September 24, 2013

TO: Deans of Colleges and Schools of Education

FROM: Beverly Young, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice Chancellor, Teacher Education & Public School Programs

SUBJECT: Lifting of Cap on One-Year Credential Programs

Governor Brown recently signed major new legislation, Chapter 171, Statutes of 2013 (Senate Bill 5—Padilla) designed to give teacher education programs more flexibility in the duration of programs. Since 1970, formal teacher preparation coursework has been limited to one year. The new law permits education programs to offer up to two years of formal preparation, which can include blended programs that begin as part of undergraduate study.

The California State University (CSU) was in support of this legislation, and we want to be cautious in its implementation to ensure that programs do not make changes to increase length without a strong rationale. Any changes need to be in line with the system’s efforts to foster timely student graduation and completion. Thus, if any teacher preparation program revisions are considered, it is essential that the program duration remains as efficient as possible.

To that end, if you wish to consider increasing the length of your program, please be advised that:

(a) Review and approval by the Chancellor's Office will be required to increase the units of all blended and fifth year credential programs, whether offered through state-support or self-support via Extended Education.

(b) All CSU bachelor's degree programs (except bachelor of fine arts, bachelor of music, bachelor of architecture, and bachelor of landscape architecture) are subject to Title 5 limits of 120 semester units (180 quarter units).
(c) Blended baccalaureate degree/credential preparation programs are subject to 120 semester unit limits for those units required to fulfill bachelor's degree requirement and 135 semester unit limits in total.

Requests to allow higher-unit blended or higher-unit credential-only programs must be submitted to the Teacher Education and Public School Programs unit. A memorandum should be submitted from the Dean of Education that is co-signed by the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs. The memorandum should include the following information:

* Summary of current program and units
* Description of proposed additional units
* Rationale for inclusion of additional units
* Increased cost to students associated with additional units
* Proposed date of implementation
* Adverse effects if additional units are not approved

Requests should be sent via e-mail to byoung@calstate.edu with a copy to Paula Covarrubias at pcovarrubias@calstate.edu. A copy of the current credential program schedule and calendar with an indication of the academic term(s) within the program when additional units are proposed should be included. As with all program revisions, a teach-out plan also should be included.

The new legislation is attached and is also available online at:


Thank you, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Attachment

c: Dr. Timothy P. White, Chancellor
   Dr. Ephraim Smith, Executive Vice Chancellor, Chief Academic Officer
   Dr. Ron Vogel, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs
   Dr. Chris Mallon, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic Programs & Faculty Development
   CSU Presidents
   Provosts/Vice Presidents, Academic Affairs