



Council for the
Accreditation of
Educator Preparation

1140 19th Street, NW Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036
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caepnet.org

January 15, 2019

Dear EPP Leadership:

Enclosed is a copy of the fully executed letter of agreement entered into between your EPP and CAEP confirming your commitment to undergo an accreditation review based on CAEP's Standards for Advanced-Level Programs using an interim advanced-level accreditation process. The agreement also defines a number of terms and conditions by which this process will be carried out.

The Accreditation Council, in a special meeting held on December 14, 2018, approved a 3-year extension of your existing (NCATE or TEAC) advanced-level accreditation subject to your adherence to the terms of this letter.

We look forward to working with you throughout this process.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Lauren Alexander'. The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Lauren Alexander

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Excellence in Educator Preparation

Dear Black Hills State University,

This letter of agreement confirms your commitment to undergo an accreditation review based on CAEP's Standards for Advanced-Level Programs using the interim advanced-level accreditation process I outlined in my letter of October 2, 2018. In order to facilitate this review, and to provide you with the time needed to complete the review process, CAEP agrees to waive or modify a number of requirements established in Accreditation Policy (v. 7.0, July 2018) and to present this agreement, once it has been fully executed by both parties [CAEP and Black Hills State University, to the Accreditation Council with a recommendation that the term of [EPP]'s existing [NCATE/TEAC] advanced-level accreditation be extended to 12/31/2021.

CAEP also agrees not to charge the EPP a site visit fee for this virtual Advanced-level site visit.

Description of Policies Waived and Modified

Section III. Scope of Accreditation

Section III establishes that EPPs with programs at both the initial-licensure and advanced-level are required to have all such programs reviewed on the same cycle and reviewed through the EPP's submission of a single self-study.

Pursuant to the execution of this letter of agreement, CAEP agrees to waive this Accreditation Policy requirement. The EPP may submit a self-study applicable to just programs to be reviewed for Advanced-Level accreditation through a virtual site visit based on CAEP's Advanced-Level standards.

Section V. Accreditation Process

The introductory text in Section V outlines the accreditation process.

Pursuant to the execution of this letter of agreement, CAEP agrees to waive this Accreditation Policy requirement, in part. The EPP will undergo a virtual site visit rather than an in-person site visit. All other references in Accreditation Policy to the site visit shall be understood by CAEP and the EPP to include the virtual Advanced-Level site visit that is the subject of this letter.

The EPP agrees that the accreditation process used for the review that is the subject to this letter will be carried out in accordance with the process outlined in my letter of [DATE].

Policy 5.08 Activities during the Site Visit

This section outlines activities that are central to a CAEP site visit.

Pursuant to the execution of this letter of agreement, CAEP agrees to waive this Accreditation Policy requirement, in part. The EPP will be required to make designated interviewees available to the virtual site team as requested by the site team lead and/or CAEP staff. In addition, the site team lead has the discretion to determine whether to provide an oral exit summary.

Policy 6.07 Good Cause Extension

This section outlines criteria and related requirements for receipt of a Good Cause Extension.

Letter of Agreement – Advanced-Level Virtual Review Process

Pursuant to the execution of this letter of agreement, the EPP agrees that a Good Cause Extension will not be granted in connection with the Advanced-Level accreditation review that is the subject of this letter.

Timeline for Review and Decision

[EPP] agrees to the following timeline:

Site Visit Report (SVR) Submission 1.2.2021
Virtual Site Visit exact date to be determined between EPP and CAEP but between 3.1.2021-8.31.2021
Accreditation Council Decision 10.31.2021

The timeline for all other process steps shall be as defined in Accreditation Policy.

Applicable Policy

Accreditation Policy (v. 7.0, July 2018) is the policy applicable to the review that is the subject of this letter. If, due to the amendment of Accreditation Policy prior to the presentation of the EPP's case to the Accreditation Council, the accreditation status decision would be more favorable for the EPP if the decision provisions currently in effect were applied, the Accreditation Council may apply those decision rules in lieu of the decision rules provided for in the July 2018 policy.

Consequences for Failure to Adhere to the Terms of this Letter

Should [EPP] decide not to continue with the review that is the subject of this letter, or fail to adhere to the timeline outlined above, its advanced-level accreditation will be deemed to have lapsed pursuant to Accreditation Policy 6.05 Withdrawal or Lapse of Accreditation. In the event of lapse, the Accreditation Council may rescind the extension of the advanced-level accreditation term granted on the basis of this agreement and may deem lapse to be effective immediately.

In the event the Accreditation Council declines to approve my recommendation for an extension of [EPP]'s term, as described above, this letter of agreement will become invalid and advanced-level accreditation will lapse at the end of the current term.

We look forward to working with you throughout this process.

Christopher Koch, President
Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation

4/9/19
DATE

By signing this agreement, the undersigned agrees to be bound by the terms outlined above, and affirms that he or she has the authority to enter into this agreement on behalf of [EPP].

DEAN, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY

12/10/2018
DATE