

# VII.B.

## Connecticut State Board of Education Hartford

**To Be Proposed:**

February 14, 2024

**Resolved**, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(3)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full approval for the period February 14, 2024, through March 31, 2029, to Quinnipiac University, with annual progress monitoring conducted using Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) annual report data in conjunction with the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) Review Committee until Quinnipiac University's CAEP Spring 2028 site visit, for the purpose of certifying graduates from Quinnipiac University in the following new certification area and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action:

Program	Grade Level	Program Level	Program Type
Chemistry	7-12	Initial	Graduate

Approved by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ this fourteenth day of February, Two Thousand Twenty-Four

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Secretary  
State Board of Education

**Connecticut State Board of Education  
Hartford**

**To:** State Board of Education

**From:** Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Commissioner of Education

**Date:** February 14, 2024

**Subject:** Approval of New Educator Preparation Program: Quinnipiac University, Master of Arts in Teaching, Initial Certification in Chemistry 7-12

**Executive Summary**

**Introduction**

Connecticut educator preparation providers (EPPs) and other organizations must be approved for new educator preparation programs through the Connecticut State Board of Education (SBE). Those seeking approval for new programs are required to participate in a CSDE evaluation process designed to guide and support new program proposals. The proposal then moves forward to the CSDE Review Committee (Attachment A), which makes recommendations to the Commissioner of Education regarding new program approval based on evaluation findings. This report presents a summary of the evaluation process for the Quinnipiac University proposal for an initial certification program in secondary chemistry 7-12 and includes the Commissioner of Education's recommendation for approval.

**History/Background**

Quinnipiac University, located in Hamden, Connecticut, is a private, nonsectarian, co-educational institution that offers over 100 programs at the graduate and undergraduate levels in health care, nursing, business, communications, law, education, and arts and sciences. The University is primarily a residential campus, consisting of approximately 6,800 undergraduate and over 3,000 graduate and law students. The Schools of Law, Business and Communications, as well as the College of Arts and Sciences, occupy the Mount Carmel Campus in Hamden, while the North Haven campus serves as home to the School of Education, the School of Health Sciences, the School of Nursing, and the Frank H. Netter, MD, School of Medicine, as well as many other graduate programs. The University is fully accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

Quinnipiac University is seeking SBE approval to offer an initial level Master of Arts in Teaching certification program in Chemistry that will meet the needs of Connecticut's significant shortage area of science teachers. Quinnipiac University is currently approved to offer graduate level initial certification programs in elementary education, secondary English, History/Social Studies, Mathematics, comprehensive special education, Spanish, and Biology as well as an advanced graduate program in Intermediate Administration. Quinnipiac University's educator preparation programs are fully accredited by the Council of Accreditation for Educator Preparation (CAEP).

Quinnipiac University is approved to offer a Master of Arts in Teaching Science program leading to Biology certification and is now seeking approval to offer the same program with a track for Chemistry.

The new chemistry track will offer chemistry majors the ability to obtain initial certification in Chemistry. During fall 2023 Quinnipiac University submitted program materials to CSDE for review

and it was confirmed that the new track is consistent with the currently approved Biology program and the program continues to meet all requirements and is aligned to CSDE regulations, current statutes, the Connecticut Common Core of Teaching, and The National Science Teacher Association's Standards. On December 11, 2023, the CSDE Review committee (attachment A) reviewed the evaluation report and recommended full approval for the program (attachment B).

### **Recommendation and Justification**

Based upon the CSDE evaluation and the recommendation of the CSDE Review Committee, I recommend that the Quinnipiac University Master of Arts in Teaching Chemistry certification program be granted full approval for the period February 14, 2024, through March, 31, 2029. If approved by the SBE, the program will begin implementation during Fall 2024 and be reviewed during the Quinnipiac University CAEP site visit. In the interim, the CSDE Review Committee will review CAEP annual Staff Review Reports.

### **Follow-up Activity**

If granted full approval by the SBE, the Dean of the School of Education will be notified immediately so that Quinnipiac University may start recruiting candidates for the Fall 2024 semester.

