

**Initial Program Approval for New Program Sponsors
as part of Stage IV of the Initial Institutional Approval Process
Charter School of San Diego
August 2024**

Overview

This report consists of a recommendation for the Initial Program Approval of an education preparation program which will be offered by The Charter School of San Diego (CSSD)

CSSD is a local education agency currently in the Initial Institutional Approval (IIA) process which was granted Provisional Approval as a new program sponsor in California at the Commission’s [October 2023 meeting](#). CSSD, as part of Stage IV of the IIA process, now seeks Initial Program Approval from the Committee on Accreditation (COA) to offer a Teacher Induction program.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that after discussion with the program sponsor, review of the Board of Institutional Review (BIR) team members’ feedback, and review of the Stage IV documentation, the COA grant Initial Program Approval to CSSD’s proposed Teacher Induction program. Should the COA approve the program, the program may begin operating, and in accordance with Commission’s previous action to grant the institution Provisional Approval at the conclusion of IIA Stage III, a provisional site visit will be scheduled in three years.

Background

The Commission requires that an institution seeking to offer new educator preparation program(s) must first be approved as a new program sponsor and must do so by completing the Commission’s Initial Institutional Approval (IIA) process. A chart detailing the five stages of the IIA process is provided at the end of this agenda item.

The Charter School of San Diego

CSSD has completed the first three stages of the Initial Institutional Approval process as follows:

Stage	Date
Stage I: Prerequisites	March 2019 – Attended Accreditation 101
Stage II: Eligibility Requirements	June 2022 – Granted Eligibility
Stage III: Common Standards	October 2023 – Granted Provisional Approval

CSSD’s responses to the Teacher Induction preconditions were reviewed by Commission staff and were determined to be met. CSSD’s responses to the Teacher Induction program standards were reviewed by a team of BIR members who collaborated on the feedback and found all standards to be met. On CSSD’s [Teacher Induction IIA webpage](#), both the reviewers’ Report of Findings and the institution’s Stage IV submission are available.

Institution Summary

The Charter School of San Diego Teacher Induction Program (CSSD TIP) will be a job-embedded, clear credential program designed to support new teachers through a comprehensive framework that includes a personalized program design to support teachers serving at-promise students, a comprehensive mentoring system, and robust professional learning opportunities to support candidates in meeting their Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) goals that are aligned to the California Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTPs). The program will operate under the Professional Learning Department in collaboration with the Human Resources Department, overseen by the Dean of Academic Affairs and Studies. CSSD TIP will offer two pathways: a two-year traditional pathway and an Early Completion Option (ECO) pathway, both featuring a hybrid delivery model for flexibility. Communication will be facilitated through the Collaboration and Knowledge Management System, ensuring seamless interaction among all educational partners, and the program's effectiveness will be continuously improved through feedback from the advisory board and surveys administered to candidates, mentors, faculty, and administrators. The assessment system will be multifaceted, incorporating mentor logs, observation cycles, and ILPs to meticulously monitor candidate progress. The program will culminate in a final portfolio to demonstrate completion of the ILP as part of the credential recommendation process to ensure candidates proficiently meet all program competencies.

Five Stages of the Initial Institutional Approval Process

The Charter School of San Diego is seeking initial program approval as indicated in the Stage IV column of the chart below.

IIA Process	Stage I - Prerequisites	Stage II – Eligibility	Stage III – Provisional Approval	<i>Stage IV – Initial Program Approval</i>	Stage V – Full Approval
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 Common Standards	<i>Ensures all proposed programs meet all relevant program standards and program-specific preconditions</i>	Program operates for 2-4 years and hosts a provisional accreditation site visit
Institutional Requirements	Must: 1. Have legal eligibility 2. Attend Accreditation 101 with institutional team	Submit responses to: • 12 Eligibility Criteria • Initial Program Preconditions • General Precondition #9	Submit responses to: • Common Standards	<i>Submit responses to: • Program-Specific Preconditions • Program Standards</i>	Institution Must: • Collect data • Host provisional site visit
Reviewed By	Staff	Staff	BIR	<i>Preconditions: Staff Program Standards: BIR</i>	Site Visit Team & COA
Authority	Staff	Commission	Commission	COA	Commission
Decision	Determine Eligibility for Stage II	Eligibility: 1. Grant 2. Deny	Provisional Approval: 1. Grant 2. Deny	<i>Program(s): 1. Approve 2. Deny</i>	1. Grant Full Approval 2. Grant Full Approval & Remand to COA to Address Stipulations 3. Continue Provisional Status for 1 Year to Address Stipulations 4. Deny Approval
IIA Status*	Not Approved	Not Approved	Provisional Approval**	<i>Provisional Approval***</i>	Full Approval

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