

Item 13:

Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Request to Approve 2016-2017 Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs (ASEP) Accreditation Status for TeacherBuilder.com

DISCUSSION AND ACTION

SUMMARY: This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) the opportunity to approve a 2016-2017

On June 15, 2018, TeacherBuilder.com requested an informal review. During the informal review, TEA staff met with TeacherBuilder.com’s staff and realized that TeacherBuilder.com was not provided an opportunity to respond to their final submission of internship observation data. Based on that finding, TEA staff requested the SBEC to maintain the status of “pending” to extend the informal review period at the August 2018 meeting to allow TeacherBuilder.com an opportunity to respond to their final submission of data and to make any additional corrections prior to a final recommendation. Based on the extended informal review request, TEA staff is changing the recommendation to assign Teacherbuilder.com an ASEP status of “Accredited-Probation” to “Accredited-Warned” for the 2016-2017 academic year.

This proposed recommendation of Accredited-Warned would continue the SBEC orders for continuing approval, including the continuation of the monitor, Dr. Marcia McMahon, as TeacherBuilder.com continues to work towards compliance regarding a TEA-approved curriculum matrix for each certification field that the program offers. One June 1, 2018, TEA notified TeacherBuilder.com of a December 1, 2018 deadline for all certification fields offered by the program to have a TEA-approved curriculum matrix and for the program not to admit candidates into certification fields for what the program does not have a TEA-approved curriculum matrix.

In an August 24, 2018 monitor report, Dr. McMahon noted improvement by the program and recommended that the SBEC continue the monitor assignment as she works with the program to achieve full compliance by the December 1, 2018 deadline. In coordination with TeacherBuilder.com and Dr. McMahon, TEA staff will be conducting a discretionary continuing approval review visit in early November 2018.

Attachment II provides a summary of the proposed recommendation and the sanctions applicable for the status of Accredited-Warned as outlined below.

Program	Proposed Status	Reason	Proposed Sanction
TeacherBuilder.com	Accredited-Warned	SBEC orders requiring TEA-approved curriculum matrix for each certification field the program offers	Continue monitor assignment to address issues and require all deficiencies to be addressed by December 1, 2018

Attachments:

- I. Statutory Citations
- II. Summary of Proposed Accreditation Status of Accredited-Warned forTeacherBuilder.com

ATTACHMENT I

Statutory Citations Relating to Accreditation Statuses and Sanctions for Educator Preparation Programs

Texas Education Code, §21.045, Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs:

- (a) The board shall propose rules necessary to establish standards to govern the continuing accountability of all educator preparation programs based on the following information that is disaggregated with respect to race, sex, and ethnicity:
 - (1) results of the certification examinations prescribed under Section 21.048(a);
 - (2) performance based on the appraisal system for beginning teachers adopted by the board;
 - (3) achievement, including improvement in achievement, of students taught by beginning teachers for the first three years following certification, to the extent practicable;
 - (4) compliance with board requirements regarding the frequency, duration, and quality of structural guidance and ongoing support provided by field supervisors to candidates completing student teaching, clinical teaching, or an internship; and
 - (5) results from a teacher satisfaction survey, developed by the board with stakeholder input, of new teachers performed at the end of the teacher's first year of teaching.

- (b) Each educator preparation program shall submit data elements as required by the board for an annual performance report to ensure access and equity. At a minimum, the annual report must contain:
 - (1) the performance data from Subsection (a), other than

- (4) the ratio of field supervisors to candidates completing student teaching, clinical teaching, or an internship; and
 - (5) any other information necessary to enable the board to assess the effectiveness of the program on the basis of teacher retention and success criteria adopted by the board.
- (c) The board shall propose rules necessary to establish performance standards for the Accountability System for Educator Preparation for accrediting educator preparation programs. At a minimum, performance standards must be based on Subsection (a).

Texas Education Code, §21.0451, Sanctions under Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs:

- (a) The board shall propose rules necessary for the sanction of educator preparation programs that do not meet accountability standards or comply with state law or rules and shall at least annually review the accreditation status of each educator preparation program. The rules:
- (1) shall provide for the assignment of the following accreditation statuses:
 - (A) not rated;
 - (B) accredited;
 - (C) accredited-warned;
 - (D) accredited-probation; and
 - (E) not accredited-revoked;
 - (2) may provide for the agency to take any necessary action, including one or more of the following actions:
 - (A) requiring the program to obtain technical assistance approved by the agency or board;
 - (B) requiring the program to obtain professional services under contract with another person;
 - (C) appointing a monitor to participate in and report to the board on the activities of the program; and
 - (D) if a program has been rated as accredited-probation under the Accountability System for Educator Preparation for a period of at least one year, revoking the approval of the program and ordering the program to be closed, provided that the board or agency has provided the opportunity for a contested case hearing;
 - (3) shall provide for the agency to revoke the approval of the program and order the program to be closed if the program has been rated as accredited-probation under the Accountability System for Educator Preparation for three consecutive years, provided that the board or agency has provided the opportunity for a contested case hearing; and
 - (4) shall provide the board procedure for changing the accreditation status of a program that:

- (A) does not meet the accreditation standards established under Section 21.045(a); or
 - (B) violates a board or agency regulation.
- (b) Any action authorized or required to be taken against an educator preparation program under Subsection (a) may also be taken with regard to a particular field of certification authorized to be offered by an educator preparation program.
 - (c) A revocation must be effective for a period of at least two years. After two years, the program may seek renewed approval to prepare educators for state certification.
 - (d) The costs of technical assistance required under Subsection (a)(2)(A) or the costs associated with the appointment of a monitor under Subsection (a)(2)(C) shall be paid by the educator preparation program.

ATTACHMENT II

Summary of Proposed Accreditation Status of Accredited- Warned
forTeacherBuilder.com

Educator Preparation Program (EPP): TeacherBuilder.com

Current Status: Accredited-Warned

Proposed Status: Accredited-Warned

Proposed Sanction: Modify sanctions already in place:

1. TeacherBuilder.com is assigned an Accredited-Warned status due to violations of State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) rules. 19 TAC §§229.4(§§

Data:

1. Failure to provide curriculum that relies on scientifically based research to ensure teacher effectiveness and aligns to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. 19 TAC §228.30(b).
2. Failure to provide coursework and training that is sustained, rigorous, interactive, student-focused, and performance-based. 19 TAC §228.30(b).
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