that could be explored with the Administration for Commission consideration and discussion.

Recommended Action: For information only

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Strategic Plan Goal

III Communication and Engagement

- ◆ Advise the Governor, Legislature, and other policy makers as appropriate regarding issues affecting the quality, preparation, certification, and discipline of the education workforce.

Possible 2013 Legislative Concepts

Over the past year, the Commission has discussed policy issues that could require changes in state law to fully resolve. The following policy issues are presented for Commission consideration and discussion as potential legislative concepts that could be explored with the Administration. Implementation of one or both of these concepts would require statute change and, therefore, legislative action. Discussion of these concepts is an opportunity for staff to gain an understanding of the Commission's position. Reference to Commission discussion of each concept in a previous agenda item is footnoted.

*Concept 1: Accreditation Fee Recovery*¹

Currently, the costs of educator preparation accreditation are funded by credentialing application fees through the Teacher Credentials Fund (TCF) and through exam fees deposited into the Test Development and Administration Account (TDAA). Revenue for these funds has declined in recent years primarily due to a decrease in credential applications and renewals and reductions in the overall volume of credential candidates enrolled in programs. The number of programs offering credential preparation has increased over time and despite streamlining of the accreditation processes, this has added pressure to adequately fund the Commission's primary means of assuring quality and accountability in the preparation of California educators. As the Commission has examined other sources of revenue for agency expenditures, one source identified would establish fees for specified accreditation functions that would help the Commission recover costs associated with providing accreditation services. Two accreditation fee recovery alternatives, corresponding to specific activities within the accreditation system, are described below along with revenue that would be generated by each.

New Program Review

When the Commission adopts new standards or legislation, regulation or policy create new pathways to particular types of credentials, institutions (including colleges, universities, local education agencies or other types of entities) have the opportunity to submit proposals for new programs. Each proposal is reviewed by two expert educators from the field—faculty and/or practicing educators. A travel cost for the two individuals to review the proposal is estimated at \$1,600 per document review. Currently the Commission provides this service at no cost to teacher preparation programs. This proposal would seek legislative authority to charge institutions on a cost-recovery basis for the review of all new proposals.

Historical Information	New Institutions			New Programs		
	09-10	10-11	11-12	09-10	10-11	11-12
New institutions and new programs	10	6	3	30	81	75

¹ <http://www.etc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2012-06/2012-06-6B.pdf>

If this fee recovery system had been in place in previous years the following revenue would have been generated to support the review of the proposals.

Historical Information	Total	\$
2009-10	40	64,000
2010-11	87	139,200
2012-13	78	124,800

	<i>New Institutions</i>	<i>New Programs</i>	<i>Total Reviews</i>	<i>Estimated Revenue</i>
2012-13	5	60	65	\$ 104,000
2013-14	5	140	145	\$ 232,000
2014-15	5	120	125	\$ 200,000

It is expected that the Administrative Services programs (Tier I and Induction) will be submitted for review in 2013-14 and 2014-15.

By instituting this aspect of the fee recovery system, the review of new institutions and program proposals would be funded by this fee and the review of prospective educator preparation programs would not be impacted by the Commission’s budget. During the end of 2011-12 and in 2012-13, the review of prospective new institutions and programs has been restricted by the Commission’s operating expenses.

Extraordinary Accreditation Activities

When an institution has not met the Commission’s standards, follow-up from staff, quarterly reporting or a re-visit may be required the year after the accreditation site visit. The following actions may be required of the institution:

- *Address Stipulations*—may necessitate a staff visit to the institution to provide technical assistance, staff time to review the documentation, time for the original Team Lead to review documentation that has been submitted. **Estimate \$500 per institution**
- *Quarterly Reports (includes Addressing Stipulations)* —if the stipulations are significant and the Committee on Accreditation (COA) has concerns that the institution may not make adequate progress throughout the year, the COA may stipulate that quarterly reports are due from the institution. Staff must review the documentation, may necessitate a staff visit to the institution to provide technical assistance, and time for the team lead to review the documentation that has been submitted. **Estimate \$1,000 per institution**
- *Accreditation Re-visit—(includes Addressing Stipulations, if quarterly reports are required the additional fee would be necessary)* —when a re-visit is scheduled, typically the staff consultant and team lead return to the institution for a 2 day re-visit. At times additional team members are required because of the specific nature of the standards that were not fully met at the time of the initial site visit. **Estimate \$1,000 per individual who attends the visit.**
- *Focused Site Visit* —when an institution is not complying with the accreditation system activities or if there are concerns expressed about a program or institution, the COA may send a small team for a Focused Site visit. **Estimate \$1,000 per individual who attends the visit.**

Since no initial accreditation site visits are scheduled in 2012-13, there may not be any extraordinary follow-up activities in 2013-14. It is not possible to estimate how many institutions will have stipulations placed on them in the 2013-14 year but there are 41 site visits planned for 2013-14. Historical information is provided in the table below for the three prior years.

Historical Information on the Number of Institutions

Year	Total Visits	Only Stipulations	Stipulations and Re-Visit	Stipulations, Quarterly Reports and Re-Visit
2011-12	38	7	4	0
2010-11	31	4	1	3
2009-10	13	2	5	0

*Concept 2: Unit Cap Limit on Preliminary Teaching Credential Programs*²

Current law, Education Code §44259 (a), restricts approved preliminary multiple and single subject teacher preparation programs to no more than one year of (or the equivalent of one-fifth of a five-year program) in professional preparation. This restriction is seen to impede efforts to ensure that candidates are adequately prepared to work with English language learners, help pupils with special needs access the curriculum, or have a rich practicum experience that allows the candidate sufficient time to be supervised and mentored by more experienced teachers. The expectations of the K-12 schools, including the Common Core standards, have increased the knowledge and skills that a beginning teacher must have at the time the preliminary credential is earned. A possible solution to this barrier would be to repeal Education Code §44259 (a) that specifically limits or “caps” the time of a multiple or single subject professional preparation program to the equivalent of one year.

² <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2012-09/2012-09-11.pdf>