



Central Carolina Regional Educational Service Alliance

Serving School Districts in the Heart of North Carolina

TO: Tom Tomberlin
Andrew Sioberg

FROM: Neil Pedersen
Executive Director

Lisa Sonricker
CCTI Program Administrator

SUBJ: Plan for Transitioning from Lateral Entry to Residency Program

DATE: March 7, 2019

As you know, in the Spring of 2017, the State Board of Education approved the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) to operate a Local Alternative Teacher Preparation (LATP) program that would lead to the licensure of Lateral Entry teachers as authorized by HB1030. The WCPSS then subcontracted with the Central Carolina RESA to implement the program and to open it up to other school districts that were members of the CCRESA. We are now into the second year of operation, serving approximately 140 teachers.

Since our program was approved, SB599 was passed, which will phase out the issuance of Lateral Entry licenses, resulting in no more licenses being issued after June 30, 2019. Since our program serves Lateral Entry teachers and as of July 1, 2019 teachers will receive Residency licenses instead, we believe that it is in the best interest of the program and the teachers whom we serve to revise our program to meet the expectations of an Educator Preparation Program (EPP) as described in SB599 and for teachers enrolling in our third-year cohort to be subject to the licensure requirements for teachers following the Residency pathway.

There have been multiple communications between our two offices about the steps we must take to transition from serving teachers with Lateral Entry licenses to those with Residency licenses. Below is the course of action that we intend to follow and that you, previously, have indicated meets with your approval:

- Teachers currently enrolled in our program with Lateral Entry licenses will be expected to meet the current requirements for a Lateral Entry license. For these teachers, the CCRESA will continue to meet the requirements stipulated in HB1030 and the provisions included in the plan that we submitted to the State Board of Education in 2017. This includes the requirement for 150 hours of instruction and 150 hours of coaching and mentoring.
- Based upon our experience over the last two years and the new legislation regarding EPPs and Residency licenses, we are modifying the program that

will be offered to our third cohort entering our program in 2019-20. Accompanying this memorandum is a copy of the plan. We will be replacing the structured 300 hour requirement in the original LATP plan with a competency-based program aligned with the edTPA.

- As you have advised, we will share this information with EPIC, which is the program's evaluator. Since our program was approved for five years (through 2021-22), you have indicated that we do not need to apply for approval as an EPP under SB599 until our program's time limit expires. In the meantime, we will proceed down the Residency pathway as described above beginning with Cohort 3, and we expect that our program will be monitored similarly to other EPPs. If the CCRESA seeks to continue its licensure program after 2021-22, it will need to successfully complete the same application and review process to which other EPPs are subjected.

Before we proceed with employing additional staff and contracting with service providers for next year, we ask that, as soon as possible, you confirm in writing that we are approved to proceed according to the provisions outlined above. We appreciate the support that you have provided to our program and the open communication that has flowed between our offices. We look forward to hearing from you in the very near future.