

**VSBE**

**Date: Feb. 08, 2024**

**Item: Update on Vermont State University ROPA Status**

**ITEM: For discussion only: an update on the ROPA Status of VTSU**

**AGENCY RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**No action required.**

**BACKGROUND:**

Northern Vermont University, Castleton University, and Vermont Technical College merged to form Vermont State University recently. ROPA Coordinator met with VTSU Licensure Officer Michaela Stone last month to review all of the programs and determine needed next steps. Of note- because Vermont Tech runs a completely different program, that will continue to operate independently and be reviewed separately from a ROPA standpoint.

**UPDATE:**

- Principal program will be reviewed in Fall 2024. At that time, VTSU may opt to include the Special Education Leadership course and practicum info for approval for SPED Director also.
- Castleton's programs (besides ECE/ECSE, which was a new program that was approved in Sept. 2021) were reviewed in fall 2019, and NVU was reviewed in June 2020. We will plan for a full review of all VTSU programs in 2026. We may have two review teams on separate campuses, or a larger team, or more than two days, since VTSU is approved for so many endorsements.
- All VTSU approved programs:
  - Art – undergrad (Unsure if Art is still being offered at the postbac level- may need a Teach Out Plan for that if not and there are currently any candidates in the program. Please let me know the status of that program asap. Is it the CU or NVU model that is being used for Art?)
  - Dance – undergrad, postbac

- ECE/ECSE combination (full instructional range for both) – undergrad (approved in 2021- next review would be 2028 but can roll into 2026 full review)
  - ECE Birth-PreK – undergrad (online program)
  - ECE PreK-3 -undergrad (at Lyndon Campus, additional endorsement only when added to EEd, **being taught-out**)
  - Elementary – undergrad, postbac (u, p)
  - English- u, p
  - Health – undergrad
  - Math – u, p
  - Middle Grades, all sub-endorsements – postbac
  - Music (Castleton model being used, NVU model, including postbac, discontinued. Teach-Out needed if any candidates currently in NVU model.) – undergrad
  - Physical Education – undergrad
  - Principal – graduate
  - School Counselor - graduate
  - Science – u, p
  - Social Studies – u, p
  - Special Ed (K-8, part of Inclusive Childhood Education with EEd, undergrad, not offered as a stand-alone option, and K-21 at the graduate level)
  - Theater – u, p
- There is still a small cohort from Lyndon’s EEd and ECE (PK-3) combined program that was supposed to be taught-out by 5/31/23 that will not have completed all requirements until Spring ’24. **We will need to request this extension from the Board.**
- VTSU does have approval to place student teachers outside of Vermont, but you will need to keep records on those placements and submit the data as part of your ROPA review. It would be great to include the information in your Annual Reports as well- I will be adding a section for that, as more EPPs are placing some student teachers out of state.
- VTSU is working to develop an adolescent (secondary) inclusive education program, which would combine a secondary and Special Ed recommendation. That program would need a new program review.

- VTSU's incoming students in secondary education are being taught via NVU's approved program; the old Castleton secondary program is being taught out. VTSU should submit a Teach-Out Plan to ensure all current candidates know what they need to do to successfully complete their program. The NVU model will be transitioning to the proposed new Inclusive Adolescent Education program- for now, that IAE model should not be advertised as leading to licensure, so please check the wording on the VTSU website.
- EIEd is all under the NVU Inclusive Childhood Education program; the CU program is being taught-out. Teach-Out plan needed for those candidates still in the CU model.
- VTSU is teaching out the NVU PK-Grade 3 model- Teach Out Plan needed.