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To: Deans/Directors of Institutions offering Teacher Preparation and Educational Leadership Programs in New York State

From: John L. D'Agati 

Subject: Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation State Partnership Agreement

I write to request your recommendations on key aspects of the State Partnership Agreement New York State will develop with the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). Under Commissioner's Regulations (Part 52.21(b)(2)(iv)(c)), all registered teacher and educational leadership preparation programs are required to be accredited within seven years of their initial registration and continuously accredited thereafter by an acceptable professional education accrediting association. At this time all state programs of teacher and educational leader preparation have either been accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) or the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC), or are currently working towards accreditation.

July 1, 2013 marked the *de facto* consolidation of NCATE and TEAC, making the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) the new, sole specialized national accreditor for all educator preparation programs (EPPs) as defined by CAEP. As current terms of educator preparation program accreditation end, all state EPPs will be required to gain accreditation through CAEP. Therefore the State Partnership Agreement will impact every EPP in our state.

Although CAEP decisions regarding accreditation and the New York State Education Department's decisions regarding ongoing program registration are independent, they can be coordinated through the State Partnership Agreement. The Agreement has the potential to increase EPP excellence by:

- developing strategies for EPP improvement;
- supporting state program policies and informing the program approval process;
- providing program review based on national and state standards;
- saving resources by reducing duplication; and
- creating a venue to share best practices and evidence to support program growth and performance.

I seek your recommendations and suggestions for the state standards that will be included for review during the accreditation process, the program review options the state will implement, the composition of the review team and any additional conditions that might be added to support state policies and needs including the state program approval process.

Attached is a template for the state partnership agreement. Listed below are additional resources including the CAEP standards, a CAEP PowerPoint on the details of the state partnership agreement and links to the partnership agreements developed by the states of Ohio, Michigan and Hawaii.

I look forward to receiving your recommendations/comments. Please submit them by November 30, 2013 to caep@mail.nysed.gov.

Working together in partnership with CAEP I know we will continue to improve the preparation of teachers and educational leaders in our state.

Resources:

CAEP homepage

<http://caepnet.org/>

CAEP Standards for Accreditation

<http://caepnet.org/accreditation/standards/>

CAEP power point reviewing the details of a state partnership agreement

<http://caepnet.files.wordpress.com/2012/12/state.ppt>

Sample State Partnership Agreements

The Ohio State Partnership Agreement

<http://caepnet.files.wordpress.com/2012/12/oh.pdf>

The Hawaii State Partnership Agreement

<http://www.htsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/NBI-12-36-Approval-of-the-Council-for-the-Accreditation-of-Educator.pdf>

The Michigan State Partnership Agreement

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Item_C_CAEP_Agreement_416054_7.pdf