Prepared by: Lauren Tafrate, EPP Program Approval Coordinator, Talent Office

Approved by: Shuana K. Tucker, Ph.D., Chief Talent Officer, Talent Office

**Connecticut State Department of Education**  
**Educator Preparation Program Approval Review Committee**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Representation</b>	<b>Term Ending</b>
1. Dorothea Anagnostopolous	University of Connecticut	Higher Education	September 5, 2026
2. Mel Horton	Sacred Heart University	Higher Education	March 31, 2025
3. Megan Mackey	Central Connecticut State University	Higher Education	March 31, 2025
4. Catherine O'Callaghan	Western Connecticut State University	Higher Education	September 5, 2026
5. Julie Sochacki	University of Hartford	Higher Education	September 5, 2026
6. Joseph Bonillo	Hartford Public Schools	K-12	September 5, 2026
7. Thomas Danehy	Area Cooperative Educational Services	K-12	September 5, 2026
8. Stacy McCann	Middletown Public Schools	K-12	September 5, 2026
9. Kevin Walston	Danbury Public Schools	K-12	September 5, 2026
10. Paul Whyte	New Haven Public Schools	K-12	September 5, 2026
11. Camille Cooper	Yale Child Study Center	Community	March 31, 2025
12. Shannon Marimón	ReadyCT	Community	March 31, 2025

**Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies for Educator Preparation Program Approval**  
**Section 10-145d-9(g)**

**Board action**

After reviewing the recommendation of the Review Committee, the Commissioner shall make one or more recommendations to the Board. Based on the Commissioner's recommendation, the Board shall take one of the following actions.

**(1) For programs requesting continuing approval:**

- (A) Grant full program approval for seven years, or for a period of time to bring the program into alignment with the five year approval cycle. The Board may require that an interim report be submitted to the Department, on a date set by the Board, prior to the end of the approval period.
- (B) Grant provisional approval for a time period not to exceed three years, if substantial non-compliance with current standards is identified. The institution shall submit to the Review Committee, on a date set by the Board, a written report which addresses the professional education unit's progress in meeting the standards which were not fully met. The Board may require an on-site visit in addition to this report.
- (C) Grant probationary approval for a time period not to exceed three years, if significant and far-reaching non-compliance with current standards is identified. The institution shall submit to the Review Committee, on a date set by the Board, a written report which addresses the professional education unit's progress in meeting the standards which were not fully met. The Board shall require an on-site visit in addition to this report.
- (D) Deny approval.

**(2) For new programs in institutions which have current approved programs:**

- (A) Grant full program approval for a period of time to bring the new program into the seven year approval cycle of all other programs offered by the institution. The Board may require that a written report be submitted to the Department, on a date set by the Board, prior to the end of the approval period.
- (B) Grant provisional approval for a time period not to exceed three years, if substantial non-compliance with current standards is identified. The institution shall submit to the Review Committee, on a date set by the Board, a written report which addresses the professional education unit's progress in meeting the standards which were not fully met. The Board may require an on-site visit in addition to this report.

- (C) Grant probationary approval not to exceed three years, if significant and far-reaching non-compliance with current standards is identified. The institution shall submit to the Review Committee, on a date set by the Board, a written report which addresses the professional education unit's progress in meeting the standards which were not fully met. The Board shall require an on-site visit in addition to this report.
- (D) Deny approval.

**(3) For new programs starting in institutions without other approved programs:**

- (A) Grant program approval for two years. The institution shall submit to the Review Committee, after two semester of operation a written report which addresses the professional education unit's progress in implementing the new program. The Board shall require an on-site visit in addition to this report.
- (B) Following the on-site visit after two years of operation, grant full program approval for three years. The Board may require that a written report be submitted to the Department, on a date set by the Board, prior to the end of the approval period.
- (C) Following the on-site visit after two years of operation, grant provisional approval for a time period not to exceed three years, if substantial non-compliance with current standards is identified. The institution shall submit to the Review Committee, on a date set by the Board, a written report which addresses the professional education unit's progress in meeting the standards which were not fully met. The Board may require an on-site visit in addition to this report.
- (D) Following the on-site visit after two years of operation, grant probationary approval for up to three years, if significant and far-reaching non-compliance with current standards is identified. The institution shall submit to the Review Committee, on a date set by the Board, a written report which addresses the professional education unit's progress in meeting the standards which were not fully met. The Board shall require an on-site visit in addition to this report.
- (E) Deny approval.