Overview of the Early Completion Intern Program Option and Recommendation for Adoption of a Replacement for the Teaching Foundations Examination

AGENDA INSERT

Executive Summary: This insert provides information to clarify staff recommendation 5 on page 14 of the agenda item.

Policy Questions: What are the most promising options to improve the ECO route for candidates and for programs?

Recommended Action: That the Commission adopt the examination specified in the agenda item to replace the Teaching Foundations Examination as part of the statutory requirements for the Early Completion Intern Program Option, and that the Commission adopt the recommendations presented in the item concerning modifications in the administration of the ECO option within preparation programs.

Presenter: Phyllis Jacobson, Administrator, Professional Services Division

Strategic Plan Goal:

I. Educator Quality
- Develop, maintain, and promote high quality authentic, consistent educator assessments and examinations that support development and certification of educators who have demonstrated the capacity to be effective practitioners.
Overview of the Early Completion Intern Program Option and Recommendation for Adoption of a Replacement for the Teaching Foundations Examination

Introduction
This agenda item provides information intended to clarify staff recommendation 5 on page 14 of the agenda item. This recommendation presently reads as follows:

5. Direct staff to initiate the rulemaking process to require that interns in the ECO route complete their TPA within the first semester/year of their internship program.

Background
Since this agenda item was posted, staff has had additional discussions with stakeholders regarding the most appropriate way to implement the Early Completion Intern Program Option in accordance with statute while at the same time developing and supporting the ability of the ECO intern candidate to provide effective instruction to California’s K-12 students. As a result of these discussions, staff clarifies herein the intent and scope of staff recommendation 5 to read as follows:

Revised Staff Recommendation 5
5. Direct staff to initiate the rulemaking process to require that interns in the ECO route complete the TPA within the first year of their internship program.

Staff notes that statute requires that ECO candidates must pass the TPA on the first attempt; ECO candidates who are not successful on their first attempt of the TPA must complete the intern program.

Staff Recommendation
Staff requests that the Commission consider the revised Staff Recommendation 5 as presented above instead of the prior version presented in the agenda item and direct staff to initiate the rulemaking process to require that interns in the ECO route must complete the TPA within the first year of the internship program.

Next Steps
If the Commission takes action to clarify the timeframe within the intern program that ECO candidates must complete the TPA, staff would begin the rulemaking process.