

# IX.D.

## Connecticut State Board of Education Hartford

### To Be Proposed:

June 1, 2022

**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 June 1, 2022, 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 CSDE Review Committee until Quinnipiac University's Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (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
Comprehensive Special Education	K-12	Initial	Graduate

Approved by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ this first day of June, Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

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:** June 1, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Approval of New Educator Preparation Program: Quinnipiac University,  
Initial Certification Program in Comprehensive Special Education

**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 Connecticut State Department of Education (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 comprehensive special education 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).

The School of Education is the unit for professional educator preparation. Currently, the School offers four degree programs: 1) the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree with Connecticut certification; 2) the Sixth Year Diploma in Educational Leadership with Connecticut certification; 3) the Master of Science in Special Education; and 4) the Master of Science in Instructional Design. Quinnipiac educator preparation programs are currently fully accredited nationally by CAEP and fully approved by the State Board of Education (SBE).

During spring 2022, Quinnipiac submitted to the CSDE a program proposal to add an initial, graduate certificate program in comprehensive special education. On April 8, 2022, a CSDE-trained evaluation team consisting of content area experts reviewed the proposal to evaluate the quality of the program in the following areas:

- (1) design, scope and sequence, including coursework and fieldwork/clinical experiences;
- (2) candidate assessments, including data collection, analysis, and reporting methods;
- (3) faculty and instructor qualifications; and
- (4) program resources.

CSDE consultants also reviewed the proposal for compliance with Connecticut statutory and regulatory requirements. (Attachment B)

The evaluation team was unanimous in its decision that the proposal move forward to the CSDE Review Committee for consideration. The CSDE Review Committee reviewed the evaluation team report and recommended full approval for the program.

#### **Recommendation and Justification**

Based upon evaluation team findings and the recommendation of the CSDE Review Committee, I recommend that the Quinnipiac University comprehensive special education certification program be granted full approval for the period June 1, 2022, through March, 31, 2029. If approved by the SBE, the program will begin implementation during Fall 2022 and be reviewed during the Quinnipiac University Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (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 they may start recruiting candidates for the Fall 2022 semester.

Prepared by: Lauren Tafrate, Program Approval Coordinator  
Talent Office

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Representation</b>	<b>Term Ending</b>
1. Megan Mackey	Central Connecticut State University <a href="mailto:mackey@ccsu.edu">mackey@ccsu.edu</a>	Higher Education	March 31, 2025
2. Tamika La Salle	University of Connecticut <a href="mailto:tamika.la_salle@uconn.edu">tamika.la_salle@uconn.edu</a>	Higher Education	June 30, 2023
3. Catherine O'Callaghan	Western Connecticut State University <a href="mailto:ocallaghanc@wcsu.edu">ocallaghanc@wcsu.edu</a>	Higher Education	June 30, 2023
4. Julie Sochacki	University of Hartford <a href="mailto:SOCHACKI@hartford.edu">SOCHACKI@hartford.edu</a>	Higher Education	June 30, 2023
5. Mel Horton	Sacred Heart University <a href="mailto:hortonm3@sacredheart.edu">hortonm3@sacredheart.edu</a>	Higher Education	New member beginning June, 2022
6. Joseph Bonillo	Waterford Public Schools <a href="mailto:jbouillo@waterfordschools.org">jbouillo@waterfordschools.org</a>	K-12	June 30, 2023
7. Thomas Danehy	Area Cooperative Educational Services <a href="mailto:TDanehy@aces.org">TDanehy@aces.org</a>	K-12	June 30, 2023
8. Sinthia Sone-Moyano	Manchester Public Schools <a href="mailto:sinthias@mpspride.org">sinthias@mpspride.org</a> 860-647-3451	K-12	June 30, 2023
9. Kevin Walston	Danbury Public Schools <a href="mailto:walstk@danbury.k12.us">walstk@danbury.k12.us</a> 203.595.1404 (cell)	K-12	June 30, 2023
10. Paul Whyte	New Haven Public Schools <a href="mailto:PAUL.WHYTE@new-haven.k12.ct.us">PAUL.WHYTE@new-haven.k12.ct.us</a>	K-12	June 30, 2023
11. Camille Cooper	Yale Child Study Center <a href="mailto:Camille.cooper@yale.edu">Camille.cooper@yale.edu</a>	Community	New Member beginning June, 2022
12. Shannon Marimón	Connecticut Council for Education Reform <a href="mailto:shannon.marimon@readyct.org">shannon.marimon@readyct.org</a>	Community	March 31, 2025

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

**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 five 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 five 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 repo

- (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.