

MEMORANDUM

TO: Educator Preparation Providers

FROM: Jacki Walsh
Team Lead for Educator Preparation, Office of Educator Services

DATE: January 13, 2025

RE: Updated Continuing Program Recognition Requirements

On January 7, 2025, the State Board of Education (SBE) approved an updated Continuing Program Recognition requirement as a part of the Provider Requirements policy of the [South Carolina Educator Preparation Guidelines: Standards, Policies, and Procedures](#).

In collaboration with the Professional Review Committee (PRC), the SCDE Office of Educator Services updated Indicator 2.4, Continuing Program Recognition, to address identified program reporting concerns. The revisions made to this indicator clarify expectations for providers submitting required program reports to the PRC and SCDE and address procedures and possible adverse actions.

The updated language for 2.4 Continuing Program Recognition can be found below:

The EPP must demonstrate that each continuing program is fully recognized by a specialized accrediting agency, specialized professional association, or the state. Providers must achieve and maintain full recognition for all SBE-approved educator preparation programs and submit program reports for each approved program, regardless of enrollment. The provider must include state and national recognition reports for each program as evidence during all CAEP or SCDE accreditation reviews. If the provider fails to submit a program report or does not achieve a program recognition report of “Recognized without Conditions” or “State Recognized” by the time of the CAEP or SCDE accreditation review, the PRC will initiate an evaluation of the specific program and submit a recommendation to the State Board concerning the approval status of the program. Recommendations may include probation, suspension, or termination of the program. The SCDE will refer any program with zero enrollment throughout a full accreditation cycle to the PRC for evaluation and subsequent recommendation to the State Board concerning the approval status.

Revisions to this requirement will support providers in the quality assurance process by articulating clarified expectations for program reports and potential consequences for non-compliance with these state requirements.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Jacki Walsh, jwalsh@ed.sc.gov, or Jessica McLees, jmclees@ed.sc.gov.