



**AGENCY OF EDUCATION
EDUCATOR QUALITY DIVISION**

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UVM Educational SLP Program Recommendation

Recommendation:

The Agency recommends that

1. A ROPA review for UVM Educational SLP program be completed during the spring of 2018 to coincide with other UVM program reviews/approvals.
 - a. If additional time is needed to include the SLP program the Agency will work with UVM to schedule a review of all programs for the fall of 2018.
2. The Review Team is directed to make a recommendation regarding how ASHA reviews will be incorporated moving forward.
3. The ROPA Review Team will include a currently practicing Educational SLP.

Background:

Identified Issues

- 1) No State review or approval of UVM Educational SLP program has occurred since 2003
 - a. Since that time there have been two revisions to the endorsement standards: 2005 & 2015.
 - b. The AOE on behalf of the VSBPE has no way to determine if graduating students with a recommendation for licensure as an educational SLP are meeting current VSBPE expectations for the endorsement.
- 2) ASHA is not an education approval program, ASHA is a clinical approval program. (Conversation with CAEP indicated while CAEP recognizes ASHA as a accrediting entity for clinical programs it does not recommend ASHA be used as an approval process for education programs.

Specific Timeline:

1. **April 2017-** Statehouse testimony provided by UVM staff indicated UVM SLP's are not teachers
 - a. Prompted AOE staff to review the educational SLP program approval
 - i. March 26, 2008 UVM letter to VSBPE requested ASHA approval process in lieu of ROPA
 1. VSBPE approved ASHA review contingent on annual updates from UVM
 2. Agency staff found the last UVM report regarding ASHA approval was 2010

2. **May 2017-** Letter sent to Dean Thomas May 26, 2017 informing UVM that the educational SLP program would be incorporated into the ROPA review in 2017/18
3. **June 2017-**
 - a. Conference call, June 2, 2017, with AOE staff and UVM faculty in response to previous AOE email correspondence regarding ASHA. Agency after consultation with CAEP provided clarification on accreditation types:
 - i. There are two types of accreditation: institutional and professional (sometimes called programmatic).
 1. Professional accreditors review departments, schools, and colleges usually within a higher education institution. An institution, especially a larger university, might simultaneously maintain accreditation from a regional accreditor as well as from several professional accreditors (e.g ASHA)
 2. CAEP is a professional accreditor because it reviews departments, schools and colleges which prepare teachers and other educators. After completing a program, teachers seek licensure or certification from the state in which they wish to teach.
 - b. UVM SLP faculty members testified at VSBPE June 16, 2017 by phone Ellen Baker, Michael Cannizzaro
 - i. AOE provided clarification to UVM SLP faculty misunderstanding of the Vermont Educator License. The license is not a sub-endorsement of the SLP clinical license
 - ii. Ellen Baker provided clarification around UVM portfolio process - SLP faculty allow for UVM Education dept. review of the educational SLP portfolios
 1. UVM SLP portfolios consist of 7 out of the 10 Core Standards because UVM SLP's do not do student teaching.