California
Commission on Teacher Credentialing

Meeting of
January 9, 2003

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: PREP - 2

COMMITTEE: Preparation Standards

TITLE: Modification of Pupil Personnel Services Credential Standards Implementation Plan

X  Action

_____ Information

_____ Report

Strategic Plan Goal(s):
Goal 1: Promote educational excellence through the preparation and certification of professional educators
  • Sustain high quality standards for the preparation of professional educators

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Pupil Personnel Services Advisory Panel Recommendations Concerning Credential Standards and Other Policy Issues

Professional Services Division
California Commission on Teacher Credentialing

January 9, 2003

Overview of this Agenda Item
In October 2000, the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing adopted new Pupil Personnel Services Credential Standards. It was determined that changes were needed to better prepare Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) professionals for effective service to K-12 students and their families in the 21st century. In December 2000, the Commission adopted a plan to implement the new standards. After making an assessment of the progress on this plan and after hearing from several institutions about the plan, it has become apparent that more time is needed for the Commission’s advisory panel to review program proposals and for institutions to prepare program proposals to address the new standards.

Policy Issue To Be Resolved
What is an appropriate time adjustment to the plan for implementing the Pupil Personnel Services Standards adopted by the Commission?

Fiscal Impact Analysis
The Professional Services Division is responsible for reviewing and updating preparation program standards. The Commission budget supports the cost of these activities. No augmentation of the budget will be needed for implementation of the recommended changes.

Staff Recommendation
That the Commission adopt the proposed adjustment to the Plan to Implement Pupil Personnel Services Credential Standards that was adopted by the Commission.
Background

At its October 2000 meeting, the Commission adopted new Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential Standards. These standards will guide the preparation of school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers and child welfare and attendance providers in California. The PPS Advisory Panel that was appointed by the Commission worked for over two years, gathering data and otherwise assessing necessary changes needing to be made to prepare these service providers for the Twenty-first Century. In December 2000, the Commission adopted an implementation plan that spells out clearly to PPS program coordinators the processes and procedures to be followed to implement the new standards. The Commission appointed an advisory panel to review PPS program proposals and to make recommendations to the Committee on Accreditation for their approval. The Commission’s advisory panel held their first meeting in August 2001.

Commission staff held regional meetings inviting college and university program coordinators to attend in order to answer questions and address concerns they might have about the new changes. Numerous PPS program coordinators attended the sessions and felt that the sessions were helpful.

All institutions offering PPS Credential Programs were encouraged to begin addressing the new changes as soon as possible. Staff sought out institutions willing to begin the new PPS Credential Program Standards in 2001. Very few institutions were able to make appropriate program changes to address the new standards in 2001.

Current Status of the Existing Implementation Plan

The first Pupil Personnel Services Program Proposal to address the Commission’s new standards was received in July 2001. As of the first of December 2002, 47 proposals have been received. Of the 47 proposals received, 21 have been reviewed and 26 are awaiting to be reviewed by the Commission’s advisory panel of reviewers. Of the 21 reviewed, 9 have been approved while the other 12 are awaiting institutional responses to the panel’s comments, questions and requests for clarification concerning their program proposals submitted. Commission staff is expecting to receive 18 additional program proposals from institutions currently offering the PPS credential program.

Following is a summary of the status of the PPS program proposal review process:

- Total program proposals **expected** 65
- Total program proposals **received** to date 47
- Total program proposals **reviewed** to date 21
- Total program proposals **received but not yet reviewed** 26
- Proposals reviewed and **awaiting responses** to panel concerns 12
- Total program proposals **not yet received** but expected 18
- Total program proposals **approved** to date 9
Rationale for Modifying the Implementation Plan

After talking with several program coordinators, it has become apparent that many are experiencing difficulty getting what amounts to major changes through the somewhat complex committee structures of their institutions.

Other factors impacting the original implementation plan include the loss of several advisory panel members, changes in the advisory panel meeting schedule and adjustments in the review process. The additional time will allow the Commission’s PPS advisory panel to catch up on the program proposals left to be reviewed, and will give those eighteen institutions who have not yet submitted documents, additional time to do so. The second date change will allow credential candidates accepted into programs under the old standards sufficient time to complete the program.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the deadline be changed for institutions to have program proposals to address the Commission’s new PPS Credential Program Standards approved. Staff recommends that the deadline be changed from January 30, 2003 to January 30, 2004.

Staff also recommends that the final date for candidates to complete Pupil Personnel Services Credential Programs under the “old” (pre-2001) standards be changed from June 30, 2005 to January 30, 2006.


October 2000

On October 5, 2000, the Commission adopted the Standards of Program Quality and Effectiveness for Pupil Personnel Services Programs with Specializations in School Counseling, School Psychology, School Social Work and Child Welfare and Attendance Services, as recommended by staff and the Pupil Personnel Services Advisory Panel.

December 2000

On December 6, 2000, the Commission adopted a timeframe for implementation of Standards for Pupil Personnel Services Credential Programs, as recommended by staff.

January 2001

The Commission staff conducted regional meetings to discuss implementation of new standards with college and university program coordinators and faculty.
January 2, 2001  In response to the standards, institutions may submit programs for approval on or after January 2, 2001. Once a “new” program is approved, all students who were not previously enrolled in an “old” program must enroll in the new PPS Credential Program. Credential candidates may complete an old program only if they enrolled in it (1) prior to September 30, 2003, or (2) prior to the commencement of the new program at their campus (whichever occurs first).

Feb.-March 2001  The Commission selects and trains program review panels consisting of postsecondary educators and practitioners to review and make recommendations for approval of institutional program proposals based on the new standards.

2001-2003  Program Review Panels reviews program proposals, based on the adopted standards, as they are submitted. The Committee on Accreditation considers the recommendations of the review panels, and grants initial accreditation of credential programs in accordance with the Accreditation Framework.

January 30, 2004  All continuing Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential Programs must be approved by the Commission on new standards. This would include all school counseling, school psychology, school social work, and child welfare and attendance credential programs. “Old” programs that are based on the Commission’s 1991 standards must be superseded by new programs. After January 30, 2004, no new credential candidates may enroll in an old program, even if a new program is not yet available at their institution.

To qualify for an “old” PPS Credential based on an old program, candidates must have entered the program (1) prior to January 30, 2004 or (2) prior to commencement of the new program at their campus (whichever occurs first) and they must complete the “old” program by January 30, 2006.

January 30, 2006  The final date for candidates to complete Pupil Personnel Services Credential Programs, including school counseling, school psychology, school social work and child welfare and attendance under the “old” (pre-2001) standards is January 30, 2006.