

# Report of Program Accreditation Recommendations

October 2012

## Overview

This report consists of recommendations made about the initial accreditation of professional preparation programs based upon institutional responses to program standards. The report also provides information on programs that have transitioned to revised program standards, programs that have elected to change to “Inactive” status or are requesting “Reactivation.” In addition the item presents requests from institutions for programs to be “Withdrawn.” The COA will review these requests and take action to formally withdraw the programs.

## Staff Recommendation

That the Committee on Accreditation grant initial accreditation (A) to the following preparation program(s), as recommended by the appropriate reviewers and take action to withdraw the following preparation programs as requested by the institution (E).

### A. Programs for Approval by the Committee on Accreditation

Program(s) of Professional Preparation for the Clear Education Specialist Induction

#### *Merced Union High School District*

The proposed Merced Union High School District Education Specialist Induction Program will provide systematic opportunities for its participating education specialists to apply pedagogical knowledge and skills acquired in the preliminary credential program. The district’s induction program has had success in developing teachers who are able to apply the pedagogy and instructional strategies they need to be effective classroom teachers who foster student achievement. Because of this success, district leaders chose to offer an additional induction program for the district’s education specialists believing that a program modeled on the BTSA program will lead to greater success and retention of education specialists and greater achievement for students with disabilities. This will be accomplished with one-on-one support by full-time mentors who are veteran teachers of mentor quality, sequenced formative assessment activities, and application of newly acquired knowledge from professional development sessions in a classroom setting. The program and its formative assessment system models and encourages self-assessment and reflection while fostering collaboration and leadership among teachers.

#### *CSU Fullerton*

*The purpose of the CSU Fullerton Clear Education Specialist Induction Program is to successfully prepare participating teachers to meet the academic needs of their students while receiving multiple opportunities for application and demonstration of the required knowledge and skills as evidenced in the induction standards. Participating teachers may choose to complete the program in one year by taking two courses a semester or they may opt to spread the opportunity out over several semesters. The program has been deemed to be aligned with the standards and has incorporated innovative approaches for the professional development of Education Specialists.*

***Santa Clara Unified School District***

*Santa Clara Unified School District's Clear Education Specialist Induction Program is a single district program where the Participating Teachers in the program participate in the Inquiry based formative assessment (FACT) and professional development activities described in the Ed Specialist Submission. The program's day-to-day operations are handled by two Teachers on Special Assignment supported by on-going coordination between the program and the Director of Special Education and the lead Special Education Mentor. The BTSA/Induction program Director meets regularly with these two representatives to:*

- *Select support providers in Special Education*
- *Match them with new credential candidates*
- *Develop and provide appropriate staff development*
- *Trouble shoot any issues that may arise*

*The program ensures that each PT pursues advanced study that is connected to his/her classroom assignment and credential authorization.*

Program(s) of Professional Preparation for the Preliminary Administrative Services Credential

***San Diego County Office of Education***

The San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) Preliminary Administrative Services Credential program is designed to provide an interrelated, cohesive set of developmental learning experiences that prepare prospective school principals for the challenges of school leadership. The program offers a high-quality preparation program that is focused on developing leaders by providing a rigorous and relevant course of study on instructional leadership. The program makes a significant contribution to the San Diego region by preparing future school leaders and educational administrators to become "leaders of learning" who are capable of attaining the level of effectiveness needed to produce high performing schools.

Early Childhood Special Education: Added Authorization

***Wiseburn School District: Project Optimal***

The Project Optimal Early Childhood Special Education Added Authorization Program is an online self-study program made up of 4 courses and a 45 hour practicum. The ECSE AA courses offered through Project Optimal are approved for 12 graduate level professional development credits through Brandman University. The four courses include: Characteristics and Support of Infants and Preschoolers with Special Needs, Collaboration with Families of Children with Special Needs, Assessment and Early Intervention Strategies for Infants and Preschoolers, and Experience in Early Childhood Special Education Programs. As a candidate moves through the program competencies are presented then tested. The program ensures a solid foundation in the understanding and application of the specific support and teaching strategies for children (birth to pre K) with developmental delays, specific learning disabilities, traumatic brain injury, other health impairments,

autism spectrum disorders, mild, moderate and severe mental retardation, emotional disturbances, low incidence and multiple disabilities.

### ***California Baptist University***

*In response to requests by candidates and local preschool directors, the Metcalf School of Education at California Baptist University established an advisory group for the purposes of designing an Early Childhood Special Education Added Authorization program. The proposed program consists of four courses: ECH 510-Characteristics of Infants-Preschoolers with IFSP/IEP; ECH 515-The Role of the Family in ECSE; ECH 520-Assessment and Intervention: Birth-Pre-Kindergarten; and ECH 525-Instructional Strategies: Birth-Pre-Kindergarten. Each course has embedded fieldwork that provides candidates opportunities to implement the presented knowledge and skills. The program also has a culminating portfolio where candidates provide evidence of each of the abilities listed in the CTC program standards. Candidates will only be recommended for an ECSEAA upon successfully completion of all four courses and the culminating portfolio.*

