

Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item



Agenda Item: D

Date: November 20, 2014

Title	Final Review of Recommendation of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) to Grant Approval to Add New Education (Endorsement) Programs at Bluefield College, George Mason University, James Madison University, Mary Baldwin College, Old Dominion University, Radford University, Regent University, University of Virginia, and Washington and Lee University		
Presenter	Mrs. Patty S. Pitts, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure		
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Purpose of Presentation:

Action required by Board of Education regulation.

Previous Review or Action:

Previous review and action. Specify date and action taken below:

Date: October 23, 2014

Action: First Review

Action Requested:

Final review: Action requested at this meeting.

Alignment with Board of Education Goals: Please indicate (X) all that apply:

	Goal 1: Accountability for Student Learning
	Goal 2: Rigorous Standards to Promote College and Career Readiness
	Goal 3: Expanded Opportunities to Learn
	Goal 4: Nurturing Young Learners
X	Goal 5: Highly Qualified and Effective Educators
	Goal 6: Sound Policies for Student Success
	Goal 7: Safe and Secure Schools
	Other Priority or Initiative. Specify:

Background Information and Statutory Authority:

Goal 5: The *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8VAC20-542-10 et seq.), effective September 21, 2007, amended January 19, 2011, set forth the requirements for the accreditation and approval of programs preparing teachers, administrators, and other instructional personnel requiring licensure. These regulations establish policies and standards for the preparation of instructional personnel, further ensuring educational quality for Virginia public school students.

Colleges and universities that offer programs for the preparation of professional school personnel must obtain education program (endorsement) approval from the Board of Education. Requests to offer new education endorsement programs are submitted to the Department of Education. Personnel in the Division of Teacher Education and Licensure and program specialists within the Department of Education review the programs to ensure competencies and other requirements have been addressed. The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure reviews and makes recommendations to the Board of Education on approval of Virginia education programs for school personnel. Final authority for program approval rests with the Board of Education. Requests for new program endorsements approved by the Board of Education will receive a rating of *Approved*; *Approved with Stipulations*; or *Approval Denied*.

The *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia*, in part, stipulate the following:

8VAC20-542-20. Administering the regulations.

- D. Institutions of higher education seeking approval of an education program shall be accredited by a regional accrediting agency....
- H. Education programs shall be approved under these regulations biennially based on compliance with the criteria described in 8VAC20-542-40....

8VAC20-542-40. Standards for biennial approval of education programs.

Approved education programs in Virginia shall have national accreditation or be accredited by a process approved by the Board of Education and demonstrate achievement biennially of the following accountability measures:

1. Candidate progress and performance on prescribed Board of Education licensure assessments. Candidate passing rates, reported by percentages, shall not fall below 70 percent biennially for individuals completing and exiting the program. Achievement of an 80 percent biennial passing rate shall be required by July 1, 2010. Candidates completing a program shall have successfully completed all coursework, required assessments, including those prescribed by the Board of Education, and supervised student teaching or internship. Candidates exiting a program shall have successfully completed all coursework, regardless of whether the individuals attempted, passed, or failed required assessments, including those prescribed by the Board of Education, and/or who may not have completed supervised student teaching or required internship.
2. Candidate progress and performance on an assessment of basic skills as prescribed by the Board of Education for individuals seeking entry into an approved education preparation program....
3. Structured and integrated field experiences to include student teaching requirements....
4. Evidence of opportunities for candidates to participate in diverse school settings that provide experiences with populations that include racial, economic, linguistic, and ethnic diversity throughout the program experiences....

5. Evidence of contributions to PreK-12 student achievement by candidates completing the program....
6. Evidence of employer job satisfaction with candidates completing the program....
7. Partnerships and collaborations based on PreK-12 school needs....

Summary of Important Issues:

Bluefield College, George Mason University, James Madison University, Mary Baldwin College, Old Dominion University, Radford University, Regent University, University of Virginia, and Washington and Lee University have submitted requests to add new endorsement programs in the areas noted on the following chart:

Institution	Endorsement Program Requested	Level of Program
Bluefield College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career and Technology Education: Business and Information Technology • History and Social Sciences • Music Education – Instrumental PreK-12 • Music Education – Vocal/Choral PreK-12 • Visual Arts PreK-12 	Graduate
George Mason University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign Language: Korean PreK-12 	Graduate
James Madison University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign Language: French PreK-12 • Foreign Language: German PreK-12 • Foreign Language: Italian PreK-12 • Foreign Language: Spanish PreK-12 	Undergraduate
Mary Baldwin College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English as a Second Language PreK-12 	Undergraduate
Old Dominion University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Education: Adapted Curriculum K-12 • Special Education: Early Childhood (Birth through Age 5) 	Undergraduate
Radford University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elementary Education PreK-6 • English • Foreign Language: Spanish PreK-12 • Gifted Education (Add-on) • History and Social Sciences • Mathematics 	Graduate
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign Language: Spanish PreK-12 	Undergraduate
Regent University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History and Social Sciences 	Undergraduate
University of Virginia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign Language: Chinese PreK-12 	Graduate
Washington and Lee University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign Language: Chinese PreK-12 	Undergraduate

Program endorsement competencies, based on the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8VAC20-542-10 et seq.), have been verified through the review of course descriptions and syllabi to determine alignment with each of the competencies required, including supervised classroom instruction. A review of the *Request for New Endorsement Program*

application submitted by each institution evidenced written documentation of school division demand data, as well as institutional and school division support for the requested programs.

Section 8VAC20-542-40 of the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* requires institutions seeking education program approval to establish partnerships and collaborations based on PreK-12 school needs. Each institution has provided written documentation of their intent to partner with various school divisions. The institutions of higher education will submit a biennial report for the education programs for the period of September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2015.

On September 15, 2014, the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure passed motions to recommend to the Board of Education to grant approval of add new education (endorsement) programs at Bluefield College, George Mason University, James Madison University, Mary Baldwin College, Old Dominion University, Radford University, Regent University, University of Virginia, and Washington and Lee University.

Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

There is minimum impact on resources.

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

The institutions of higher education will be notified of the action of the Board of Education.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education approve the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure's recommendations to grant approval to add new education (endorsement) programs at Bluefield College, George Mason University, James Madison University, Mary Baldwin College, Old Dominion University, Radford University, Regent University, University of Virginia, and Washington and Lee University, including the accountability measurement of partnerships and collaborations based on PreK-12 school needs for each of the programs.

Rationale:

The requests from colleges and universities to add education (endorsement) programs have been reviewed to ensure that they meet the requirements stipulated by the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia*. Most of these programs are requested in critical teacher shortage areas, such as special education, mathematics, career and technical education, and foreign languages. Institutions also are requesting programs at the undergraduate level, providing more options for teacher candidates. The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure have reviewed the requests and recommended approval.