

**To: Members of the State Board of  
Education & Early Development**

**December 9, 2021**

**From: Dr. Michael Johnson, Commissioner**

**Agenda Item: 1**

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**◆ ISSUE**

The board is being asked to provide provisional state approval of the initial educator preparation program in Early Childhood Education at the University of Alaska Anchorage's School of Education (UAA).

**◆ BACKGROUND**

- 4 AAC 12.308 requires Alaska's educator preparation programs to meet or substantially meet the standards of the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) to be considered for state approval.
  - CAEP standards for initial standards are available [here](http://caepnet.org/~media/Files/caep/standards/2022-initial-standards-1-pager-final.pdf?la=en).  
(<http://caepnet.org/~media/Files/caep/standards/2022-initial-standards-1-pager-final.pdf?la=en>)
- State approval is required for programs to recommend graduates to the Department of Education and Early Development's teacher certification office for licensure.
- UAA initial teacher preparation programs lost accreditation on January 11, 2019. UAA advance teacher preparation programs hold CAEP accreditation through Fall 2028.
- UAA's Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Early Childhood Development is accredited by the National Association of the Education of Young Children (NEAYC) through Spring 2025.
- UAA has a proposed timeline for achieving accreditation through both NEAYC and CAEP.
- UAA's School of Education has previously presented detailed information concerning the proposed Early Childhood Education teacher preparation programs to the State Board of Education & Early Development (SBOE) and to the SBOE's reading committee.
- The following items can be found behind this cover memo:
  - UAA request for provisional program approval; and,
  - UAA Early Childhood PowerPoint Presentation and supporting documentation.
- Dr. Michael Johnson, Commissioner, Department of Education and Early Development; Susan McKenzie, Director, Division of Innovation and Education Excellence; Sondra Meredith, Administrator, Teacher Education and Certification; Dr. Ed McLain, Interim

Director, School of Education, University of Alaska Anchorage; and Bob Griffin, Reading Committee Chair will be present to brief the board.

◆ **OPTIONS**

This is a work session item. Action will take place under Agenda Item 7.