### ***Autism Spectrum Disorders: Added Authorization***

#### ***National Hispanic University***

*The National Hispanic University currently offers a Preliminary and Clear Education Specialist Mild/Moderate credential and will now be offering an Autism Spectrum Disorders Added Authorization (ASDAA) to Preliminary and Level I Credential holders. The NHU ASDAA authorization provides information and professional development in the areas of teaching, assessment, collaboration and behavioral interventions as it relates to students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. The goal of the program is to provide special education teachers with a more advanced level of knowledge, skill, and reflection in order to better serve students with Autism Spectrum Disorders.*

### ***Program(s) of Professional Preparation for the Clear Administrative Services: Guidelines Based***

#### ***Ventura County Office of Education***

*The Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE) partners with 20 Ventura County districts, one Los Angeles County district, 9 charter schools, 17 private schools, and six universities. The Administrative Services Guidelines-based Program is offered by VCOE for novice administrators who possess a Preliminary Administrative Services Credential. In consultation with the employer and a qualified mentor, candidates develop an Individual Mentoring Assessment Plan that builds on prior knowledge and experiences. Over the two year program, candidates are assessed on their growth toward becoming proficient in the California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (CPSELs). Candidates receive mentoring and job-specific coaching, attend professional learning, and complete two Professional Portfolios (one for each year) demonstrating and implementing knowledge and skills of the six CPSELs. Upon satisfactory completion of all program requirements, candidates are recommended for the Administrative Services Clear Credential.*

### ***El Dorado County Office of Education***

*The El Dorado County Guidelines-based Administrator Training Program is designed to provide individualized support and assistance to new administrators. Participants improve their leadership practices measured against the California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (CPSEL) as they complete the requirements for the California Professional Administrative Services Credential. Each participant's work over the two years of the program is guided by an Individual Development Plan with annual goals, benchmarks, and expected evidence of goal achievement. An experienced administrator who has been trained in research-based coaching techniques provides ongoing support and feedback. Participants' growth in leadership and professional performance is documented in an online portfolio.*

### **Program(s) of Professional Preparation for the Preliminary Adult Education Credential**

#### ***San Diego County Office of Education***

*The San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) Designated Subjects program currently administers a newly approved Career Technical Education program and an Adult Education program (old standards) to over 70 districts in California. The agency will now be offering the Adult Education credential program under the new program standards. SDCOE Designated Subjects Adult Education program is designed to support new teachers throughout their entire preliminary credentialing period. Each candidate is assigned to a program that has been approved by a mentor who serves as a "lifeline" or non-evaluative coach to assist candidates with their program coursework and offer support within the context of the candidate's classroom. Coursework is offered through partnering with universities and is standards-based. Program standards and development of candidate competencies are reinforced through observations by the mentor teachers. Adult Education teachers are currently in the classroom during their preliminary credential period, making the mentor support and collaboration a valuable tool for professional growth and ease of necessary steps needed to clear the credential.*

### **B. Notification about the Transition of Professional Preparation Program(s)**

*The items listed below are for notification purposes only. No action is needed.*

At each meeting, this section of the Program Approval item will update the COA as to what programs have transitioned to recently updated standards.

#### **Adapted Physical Education**

*California State University, Los Angeles (effective December 31, 2011)*

*San Jose State University (effective September 27, 2012)*

### **C. Program(s) of Professional Preparation Moving to Inactive Status**

*The items listed below are for notification purposes only. No action is needed. To re-activate the program, the institution must make a formal request to the COA which must take action. The*

*inactive program will be included in the accreditation activities in a modified manner as determined by the COA (Accreditation Handbook, Chapter 3.)*

#### **D. Professional Preparation Programs(s) Requesting Reactivation**

*When an approved program has requested to on **Inactive** status, the program must return to the COA to request to be **Reactivated**. Depending on the amount of time that the program has been inactive and if there have been updated or new standards adopted, the COA may request additional information from the institution including for the institution to address the COA and describe the steps being taken to reactivate the program, or require a new program proposal be submitted and reviewed.*

*Staff will review all requests to reactivate a program and make a recommendation to the COA. The recommendation will consider the length of time a program has been inactive, the place the institution is in the accreditation cycle, if standards for the program have been recently updated, and any other information related to the program. The COA may accept the staff recommendation or require the program to present additional information prior to taking action on the request.*

There are no programs requesting inactivation at this time.

#### **E. Recommendation about the Withdrawal of Professional Preparation Program**

Withdrawal of the following programs have been requested by the institutions offering them. The date of withdrawal will be the date of the COA's action.

*When an institution withdraws an educator preparation program the institution must wait a minimum of two years before the institution may request re-accreditation of the program (Accreditation Handbook, Chapter 3.)*

#### **Program Clarification:**

**General Education (Multiple and Single Subject) Induction Programs** are offered by colleges, universities, school districts, or county offices of education and allow an individual holding a Preliminary MS or SS teaching credential to earn a clear teaching credential. A General Education Induction program sponsored by a school district or county office of education may elect to include BTSA in its name but it will not be included on the Commission's approved programs web pages.

**General Education (Multiple and Single Subject) Clear Programs** are offered by colleges or universities and allow an individual holding a Preliminary MS or SS teaching credential to earn a clear teaching credential when the candidate has a CL 855 form signed by an employer.