

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**CONNECTICUT EDUCATOR PREPARATION AND CERTIFICATION BOARD**  
**AD HOC 12A COMMITTEE**

Friday, May 2, 2025 2:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m.  
[Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)  
[Meeting Recording](#)

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** 2:40 p.m.

**Attendance (all virtual):**

*Attendees:* Jennifer Rodriguez (Chair), Cynthia Ritchie, Margaret Gustafson, Jennifer Delaney, Jenny Graves, Patrice McCarthy

*Guests:* Kaylan Ricciardi (SDE), Lauren Tafrate (SDE), Julianne Frost (SDE), Tong Hui Koh (CPRL), Scheherazade Salimi (CPRL), Elizabeth Chu (CPRL), Paige Bray (ECE)

*Absentees:* Tiffany Caouette, Shannon Marimon, Elsa Batista

**Review and Approval of Minutes (April 11, 2025):** Approved.

**Items for Discussion:**

Development of Standards and Proposals for Regulations and Legislation (Due July 1, 2025, per Section 10 of the Act)

**12(a)(1) Evaluation Criteria for Alternative Certification Pathways and Cross Endorsements**

CPRL presented the findings and research they did on behalf of the group.

- The memo provides an overview of existing pathways in Connecticut; discusses examples of alternative pathways found in other states; and posits a non-exhaustive set of possible criteria for evaluating proposed alternative pathways in Connecticut.
- Three criteria for evaluating proposals for alternative pathways to professional educator certification:

No.	Criteria	Sub-Criteria/Evidence
1.	Quality of provider / supervisor of proposed pathway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sufficiency of resources to support high quality delivery of programs</li><li>• Administrative ability to plan, deliver, and operate programs</li><li>• Qualifications of faculty/personnel</li><li>• Adequacy of facilities to support participants</li></ul>
2.	Quality of proposed pathway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Programmatic coherence</li><li>• Curriculum alignment to applicable state/national content standards and research-backed design principles</li><li>• Use of effective instructional methods</li><li>• Effective participant recruitment, selection, and support</li></ul>
3.	Accessibility of proposed pathway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Affordability</li><li>• Reasonableness of time/commitment required</li><li>• Supports the development of a robust and diverse workforce</li></ul>

- Jennifer Rodriguez: Do we stay with what we currently have as it is then move through the process or report with our justification being that this law recently passed removing provisional and we want to look into alternative ways from initial to professional more deeply? Then provide this report with possible alternatives for that.
- Lauren Tafrate noted the advanced standards would be more applicable.
- Jennifer Delaney moved we crosswalk the CAEP standards for competency at completion of a program at the advanced level.
  - Margaret Gustafson seconds.
  - Vote: All in favor, motion passes.
- Jennifer Delaney moved to have CPRL work on the crosswalk. Then we will review, discuss, amend, and vote in the Board meeting.
  - Cynthia Ritchie and Margaret Gustafson second.
  - Vote: Passes unanimously.
  - **Action Item:** CPRL will provide the crosswalk 3 business days before the May 12 meeting.

Discussed district professional development (Wisconsin), Portfolio/Oral Board, and National Licensure (New Hampshire).

- Two criteria for evaluating proposals for alternative pathways to cross-endorsements:

No.	Criteria	Sub-Criteria/Evidence
1.	Extent to which proposed pathway facilitates the demonstration of requisite competency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alignment to state/national content standards</li> <li>• Qualifications and consistency of assessors</li> </ul>
2.	Accessibility of proposed pathway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affordability</li> <li>• Reasonableness of time/commitment required</li> <li>• Supports the development of a robust and diverse workforce</li> <li>• Alignment to state's workforce needs</li> </ul>

- Margaret Gustafson would like to know the staffing levels for these.
  - For Wisconsin and New Hampshire, state employees do these reviews. Would there be an opportunity to partner outsource to do reviews? That's very resource heavy.
  - Jennifer Rodriguez: We got rid of the portfolio system because of things like that in the last legislative round.
  - CPRL noted this can be turned into a third criteria.
- Margaret Gustafson requested clarification on the difference between the two tables of criteria.
- Jennifer Delaney moved to add feasibility, rigor, data reliability and validity to the criteria. And have CPRL do a crosswalk with section RA 5.2, which is a data quality section of the CAEP workbook. [Then bring it to the next Board meeting.]
  - Margaret Gustafson seconds.
  - Vote: All in favor, motion passes.

**12(a)(3) Adequacy and Relevance of Existing Certification Endorsement Areas (pending work by ECE/CPRL/SDE collaborative)**

- Focus on Birth to age 8 space within the Birth to age 21 continuum.
- Early childhood paths are available in Level I, Level II, and Level III across all ages and settings is what we are seeking.
  - Specific to Level III
    - There is a non-state Department of Education certification or credentialing program by degree or other pathway and that specifically relates to the regulations.
    - Changing the 112 (Birth to K) and 113 (Pre-K to Grade 3) endorsements to a new endorsement for professionals in the early childhood field to utilize inclusive, developmentally appropriate practice for all early care ages and education settings that serve birth through school age children, up through grade 3.
- For June 30, 2025, the intent is to establish a container/framework for the Birth to age 8 space as early childhood is a shortage area and has overlapping bands now.
- Margaret Gustafson: The competencies for the minimum 12 credits are:
  - Intro to Early Childhood Education
  - Child Development
  - The Child Family School Partnership Class for Competency
  - Health, Safety and Nutrition
- That aligns with our qualified staff member legislation for the OEC and the Governor's Blue-Ribbon Panel.
- Jennifer Delaney moved to present language at the May 12, 2025 Certification Board meeting.
  - Margaret Gustafson and Cynthia Ritchie second.
  - Vote: Motion passes.

**Adjournment:** 4:29 p.m.