SPRING FORWARD

Jason Helfer

In anticipation of an early spring, we continue to press forward into this year with ambitions of great success for all educator preparation programs in Illinois.

CEEDAR

Special Education in IL

The Illinois CEEDAR State Leadership Team is currently undertaking exciting and challenging work. The team has developed a comprehensive technical assistance blueprint, and has begun the process of generating recommendations pertaining to the licensure of personnel who serve students with disabilities. This is critically important work that has been made possible by the perseverance and dedication of team members who are deeply invested in improving outcomes for students with disabilities.

An intensive partnership with CEEDAR is predicated on a two-prong approach to state leadership. First, a State Steering Committee comprised of representatives from each partner institution was formed. The purpose of the State Steering Committee is to serve as a core cadre of leaders who articulate a vision for the Illinois-CEEDAR partnership and provide formative guidance on the trajectory of the work. The State Steering Committee also has an influential role in the formation of the State Leadership Team, which is a larger group consisting of broader and more diverse stakeholder representation from partner institutions of higher education, the state education agency, and local and district representatives. The purpose of the State Leadership Team is to provide the depth and breadth of expertise and leadership to carry out the work outlined in the technical assistance blueprint. The role of the CEEDAR Center is to serve as a thought partner and to connect the teams with resources from national technical assistance networks to help them achieve their goals.

ENTITLEMENT

Pending Review Status

Candidates that are entitled inappropriately will be flagged by ELIS and enter a queue assigned to one of our preparation staff. The application will show a status of

Preparation Points  1
“Pending Review”. This fail-safe will prevent the educator from being automatically issued the license or endorsement until their account is reviewed. ISBE will notify the enabling institution of the error so that the IHE can assist the candidate in remedying the issue. ISBE will also issue a deficiency letter outlining the missing requirement. Entitlement deficiencies evaluations are valid for one year from the date the candidate was entitled (NOT from the date the candidate applies for the entitlement).

Common errors include candidates missing evidence of the Test of Basic Skills or an applicable content test. Please note applications require candidates to answer a series of legal questions regarding taxes, child welfare, student loans, and child support. If upon review of the ELIS account you find that all the endorsement requirements are met, advise the candidate to contact ISBE for further clarification.

**edTPA**

**Scores in ELIS**

All edTPA scores released to ISBE have been uploaded to the appropriate ELIS account. Unfortunately hundreds of scores remain unmatched because the profile information in ELIS is different than what was entered during the submission of the edTPA portfolio. Please continue to advise candidates of the importance of entering accurate information that exactly matches their ELIS account.

Provide your ISBE consultant with the following information when requesting a search of unmatched edTPA scores.

- Portfolio submission date
- IEIN
- Candidate’s full name
  - Include any nicknames and/or maiden names they may have used.
- Last four digits of SSN
- Date of Birth

Click here for a list of the reporting dates for edTPA.

**TESTING**

**ELED Test (197-200)**

In addition to the current ILTS Elementary/Middle Grades (110) test, the new ILTS Elementary Education (Grades 1–6) (197–200) test will be available starting March 21, 2016.

**Which test do candidates need to take?**

- It is recommended that candidates take the test that aligns with the grade range of their educator preparation program (either K-9 or 1-6).

**Elementary/Middle Grades (110) test (available through August 2017):**

- Through March 20, 2016, any candidate who has completed or is currently enrolled in any elementary education program should take the Elementary/Middle Grades test.

- Candidates who are still enrolled in the old elementary education programs (K–9) and who test March 21 or after should take the Elementary/Middle Grades test.

- Middle grades candidates should take the Elementary/Middle Grades test until the new Middle Grades (5–8) test is available in spring 2017.
Elementary Education (Grades 1–6) test (available starting March 21, 2016):

- Beginning March 21, 2016, ISBE recommends that candidates enrolled in the “new” Illinois elementary education (grades 1–6) teacher education programs who have not previously passed the Elementary/Middle Grades test take the new Elementary Education (Grades 1–6) test. Out-of-state applicants may take either the Elementary/Middle Grades test or the Elementary Education (1-6) test.

ECE PEER REVIEW TEAM

Chair Needed

The early childhood education review teams have almost been solidified; we currently have three teams formed. ISBE is still seeking one volunteer to chair review teams, and up to nine additional reviewers. Team chairs are responsible for compiling team reviews and submitting them to ISBE. Reviewers should be familiar with the new ECE standards and be willing to devote time for reviewing up to one proposal per month until all new program proposals have been received. Reviewers will undergo training with ISBE staff in early April that will prepare them to adequately evaluate the ECE proposals.

