

Education Quality Team

Staff Report for April 4, 2019

From the Education Quality Division: Patrick Halladay, Interim Director

The Education Quality Division continues to operate smoothly while the search for a permanent director continues. Briefly, interviews for the position have concluded, and we expect a final decision on permanent director presently.

We have been working to incorporate the Education Quality Assurance Team more fully into the division. As part of that work, we have been embracing what links our three teams together. The Pre-service team focuses on establishing educator quality through ROPA, the review of educator standards, and Peer Review. The In-service team works to maintain quality through their collaboration with licensing boards, review of applications, and assurance of ethics and safety. The Education Quality Assurance team monitors and supports schools in implementing quality through the Integrated Field Reviews and continuous improvement planning. Identifying this through line has helped to make the division feel more whole.

From the Education Quality Division: Ron Ryan, Education Programs Manager

The 2019 Renewal Season is in full swing! The month of March has seen a greater number of applications coming into the queues. Currently we have received 1178 renewal applications approximately 30% of the 3,900 that are expected this year. 751 renewals have been approved as of this date, approximately 19% of the total. Please spread the word to your colleagues to submit by April 1, 2019 to ensure that their license will be renewed prior to expiring on June 30, 2019.

The agency conducted 4 regional licensing trainings throughout the state on 3/13, 3/26, 3/29 and 4/2. The purpose of the trainings was to provide information on all the licensing processes to Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents along with Central Office Executive, Administrative, and Human Resource Personnel.

Seven Summer Conferences will be held at the Agency of Education this July for the Local/Regional Licensing Boards. Those dates will be coming out soon.

Data is currently being gathered on provisional licenses submitted. A more detailed report will be provided at your May VSBPE meeting.

Local/Regional Standards Boards - Deb Giles reports that calls and individual emails have increased over the last month. She continues to meet with merging boards to set up Local Standards Board protocol. Every L/RSB have been sent their 2019 renewal list (list is only as valid as the employment section of an educator's profile). Thirty-three (33) Grant Award Documents have been sent to Finance to date.

Current Work Queue per application type as of 3/25/19: *Applications in the work queue are in various stages of processing from just received to waiting for payment from applicant.*

Application Type	Total
Initial	105
Reinstatement	18
Renewal	445
Retired	6
Temporary	14
1 Yr. Temporary – extenuating circumstance	0
Transcript Review – Initial	22
Transcript Review – Add endorsement	56
Peer Review - Initial	55
Peer Review – Add endorsement	12

From the Pre-service Educator Quality Team: Terry Reilly, Coordinator

The work group to revise the Reading /English Language Arts Specialist and Reading/English Language Arts Coordinator endorsements has convened remotely. This is the second time this work group has convened to revise these endorsements. The first convening, that took place over a year ago, resulted in one new endorsement named Specialized Literacy Professional. The work group has picked up where it left off with the intention of addressing the considerations raised by the VSBPE when these endorsements were last on the Board’s agenda. Revision of all the Special Education endorsements, which are due for revision this year per the Board’s five-year revision cycle, is contingent on the completion of the Agency’s Act 173 work group. This work group may impact the job description of the endorsements and therefore the endorsement revision groups are being held off. The Career Technical Education (CTE) endorsements are also due for revision this year. However, there is a new *vision and goals* for CTE. The State Board of Education is expected to adopt them. The Agency will then propose a revised series of rules governing CTE. This may also result in legislative changes. Also, the Agency is working to implement Perkins V, which was just passed by congress. There are some changes associated with this program. Due to these big policy changes, the Office will propose to the VSBPE that it wait until all of these changes are in place and then act on revising the CTE endorsements so that they are aligned with the new policy changes. Also, planning has begun to revise the Early Childhood and Early Childhood Special education endorsements. Current thinking is to convene one, slightly larger than average, revision group to revise both at the same to ensure continuity.

ROPA

The Office is looking forward to a more balanced schedule for ROPA in the coming years. A more balanced schedule will result in regularly scheduled reviews and reports occurring over time in a more spread-out manner unlike 2018 when seven review were conducted. In 2019 three routine reviews are scheduled with possibly two new application reviews. Currently ROPA is involved in the following:

- Handbook Section 7 Revision

- Split Student Teaching Clarification- Policies N11, N12, N19
- Standards Revision
- Middlebury Report and Seven-Year Plan
- UVM Report and Seven-Year Plan
- SMC Report and Seven-Year Plan
- Spark's non-compliance and change of status per Policy N2; report submitted
- UVM request for CAEP approval to be used in lieu of ROPA for 2025
- VCFA Teach-Out Plan
- Approval of C.U. Review Team
- Policy Updates

PEER REVIEW

Work toward compiling the ROPA Two Year Report continues. First, in conjunction with the Peer Review Advisory Committee, a new employee survey has been devised. This survey will be used toward collecting data so that data informed programmatic improvements can be systematically made. Also, training modules have been developed to enhance the panelist training process. Both measures address concerns raised by the recent ROPA review team. Addressing these concerns, and others raised by the ROPA review team, will result in Peer Review's status moving from Conditional Approval to Full Approval. We have seen a decreased interest in Saturday clinics and an increased interest in weekday clinics. We have responded to this interest by offering weekday clinics again. The Peer Review Coordinator anticipates a slight increase in applicants in April based on annual statistics from the past two years. Early Childhood Education continues to be the area with the most applicants.