

Initial Program Approval for New Program Sponsors May 2021 Year

Overview

This report consists of a recommendation made for the initial approval of a professional preparation program for an institution that recently received Provisional Approval as a new program sponsor in California. Los Angeles Pacific University (LAPU), a institution of higher education, received Provisional Approval by the Commission at its [August 2020](#) meeting.

Staff Recommendation

That after discussion with the program sponsor, review of the Board of Institutional Review (BIR) members' feedback, and review of the of the proposed program proposal documentation, the COA grant initial program approval to the proposed Preliminary Multiple Subject program. Should the COA approve the program, the program may begin operations and a site visit will be scheduled in three years in accordance with Commission action to grant the institution provisional status.

Background

The Commission requires that an institution seeking to offer new educator preparation program(s) must first be approved for initial accreditation as a new program sponsor and must do so by completing the Commission's Initial Institution Approval (IIA) process. At the December 2015 meeting, the Commission approved a new IIA process requiring the satisfactory completion of five approval stages as part of the Strengthening and Streamlining Accreditation project – updates to the IIA process were subsequently approved during the February 2016 meeting. A graphic detailing the five stages of the IIA process is provided on the following page.

Initial Institutional Approval

IIA Process	Stage I	Stage II	Stage III	IV	V
Action	Prerequisites	Eligibility Requirements	Preconditions & Common Standards	Program Standards	Site Visit
Purpose	Ensures legal eligibility of institution in California Ensures institution understands requirements of Commission's accreditation system	Ensures that institution has capacity to sponsor effective programs	Ensures institution meets all relevant preconditions Ensures institution meets all Common Standards	Ensures all proposed programs meet all relevant program standards	Program operates for 2-3 years and hosts a focused accreditation site visit
Requirements	Institution must: 1. Have legal eligibility 2. Attend Accreditation 101 with institutional team	Submit responses to: • 12 Eligibility Criteria	Submit responses to: • Preconditions • Common Standards	Submit responses to: • Program Standards	Institution must: • Collect data • Host focused site visit
Reviewed By	Staff	Staff	Preconditions: Staff Common Standards: BIR	BIR	Site Visit Team
Authority	Staff	Commission	Commission	COA	Commission
Decision	Determine Eligibility for Stage II	Eligibility: 1. Grant 2. Deny	Provisional Approval: 1. Grant 2. Deny	Program(s): 1. Approve 2. Deny	1. Grant Full approval 2. Retain Provisional Approval with Additional Requirements 3. Deny Approval
IIA Status*	Not Approved	Not Approved	Provisional Approval**	Provisional Approval***	Full Approval

At conclusion of stage **Institutionally-approved but cannot offer programs *May begin offering approved programs*

Los Angeles Pacific University (LAPU)

Los Angeles Pacific University (LAPU) has completed the first three stages of the Initial Institutional Approval process as follows:

Stage	Date
Stage I: Prerequisites	August 2018 – Accreditation 101
Stage II: Eligibility Requirements	September 2019 – Granted Eligibility
Stage III: Preconditions & Common Standards	August 2020 – Granted Provisional Approval

As previously discussed, LAPU appeared before the Commission at its August 2020 meeting and its proposal for Provisional Approval was approved. LAPU's responses to the Preliminary Multiple Subject program standards were reviewed by a team of BIR members. Reviewers collaborated on the feedback and found all standards to be **met**. Below is a summary of LAPU's responses to the Preliminary Multiple Subject program standards. The following hyperlinks provides access to [LAPU's complete submission](#) and the reviewers' [Report of Findings](#).

Institution Summary

Los Angeles Pacific University's Preliminary Multiple Subject program will be an online program, designed to adapt to the needs of a changing demographic of teacher candidates. The program will begin with foundational elements in classroom management, engaging and supporting a culturally and linguistically diverse student population, instructional design and best practices in assessment. The program will then place teacher candidates in fieldwork classrooms and student teaching to practice the subject matter portion of the credential. Teacher candidates will complete all the subject matter competency testing requirements, including RICA and CSET, and culminate in the CalTPA. All along the way, students will be monitored and supported by program staff, instructional faculty, each candidate's individual success coach, as well as a clinical supervisor and master teacher.