ENDORSEMENT MATRICES

LBS I Endorsement/ECT Approval

We are continuing to update our collection of approved coursework for each endorsement area. Approved coursework files are used by the evaluators during transcript evaluation to determine appropriate coursework that can be honored toward an endorsement. Institutions have been emailed matrices to complete for the LBS I endorsement and ECT Approval. The matrices need to be completed and returned to ISBE by Friday, February 19th.

PROGRAM PROPOSALS

Change Notification Form

This form should be submitted when an institution plans to modify an approved educator preparation program from the version that was approved by the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board (SEPLB). Changes include, but are not limited to, coursework offerings; coursework title/numbers; or status of program. All proposed changes will be shared as an informational item at the next available SEPLB meeting. SEPLB does not vote on these items, so ISBE will not issue a response to the changes unless further action is requested by the board.

New Proposals

ISBE has updated the following proposals to reflect a new format.

- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Education
- Middle Grades
- Secondary Education
- Special Teaching (K-12)
- School Support Personnel
- Director of Special Education
- Chief School Business Official

Institutions interested in submitting a new program proposal should complete the new proposals found here.

The following proposals are in the process of being revised and should reflect a new format by March. Until then institutions may complete the proposal found here.

- Alternative Educator Licensure
- Teacher Leader
- Principal
- Superintendent

IBHE form

The IBHE form attached at the end of each program proposal serves as a courtesy to streamline the process for changing an existing program in Illinois. This academic program inventory form should be completed by all institutions submitting a program proposal to ISBE. ISBE will submit the document to IBHE on behalf of the institutions of higher education.

Standard Charts

New standard charts have been created to assist the preparation of program proposals for all Illinois institutions. These charts outline the required standards each program must align to and can be utilized as a...
guide to ensure a proposal is prepared accurately. The standard charts can be found here.

**PROPOSED RULES AND AMENDMENTS**

Rules undergoing amendments are found here. As Rules are proposed and amended, this webpage provides a summary of the Rule, a medium for public comment, and status updates as Rules are filed and adopted.

Proposed Amendments for Part 30 (Programs for the Preparation of Principals in Illinois) were filed and effective January 27th 2016. The final posting is pending.

Proposed Amendments for Part 25 (Educator Licensure) were adopted by the State Board January 6th 2016. JCAR review is pending.

**ISBE SPOTLIGHT**

*Meet Seth Mernaugh*

Seth is originally from Mitchell, South Dakota. He received both his Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees from Dakota Wesleyan University. Seth’s educational experience includes 5 years teaching in Scotland, South Dakota where he also served as the Head Coach for both the Varsity and Middle School football teams in addition to assisting with the High School Track team.

Seth also spent 9 years as a member of the South Dakota Army National Guard including serving 14 months in Iraq. In his spare time, he enjoys cooking, hunting, running, bicycling, watching football, and generally being active outdoors. He and his wife live in Springfield.

Seth is a great asset to our preparation staff!

**Liaison Contact Information**

We kindly request you refrain from sharing your liaisons direct email and phone numbers with candidates. We are happy to assist you as you advise candidates; however, candidates should call our licensure call center for assistance (217) 558-3600 or (217) 557-6763.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**Q: How do candidates submit courses for pre-approval?**

**A:** Candidates may submit a maximum of three courses for pre-approval by completing form [80-07](#). The form can be mailed to the address listed or emailed to [licensure@isbe.net](mailto:licensure@isbe.net).

The pre-approval of courses is processed in 7-10 days, and candidates will be notified by a deficiency letter of the approval/denial of courses accepted.

**Q: How does a foreign candidate obtain a nine digit number in lieu of the SSN needed for testing/ELIS?**

**A:** Candidates may request a temporary nine digit number by emailing licensure@isbe.net. Candidates should include in their email: full name, date of birth, address and phone number. ISBE will process the request and contact the candidate directly.

**edTPA Myths & Facts**

**MYTH:** Candidates are not allowed to retake the assessment.

**FACT:** Candidates can retake the entire edTPA or one edTPA task to meet their institution or state requirement and to demonstrate they can plan, teach and assess the learning for their students. More information about retake guidelines and what candidates submit can be found in the Resource Library at edtpa.aacte.org and on www.edtpa.com.