

VII. B.

Connecticut State Board of Education Hartford

To Be Proposed:

June 5, 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 program approval to the University of New Haven Speech and Language Pathology Program for the period June 5, 2024, through June 4, 2026, with an onsite visit during the 2025-2026 academic year, and continuous focused monitoring of the new program by the Connecticut State Department of Education, for the purpose of recommending candidates for the Connecticut initial educator certificate in the following endorsement areas and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Speech/Language Pathology	PK-12	Advanced	Graduate

Approved by a vote of _____ this fifth day of June, 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: June 5, 2024

Subject: Approval of New Educator Preparation Program: University of New Haven, Speech and Language Pathology

Executive Summary

Introduction

Connecticut educator preparation providers (EPPs) and other organizations proposing new educator preparation programs must seek official approval through the Connecticut State Board of Education (SBE). EPPs 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 University of New Haven proposal for a graduate certification program in Speech and Language Pathology and includes the Commissioner of Education's recommendation for approval.

History/Background

Founded in 1920, The University of New Haven is a private, coeducational university located in West Haven. The University is composed of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Pompea College of Business, the School of Health Sciences, the Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences, and the Tagliatela College of Engineering. The University awards bachelor's and associate degrees in 105 undergraduate majors; master's degrees in 92 areas of graduate study; and doctorate programs in criminal justice, applied engineering, health science and occupational therapy. In 2022-2023, the University of New Haven awarded 1,133 undergraduate and 1,674 graduate degrees.

The University of New Haven is seeking approval for an educator preparation program designed to train speech and language pathology professionals to serve in Connecticut schools under the #061 endorsement, which is a shortage area for the State of Connecticut. The speech and language pathology certification program proposal was developed by the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences and Wellness which is housed in the School of Health Sciences. The program is a graduate-level program leading to a Master of Science degree in Speech-Language Pathology. Once candidates successfully complete the Master of Science Degree, they are eligible for the Department of Public

Health License as a Speech and Language Pathologist. Once approved by the CSDE, all program graduates will then have the option to apply for the Connecticut #061 endorsement to serve as speech pathologists in Connecticut schools.

The University of New Haven submitted to the CSDE a proposal describing the speech and language pathology program, including program syllabi, key assessments and faculty vitae and resumes. A CSDE-trained evaluation team consisting of content area experts, including speech and language pathologists currently practicing in Connecticut public schools, 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. Based on a thorough and rigorous review of all application materials, the team identified some areas for improvement (AFI) for the UNH proposal and was unanimous in its decision that the proposal move forward to the CSDE Review Committee for consideration, with the requirement that the AFIs be addressed before the committee meeting. UNH submitted all required revisions to the CSDE during April 2024, to the satisfaction of the evaluation team. In accordance with Connecticut educator preparation regulations (Attachment B), the Review Committee recommended full approval for the University of New Haven Master of Science in Speech Pathology for the period June 5, 2024, through June 4, 2026, with an on-site visit required no later than fall 2025.

Follow-up Activity

If granted full approval by the SBE, the program director will be notified and the institution shall submit to the Review Committee, after two semesters of operation, a written report which addresses the University of New Haven's progress in implementing the new program.

Prepared by: Lauren Taftrate, Associate Education Consultant, Talent Office

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

Approved by: Sinthia Sone-Moyano, Deputy Commissioner
Educational Supports and Wellness

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

Name	Affiliation	Representation	Term Ending
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. Vacant			
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.