



2017 – 2018 Continuing Approval Review Report

Introduction

A 5-year Continuing Approval Desk Review was conducted by Kerri Elzie of the Amberton University (057-508) educator preparation program (EPP) on December 20, 2018. Per 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §228.10(b), an entity approved by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) to certify educators shall be reviewed at least once every five years. The Amberton University EPP was originally approved as an EPP on March 2, 2001.

Dr. Melinda Reagan is the program Legal Authority, and Dr. Jo Lynn Loyd is the primary EPP contact for the 2017-2018 review. Amberton University is approved for the following certificate classes: School Counselor. Certification is offered as a post-baccalaureate route, with students earning a master's degree in counseling. The EPP reported 50 program finishers for the 2016-2017 reporting year and 23 finishers for 2017-2018.

Candidate records were reviewed for ten candidates. The results were discussed with EPP staff on January 10, 2019. Attending from the EPP were: Dr. Melinda Reagan, Dr. Jo Lynn Loyd, and Dr. Deborah Hill.

Results

1. Admission requirements, were met by EPP, and related data were accurately reported to the Texas Education Agency. [19 TAC §229.3(f)(1) and 227.17(e)]
2. The candidate status as Other Enrolled or Finisher was reported accurately in the Accountability System for Educator Preparation (ASEP) system for each year of enrollment. [19 TAC §227.3(f)(1)]
3. Candidate records indicate that the program failed to provide and/or document adequate field supervision for the four program finishers who completed practicums. Documentation did not reflect the required 135 minutes of formal observations during the practicum. [19 TAC 228.35 (h)]
4. Records reflect that all reviewed candidates who received a standard School Counselor certificate held a master's degree at the time the certificate was reissued. Three out of four candidates (75%) had acceptable documentation of the required two years of classroom teaching experience, as evidenced by official teacher service records. All candidates completed the program and passed the School Counselor examination, as evidenced by benchmark documents official transcripts of coursework and testing records. [19 TAC §239.20 and 228.40]

Next Steps

The EPP will submit evidence to TEA that deficiencies in these areas have been corrected on or before 9/1/2019 that:



- Observations meet the required duration and protocol for all candidates completing practicums and are sufficiently documented; and
- All candidates have acceptable evidence of degree, teaching experience, supervision and program completion prior to recommendation for a standard certificate.
- To ensure continuity in record keeping and other related processes, consider creating a procedural manual documenting EPP processes.