



1140 19th Street, NW | Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036
tel: 202.223.0077 | fax: 202.296.6620
caepnet.org

May 14, 2021

Dr. Donde Plowman
Chancellor
The University of Tennessee
335 Claxton Complex
Knoxville, TN 37996-3400

Dear Dr. Plowman:

The Accreditation Council of the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) met on April 26, 2021, and I am pleased to inform you that the following accreditation status has been granted:

The Graduate School of Education, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences at The University of Tennessee is granted **Accreditation** at the initial-licensure level and advanced-level as described in the Accreditation Action Report.

Included with this letter are two subsequent documents:

- 1) The Accreditation Action Report provides details of the accreditation status.
- 2) Information for EPPs Granted Accreditation provides further information on the Council's decision process and provider responsibilities during the accreditation term.

Congratulations on your accreditation achievement. I appreciate your commitment to excellence in educator preparation accreditation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher A. Koch". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D.
President

Enclosures: Accreditation Action Report, Certificate of Accreditation (mailed to provider leadership), and Information on CAEP Accreditation

cc: Dr. Ellen McIntyre, Graduate School of Education, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences

Dr. David F. Cihak, Graduate School of Education, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences
Dr. Amelia Brown, Graduate School of Education, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences
Dr. Geri Landry, Graduate School of Education, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences
Michael Deurlein, Tennessee Department of Education;
Dr. Annie Insana, Tennessee Department of Education;
Evaluation Team



**Council for the
Accreditation of
Educator Preparation**

ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT

Graduate School of Education, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences
The University of Tennessee
Knoxville, Tennessee

Accreditation Council April 2021
Accreditation Application Date: *

*This is the official record of the Educator Preparation Provider's accreditation status.
The Educator Preparation Provider should retain this document for at least two accreditation cycles.*

* This EPP was accredited previously by NCATE or TEAC and the initial application date is not available. CAEP was established July 1, 2013.

ACCREDITATION DECISION

Accreditation is granted at the initial-licensure level. This Accreditation status is effective between Spring 2021 and Spring 2028. The next site visit will take place in Fall 2027.

Accreditation is granted at the advanced-level. This Accreditation status is effective between Spring 2021 and Spring 2028. The next site visit will take place in Fall 2027.

SUMMARY OF STANDARDS

CAEP STANDARDS	INITIAL-LICENSURE LEVEL	ADVANCED-LEVEL
STANDARD 1/A.1: Content and Pedagogical Knowledge	Met	Met
STANDARD 2/A.2: Clinical Partnerships and Practice	Met	Met
STANDARD 3/A.3: Candidate Quality, Recruitment, And Selectivity	Met	Met
STANDARD 4/A.4: Program Impact	Met	Met
STANDARD 5/A.5: Provider Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement	Met	Met

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT AND STIPULATIONS

Areas for Improvement: Identified areas for improvement are addressed in the provider's annual report.

Stipulations: Stipulations are addressed in the provider's annual report and must be corrected within two years to retain accreditation.

No Areas for Improvement or Stipulations were identified in this report.

AREA(S) FOR IMPROVEMENT OR WEAKNESS(ES) from previous legacy accreditor review (NCATE or TEAC)

Removed:

Area for Improvement or Weakness	Rationale
(1) [NCATE STD1]The unit does not have multiple, summarized performance data indicating candidates in educational administration and in the advanced programs for teachers (M.S. and Ed.S.) have the necessary content knowledge, and pedagogical content knowledge and professional knowledge and skills to support student learning. [ADV]	1) The legacy AFI is addressed in CAEP advanced standards. Team recommends removal of AFI. 2) The legacy AFI is addressed in CAEP Standard 5 and A5. Team recommends removal of AFI at both levels.
(2) [NCATE STD2]Initial and advanced candidate assessment data are not regularly and systematically aggregated, summarized, and analyzed to improve candidate performance, program quality, and EPP operations. [Both]	3) The legacy AFI is addressed in CAEP Standard 1 and A1. Team recommends removal of AFI at both levels.
(3) [NCATE STD2]For the initial and advanced programs, the unit does not consistently align assessments with the conceptual framework outcomes, professional and state standards. [Both]	

INFORMATION ABOUT ACCREDITATION STATUSES

Accreditation for seven (7) years is granted if the EPP meets all CAEP Standards and components, even if areas for improvement (AFIs) are identified in the final report of the Accreditation Council.

- **Areas for Improvement (AFIs)** indicate areas which must be improved by the time of the next accreditation visit. Progress reports on remediation of AFIs are submitted as part of the Annual Report. AFIs not remediated by a subsequent site review may become stipulations.

Accreditation with stipulations is granted for 2 years if an EPP meets all standards but receives a stipulation on a component under any standard. Failure to submit a response to the stipulation within a two (2)-year time frame results in revocation. Failure to correct the condition leading to the stipulation within the specified two (2)-year period results in revocation or probation.

- **Stipulations** describe serious deficiencies in meeting CAEP Standards and/or components and must be brought into compliance in order to continue accreditation. All stipulations and relevant evidence are reviewed by the Accreditation Council. Failure to correct the condition leading to the stipulation results in probation or revocation of accreditation.

Probationary Accreditation is granted for two (2) years when an EPP does not meet one (1) of the CAEP Standards. Failure to submit a response to the stipulation within a two (2)-year time frame results in revocation. Failure to correct the condition leading to the stipulation within the specified two (2)-year period results in revocation.

SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION

The scope of CAEP's work is the accreditation of educator preparation providers (EPPs) that offer bachelor's, master's, and/or doctoral degrees, post-baccalaureate or other programs leading to certification, licensure, or endorsement in the United States and/or internationally. (2018).

CAEP does not accredit specific degree programs, rather EPPs must include information, data, and other

evidence on the following in their submission for CAEP's review:

All licensure areas that prepare candidates to work in preschool through grade 12 settings at the initial-licensure and advanced levels that lead to professional licensure, certification, or endorsement as defined by the state, country, or other governing authority under which the EPP operates and for which the state, country, or other governing authority has established program approval standards.

Depending on an EPP's submission, accreditation may be awarded at one or both of the following levels: Initial-Licensure level and/or Advanced-Level.

1. **Initial-Licensure Level Accreditation** is provided at the baccalaureate or post-baccalaureate levels leading to initial-licensure, certification, or endorsement that are designed to develop P-12 teachers.
2. **Advanced-Level Accreditation** is provided at the post-baccalaureate or graduate levels leading to licensure, certification, or endorsement. Advanced-Level Programs are designed to develop P-12 teachers who have already completed an initial-licensure program, currently licensed administrators, or other certified (or similar state language) school professionals for employment in P-12 schools/districts. CAEP's Advanced-Level accreditation does not include any advanced-level program not specific to the preparation of teachers or other school professionals for P-12 schools/districts; any advanced-level non-licensure programs, including those specific to content areas (e.g., M.A., M.S., Ph.D.); or Educational leadership programs not specific to the preparation of teachers or other school professionals for P-12 schools/districts.

Information on accreditation status, terms, and any conditions provided within this directory is specific to the accreditation level(s) described above. CAEP-accredited EPPs are required to distinguish accurately between programs that are accredited and those that are not.

NOTE: Neither CAEP staff, evaluation team members, nor other agents of CAEP are empowered to make or modify Accreditation Council decisions. These remain the sole responsibility of the Council itself.

End of Action Report