

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

**December 6, 2023**

**From: Dr. Deena Bishop, Commissioner**

**Agenda Item: 1**

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**◆ ISSUE**

The board will be provided with the requested information on the initial educator preparation program in Early Childhood Education at the University of Alaska Anchorage's School of Education (UAA).

**◆ BACKGROUND**

- UAA's initial teacher preparation programs lost accreditation through the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) on January 11, 2019. Concurrently, UAA's initial program lost state approval and closed its initial teacher preparation programs.
- In March 2022, the State Board reviewed and provided provisional approval of an initial teacher preparation program in Early Childhood Education. UAA provided information to the board concerning the initial program's structure and alignment to CAEP standards.
- The provisional approval included the following conditions:
  - UAA's School of Education's Early Childhood Education programs establishes an advisory committee that includes a rural school district superintendent, an urban school district superintendent, a representative from the Alaska Reading Coalition, the International Dyslexia Association-Alaska, or a similar organization, and a representative from the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development.
  - UAA provides annual updates on their progress toward CAEP accreditation specifically about CAEP Standard 5 at the state board's December meetings until the board is satisfied that a quality assurance / continuous improvement system has been established and is operational. Each update must include:
    - enrollment and completion data;
    - candidate's assessment data required for CAEP accreditation;
    - data demonstrating candidate's knowledge of the science of reading; including but not limited to course grades and summative assessment scores;
    - graduates' certification and employment information;
    - graduate and employer satisfaction data, including but not limited to graduate and employer satisfaction concerning the graduate's ability to apply the science of reading;
    - advisory committee's participant list, meeting schedules/agendas and recommendations; and

- any programmatic adjustments, including but not limited to those made because of the advisory committee recommendations.
- The following items can be found behind this cover memo:
  - UAA Early Childhood Education Preparation Program Annual Report; and,
  - UAA PowerPoint Presentation.
- Carol Boatman, Director, Innovation & Education Excellence; Sondra Meredith, Administrator, Teacher Education and Certification; Dr. Denise Runge, Provost, Office of Academic Affairs, University of Alaska; and Dr. Tonia Dousay, Dean, University of Alaska Anchorage, School of Education, will be present to brief the board.

◆ **OPTIONS**

This is an informational item. No action is required.