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caepnet.org

May 15, 2020

Dr. Susan M. Donovan
President
Bellarmine University
2001 Newburg Road
Louisville, KY 40205-0167

Dear Dr. Donovan:

The Accreditation Council of the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) met on April 27, 2020, and I am pleased to inform you that the following accreditation status has been granted:

The Annsley Frazier Thornton School of Education at Bellarmine University 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 stylized font.

Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D.
President

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

cc: Dr. Elizabeth G. Dinkins, School of Education
Dr. Kristin Cook, School of Education

Melissa Lankford, School of Education

Ms. Margaret Hockensmith, Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board;

Miss Allison T. Bell, Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board;

Cathy White, Kentucky Department of Education;

Site Team



ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT

Annsley Frazier Thornton School of Education
Bellarmine University
Louisville, Kentucky

Accreditation Council April 2020

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 2020 and Spring 2027. The next site visit will take place in Fall 2026.

Accreditation is granted at the advanced-level. This Accreditation status is effective between Spring 2020 and Spring 2027. The next site visit will take place in Fall 2026.

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.

There are no Areas for Improvement or Stipulations in this Action Report.

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

(NCATE or TEAC)

Removed:

Area for Improvement or Weakness	Rationale
The team recommends the removal of a previous AFI cited for the EPP's ITP in NCATE Standard 4, which reads, Candidates have limited opportunities to interact with peers from diverse racial and ethnic groups	The AFI should be removed because the EPP demonstrated actionable efforts toward diversifying its program candidates' opportunities to work with a diverse student population and recruitment of a diverse pool of candidates.

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 visit 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 level 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, site visitors, 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

Information for EPPs Granted Accreditation

Accreditation Council Decision

Accreditation is granted when the Accreditation Council determines that an educator preparation provider (EPP) meets all CAEP Standards, even if areas for improvement (AFIs) are identified in the final decision.

The full Accreditation Council makes all final decisions relevant to the CAEP Standards based on evidence submitted by the EPP, findings from the site team, and sufficiency of evidence for each standard, and then acts upon the recommendations from the initial and joint panel reviews. The Council pays particular attention to consistency across all of the accreditation decisions.

The Action Report is the official record of your accreditation status and should be used to review and guide your provider's efforts continue to meet the CAEP Standards.

Consumer Information and Representation of Accreditation to the Public

CAEP requires accredited EPPs to provide consumer information to the public, including candidate performance data. Title II data must be publicly available on the website (Accreditation Policy 8.01).

When representing its accreditation to the public, an EPP must report the accreditation decision accurately, including the specific academic or instructional programs covered by the accreditation, and the address and telephone number of the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation as provided on the CAEP website. The official statement to be publicly displayed on the EPP's website is provided by CAEP following the Accreditation Council action, as defined by the CAEP Communication Guidelines. (Accreditation Council Policy 8.04)

The accreditation status and term will be posted on the CAEP website at:
<http://caepnet.org/provider-search>

Annual Reports

All EPPs must submit an Annual Report each year in order to maintain accreditation or accreditation-eligibility. The report is opened for entry each year in January and EPPs are given 90 days from the date of system availability to complete the report (Accreditation Policy 6.01). Additionally, the Annual Report requires reporting on Accreditation Policy 8.01, which requires accredited EPPs to provide consumer information to the public, including candidate performance data. Title II data must be publicly available on the EPP's website.