



STATE OF DELAWARE
STATE COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
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The Honorable John Carney
Governor

John A. McNeal
Director

November 30, 2018

Ms. Emily Cunningham
Department of Education
401 Federal Street, Suite 2
Dover, DE 19901

RE: 22 DE Reg. 333 [DDOE Proposed Regulation - Approval of Educator Preparation Programs
(November 1, 2018)]

Dear Ms. Cunningham:

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) proposed regulation which intends to amend 14 DE Administrative Code 290 Approval of Educator Preparation Programs. The proposed regulation is being amended to align with changes made by House Bill 433 of the 149th General Assembly regarding the criteria for the alternative routes for teacher licensure and certification program. The proposed regulation was published as 22 DE Reg. 333 in the November 1, 2018 issue of the Register of Regulations. The SCPD has the following observations.

House Bill 433 amended 14 *Del. C.* § 1260 to require Alternative Route for Teacher Licensure and Certification (“ARTC”) programs to provide two types of training to program participants: (1) “a seminar and practicum” that includes “formal instruction or professional development, ... supervised teaching experiences..., and “orientation to the policies, organization, and curriculum of the employing district or charter school”; (2) a minimum of “200 hours of formal instruction, or equivalent professional development” addressing “curriculum, student development and learning..., [and] the classroom and the school.” House Bill 433 directed the Department of Education to create implementing regulations.

The current version of 14 DE Admin. Code 290.8.0 outlines the procedural requirements for becoming an approved ARTC program; it refers to 14 DE Admin. Code 1507 and “any applicable statute” for the substantive requirements of what types of supervision and training must be included in an approved ARTC program. The proposed amendment removes references to Section 1507 and “any applicable statute.” It adds in two substantive requirements: (1) that

ARTC programs formally evaluate participants; (2) that ARTC programs provide “a summer institute of no less than one hundred and twenty (120) instructional (clock) hours.”

Sections 1507.4.0-7.0 contain functionally identical provisions to those inserted into the proposed amendment to Section 290. However, Sections 1507.4.0-7.0 also includes additional substantive ARTC program requirements that are not in the proposed amendment to Section 290.

According to the synopsis of the proposed amendment, Section 290 “is being amended to align with changes made by House Bill 433... regarding the criteria for the alternative routes for teacher licensure and certification program.” However, the proposed amendment does include the 14 Del. C. § 1260 statutory requirement that an ARTC program must include a minimum of 200 professional development hours; this requirement is found, however, in Section 1507.4.4.

It seems most logical to either move all substantive ARTC program criteria from Section 1507 into Section 290, or to amend Section 1507 and incorporate it into Section 290 through reference.

The SCPD is endorsing this amendment, while seeking clarification on how 14 DE Admin. Code 1507 and 14 DE Admin. Code 290 will work together. If the Department intends for Section 290 to include an exhaustive list of the statutory requirements for an ARTC program, it may wish to in the 200-hour professional development requirement.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact the SCPD if you have any questions regarding our observations and recommendations.

Sincerely,



Nicholas J. Fina, Ed.D.
Chairperson - State Council for Persons with Disabilities

cc: The Honorable Susan Bunting
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22reg333 ddoe- Approval of Educator Preparation Programs 11-30-18