

Discussion of Accreditation Activities 2012-13

May 2012

Overview of this Report

This report discusses the potential impact on accreditation activities for 2012 resulting from the Commission's current budget situation.

Staff Recommendation

This is an information item only. Comments from the COA will be incorporated to the extent possible into the presentation to the Commission at its next regularly scheduled meeting on June 14, 2012. However, the Commission will ultimately determine the manner in which to address the Commission's budget situation for the coming year.

Background

Over the past several months, the Commission has discussed the challenges related to its budget. Declining revenues from a decreasing number of new and renewing credential holders as well as increasing nondiscretionary costs have contributed to the need for the Commission to reevaluate its priorities and expenses. Additional information on the budget situation of the Commission can be found at the following links to agenda items presented at the January, March, and April 2012 Commission meetings:

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2012-01/2012-01-2A.pdf>

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2012-03/2012-03-agenda.html>

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2012-04/2012-04-5A.pdf>

At the June 14, 2012 Commission meeting, staff will present additional information from the Governor's May Revision of the proposed budget. As the realities of next year's budget has become more clear, it has become increasingly apparent that difficult choices must be made by the Commission to keep the Commission solvent for the coming year. While avenues are being explored such as implementing additional efficiencies, increasing credential and examination fees as well as charging for some accreditation activities (such as for revisits), some core functions of the agency will need to be deferred, revised, and/or eliminated.

Accreditation of educator preparation program is central to the Commission's mandate to assure educator quality. With the assistance of numerous stakeholders in the field, the Commission has developed and implemented a robust accreditation system. The discussion at the June 14, 2012 Commission meeting will center around which aspects of the system the Commission can afford to keep intact for the coming year and which aspects will need either to be changed in some manner or deferred.

If available in time, information from the Commission agenda item for the June 14, 2012 discussion will be provided to the COA as an agenda insert. As of the drafting of this COA agenda item for May, the June Commission agenda item was still under development. Nonetheless, staff will provide the COA with an update about information that will be presented to the Commission.

Next Steps

Commission staff will include on an agenda item for the June 27-28 COA meeting that discusses any action taken or direction given by the Commission at its June 14, 2012 meeting regarding accreditation activities for 2012-13.