

EPIC Annual Report

Vermont Licensure Portfolio (VLP) Statewide Calibration System

To: Vermont Standards Board of Professional Educators (VSBPE)
From: Educator Preparation Inquiry Collaborative (EPIC), Executive Committee
Date: August 4th, 2023
Re: Summary of 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Activity
Addendum: [EPIC Information Letter](#)

Due to the final years of the pandemic, we respectfully submit the past two years of EPIC's activity.

2021-2022 Accomplishments

For the 2021-2022 academic year, EPIC organized a year of challenging work with the Educator Preparation Programs as colleagues in the Vermont Licensure Portfolio (VLP) Statewide Calibration System. In July of 2021, we began our sixth year of implementation of the (VLP) (after the 2015-2016 pilot year). During the 2021-2022 academic year, we conducted a Statewide Scoring Session, a Professional Learning Session and resumed the in-person Annual Conference .

- **Fall 2021:** We planned for and conducted a Statewide Scoring Session (SWSS) on December 3rd, 2021
 - At the time, there were 12 VLP implementing institutions;
 - 11 institutions submitted Part II samples for scoring (92%);
 - 12 of the 12 samples were usable;
 - 23 Peer Reviewers attended the Scoring Session;
 - 12 samples were reviewed during the Session;
 - After the Zoom Session, 12 reports/scores were reviewed;
 - David McGough reviewed the analysis & findings during the Annual Conference; and
 - Letters of participation and information from the SWSS were sent to each EPP.
- **Spring 2022:** We planned for and held a Professional Learning (PL) session on April 1st, 2022. This session included a SWSS Scoring to create Continuous Improvement Plans, the use of radar graphs, small group review of PC analyses, and an exit assessment.
- **Summer 2022:** We planned for and held the Annual Conference on May 25th, 2022 at Saint Michael's College. At the conference, during the business meeting, we discussed the [Suggested Edits](#) collected from the Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs) we might propose to the VSBPE. *We voted to not submit or implement these edits due to the ongoing equity work in the state and in anticipation of ongoing work that may have impacted the suggested edits.*

2022-2023 Accomplishments

For the 2022-2023 academic year, EPIC organized a year of work with the Educator Preparation Programs as colleagues in the Vermont Licensure Portfolio (VLP) Statewide Calibration System. In July of 2022, we began our seventh year of implementation of the VLP. During the 2021-2022 academic year we conducted a Statewide Scoring Session (SWSS), a Professional Learning Session and held the Annual Conference.

- **Fall 2022:** We planned for and conducted a SWSS between November 20th, 2022 and March 31st, 2023.
 - At the time, there were 13 VLP implementing institutions (1 had no candidates)
 - 12 institutions submitted Part II samples for scoring (100%);
 - 12 of the 12 samples were usable;
 - 27 Peer Reviewers participated in the Statewide Scoring Session;
 - 12 samples were reviewed during the SWSS;
 - John Stroup reviewed the analysis & findings during the EPIC Professional Learning on March 31st, 2023; and
 - Letters of participation and information from the SWSS were sent to each EPP.
- **Spring 2023:** We planned for and held a Professional Learning (PL) session on March 31st, 2023. This session included a Review of the Statewide Scoring Session (SWSS), SWSS Data and Reveals (patterns and trends), Reflection on SWSS, Equity Lens and the VLP, and a look ahead to the annual conference.
- **Summer 2023:** We planned for and held the EPIC Annual Conference at Norwich University on May 24th, 2023. At the conference, during the business meeting, we discussed the [Suggested Edits](#) (from 21/22 and 22/23) and voted to bring them forward to the VSBPE on their final meeting of the 22/23 AY.

Request for an update from the VSBPE

Now that VT Educator Preparations Programs (EPPs) consistently participate in the EPIC annual Statewide Scoring Session and use their letters as evidence in the ROPA process, we are looking forward to hearing how this is proceeding for the ROPA committee's review of EPPs. The VSBPE's vision was that the annual SWSS results would be included in ROPA reviews and the analytics would ensure programmatic reflections and institutional continuous improvement plans that EPIC emphasizes to ensure high quality summative assessments of our teacher candidates. Is this progressing as hoped?

Permission Request

The EPIC community would like to pilot some flexibility within the narrative portion of the VLP during this next academic year (23/24). Some examples of pilots are included below.

- Combining PCs in a single narrative (combine standards 4 and 5, both about content knowledge, address 7 and 8, planning with instructional strategies, etc)
- Including prompts for the writing narratives within the official VLP directions

- Considering other assessment types in addition to a written narrative (video, slideshow, artwork with audio, etc.)
- Responding to enhanced calls for the inclusion of equity across or in some PCs (for example, adding language to standard 2.2 to focus on DEIJB topics)

Next Steps

- **July/August 2023:**
 - Present report to the VSBPE.
 - The EPIC Executive Committee will establish dates for the 2023-2024 SWSS Session.
- **Fall 2023:**
 - The EPIC Executive Committee will establish dates for a fall SWSS of Part II of the VLP involving each EPP.
- **Spring 2024:**
 - Plan and conduct a Professional Learning Session using results from SWSS work.
- **Summer 2024:**
 - Plan and offer the EPIC Annual Conference.
 - Present and discuss results of pilots on flexibility with the VLP narratives (if given permission).
- **Summer 2024:** Report to the VSBPE at the last meeting of the 23/24 academic year.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration,

The EPIC Executive Committee

David McGough, NVU at Johnson

Claudine Bedell, SMC

Ellen Emery, TAP

Tracy Weston, Middlebury

John Stoup, Champlain College

Maike Garland, Goddard

Jenny Prue, UVM