

## ND Educator Preparation Approval and Accreditation System

November 3, 2011

## Higher Education Legislative Committee

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee. Thank you for this opportunity to share educator approval and accreditation systems for North Dakota. For the record, my name is Janet Welk and I am the executive director for the Board. The Education Standards and Practices Board has authority under statute for educator program approval, license, professional development as it relates to re-licensure, and professional practices.

North Dakota Review Process: The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) is the accrediting body approved by the U.S. Department of Education that North Dakota uses for its educator programs. All of the ND public institutions are presently accredited by NCATE. The Education Standards and Practices Board adopted NCATE as its state standards and process in 1999. What does this mean? All of our institutions of higher education educator preparation programs (public and private) are reviewed against the same standards but do not have the same Board of Examiners. Those institutions that are NCATE accredited have Board of Examiner teams from the national level and the state level. Those private institutions that are not NCATE accredited but ESPB approved, have Board of Examiner Teams that are trained by NCATE but are state members. When a private institution in ND goes through the review process, I make sure some of the State Board of Examiners have been NCATE Board of Examiners so private educator programs get the same national perspective. (These teams are usually five to seven members and spend from three to five days on campus.) The Education Standards and Practices Board also works hand in hand with the Higher Learning Commission and its accreditation process of institutions.

The program approval process includes two steps. The first step provides for a review of the unit as a whole and the second steps provides for the review of each individual program.

- A. ESPB, through the NCATE standards, looks at the professional education unit as a whole including if the unit is providing quality candidates, has an assessment system to document the processes, provides quality field experiences and clinical practices, prepares candidates to work with all types of diverse children in diverse setting, has qualified faculty, and has a governance and budget that can provide for quality candidates. These areas basically relate to all of the six NCATE standards. ND has a joint relationship with NCATE and the review teams (BOE) work together to make all decisions on each of the six standards.
- B. North Dakota also looks at each of the programs within the education unit. These programs include elementary education, English, Math, etc. An example of this process includes the English program providing documentation to ESPB that their program is meeting the English Education Standards. ESPB sends this report to a Content Expert who reviews the documentation, submits a report back to ESPB for the program review. All of these program reports feed directly into NCATE Standards for candidate proficiency, the program assessment system, field experiences, and diversity placements. The individual programs are reviewed against program standards that North Dakota K-12 teachers and institutions have reviewed against national standards or North Dakota has adopted the national standards such as the Council of Exceptional Children (CEC) standards for our special education programs.

North Dakota Decision Process: After the 3-5 day on-site review process is complete, two reports are written to provide evidence for the (1) unit and for the (2) programs within that unit. The

program report goes to the ESPB Program Approval Advisory Committee (10 member) for their review and recommendation to ESPB. The unit report (1) is sent to NCATE Unit Accreditation Board (40 member) or to the ESPB Program Approval Advisory Committee. ESPB, if the institution is seeking NCATE accreditation, accepts the NCATE UAB decision.

The NCATE/ESPB process is on a seven year cycle unless one of the standards has not been met which requires a return visit within two years for that specific standard. Each approved educator program is also required to submit annual reports indicating any changes.

Attached please find the list of institutions and their programs that are North Dakota approved for educator licensure. If you have any additional questions or concerns, I would be happy to answer them at this time. I also have with me Dr. Cheryl Nilsen and Dr. Barbara Combs, who both have worked on national and state teams. They are prepared to answer any questions you might have.

# APPROVED PROGRAMS

## INSTITUTIONS

	Agriculture Education	Art (Visual Arts)	Bilingual ESL	Business Education	Coaching Athletics	Drama Theater	Driver Education	Early Childhood Kindergarten	Elementary Education	English	Exceptional Child Special Ed	Languages	Health Education	Family & Consumer Sciences	Library Science	Marketing Education	Mathematics	Middle Level Education
Dickinson State University (NCATE/ESPB)		X		X	X	X			X	X		Spanish					X	
Ft. Berthold Comm. Coll (ESPB)									x									
Jamestown College (ESPB Approved)			approved endorsement					approved minor	X	X							X	
Mayville State University (NCATE/ESPB)					X			approved minor	X	X			X		approved minor		X	
Minot State University (NCATE/ESPB)		X		X			approved minor		X	X	X	French, German Spanish					X	
North Dakota State University (NCATE/ESPB)									with VCSU	X		French, German Spanish Greek Latin	X	X			X	
Sitting Bull College/ESPB)	X							x	X		MR							
Trinity Bible College (ESP B until Dec. 2011)									X									
Turtle Mountain Community College (ESPB)								X	X									
United Tribes Technical College (ESPB)									X									
University of Mary (ESPB)				X (2009)	Minor			X	X	X	MR		Minor				X	
University of North Dakota (NCATE/ESPB)		X	approved endorsement	X				X	X	X	X	French German Spanish Greek Latin				X	X	X
Valley City State University (NCATE/ESPB)		X	approved endorsement	X	X			approved minor	X	X		Spanish	X		approved minor		X	



# APPROVED PROGRAMS

INSTITUTIONS	Music	Physical Education	Science	Social Studies	Speech	Technology Education	Instructional Technology	Trade Industry Tech Health	TOTAL	Advanced Teacher Ed	School Counselors	Educational Leaders	Reading Specialists	Special Education	School Psychology	Speech Language Pathology
Dickinson State University (NCATE/State)	X Composite	X	Biology Chemistry Composite	History Composite	X	x (w/VCSU)			17							
FBCC									1							
Jamestown College (State)	X	X	Biology Chemistry	History					10	Curriculum and Instruction						
Mayville State University (NCATE/State)		X	Biology Chemistry	History Geography Composite					13							
Minot State University (NCATE/State)	Composite	X	Biology Chemistry Earth Composite Physical Biology Chemistry Earth Composite Physics	History Psychology Composite	X				21	Comm.Dis/ElemEd/Math/Music/Sch. Psyc/Sci/ECSpEd/Ed Deaf/SLD/SMH				X	X	X
North Dakota State University (NCATE/State)	X	X	Biology Chemistry Earth Composite Physics	History Composite	X				21	Ag Ed/ Bio/Chem/ Earth Sci/Eng/Hist/FACS/ Math/Mus/ PE/Phys/ Soc Sci/	X	X				
Sitting Bull College/Sinte Gleske University (State)			Composite						4							
Trinity Bible College (State)		X							2							
Turtle Mountain Community College (State)			Composite						3							
UTTC									1							
University of Mary (State)	X	X	Biology	History Composite	Minor				14	C & I, Elem Ed, ECE, ED, LD	X	Elem & Sec	X	X		
University of North Dakota (NCATE/State)	X	X	Biology Composite Physics Earth Chemistry	History Geography Composite	X	X		X	28	Bus.Ed/Eng/Math/Soc.S t/PE/Sci/Speech/Voc.Ed /Child Study/ Teaching&Learning/ Research.Methods	X	X	X	Master's level: Early Childhood SPED, ED, LD, MR and Visual Impairment; Comm. Disorders		X
Valley City State University (NCATE/State)	Composite	X	Biology, Chemistry, Composite	History Composite		X	X	X	21	Master's level Teaching and Technology; Technology Education						
									156							