

October 20, 2020

Education Quality Team
Staff Report for October 20, 2020

From the Education Quality Division: Patrick Halladay, Division Director

It seems that schools have settled into a bit of a rhythm in this most unusual year. In particular, the request for waivers seems to have slowed substantially.

Thursday, 15 October saw the end of our extended licensure cycle. Thank you, again, to the board for their response to the pandemic by continually extending the expiration date for all licenses. It provided the field a bit of succor in an upside-down world. As is always the case as the expiration date approaches, we saw a late flourish of requests and questions from the field. On Friday, 16 October, we began the process of expiring licenses where educator have not begun to renew them. We do still have numerous licenses in various stages of review, mostly waiting for CRC reports to come to the office. It will take until close to the end of the calendar year for all licensing renewals to be fully processed.

We have received communication from several education preparation programs regarding their plans for spring semester. At this point we have not had any EPPs submit substantive changes for the spring; all are continuing to work under the plans describing their fall placements. There are, however, a few EPPs that did not place student teachers in the fall who still need to submit their initial substantive change plan. We will bring those to the November VSBPE meeting for board review.

From the Education Quality Division: Ron Ryan, Education Programs Manager

Temporary licenses have been steady since the beginning of the school year. They have started slowing down now as most staff have been hired for the School Districts.

L/RSB: D. Giles has submitted 51/58 Grant Agreements for the 2020-2021 year to Finance. October reminders will be sent to Boards who have yet to submit an Annual Report and /or a Grant Application.

Board members (for membership lists received) were updated in ALiS for the upcoming year and verified with Board Chairs. Employment types still need to be reviewed and adjusted in ALiS.

2021 renewal lists will be sent to all Boards in the next month. The list is only as valid as an educator's employment history on that particular day.

Deb has been addressing questions and concerns from L/RSBs and educators mostly regarding 2020 renewals.

Out of the 5282 renewals that were sent electronically on January 7, 2020, the AOE has received approximately 3604 renewals as of October 15, 2020 and have approved approximately 3465 renewals as of October 16, 2020. The AOE received 2020 renewal applications up until October 15, 2020. Specialists continue to process payments and wait for completed Criminal Record Reports to request payments to complete the 2020 renewal cycle. All 2020 renewals received by October 15, 2020 will continue to be processed.

Current Work Queue per application type as of 10-16-2020: *Applications in the work queue are in various stages of processing from just received to waiting for payment from applicant.*

Application Type	Total
Initial	211
Reinstatement	16
Renewal	109
Retired	6
Temporary	69
1 Yr. Temporary – extenuating circumstance	2
Transcript Review – Initial	47
Transcript Review – Add endorsement	38
Peer Review - Initial	51
Peer Review – Add endorsement	14

PEER REVIEW

In an effort to support teachers during the pandemic, Peer Review has been offering 3-, 6-, and 12-month portfolio extensions on a case-by-case basis to candidates over the past several months. This will likely continue through the fall. Because of this, overall completer numbers have dropped for the 2019-2020 school year. The three-year average for Title II reportable completers is 66, where this year was 42. It is anticipated that most of candidates granted an extension will complete the program next spring or summer. Despite an increase in extensions, Peer Reports that working remotely has been beneficial for coordinating interviews and the training of panelists. Panelists have been overwhelmingly supportive and appreciative of the online format for training and panels. Being online has allowed for excellent focus on areas of concern that arise during interviews. This has generated a more rigorous interview process.

ROPA

- UVEI New Program Application - Upper Valley Educators Institute has current ROPA approval to recommend candidates for licensure as a Principal and Curriculum Director. They are seeking to add approval to recommend for the new Specialized Literacy Professional endorsement.
- UVM Computer Science - UVM's new Computer Science Education programs was approved by the VSBPE in May 2020 pending their completion of two stipulations. They have now completed those stipulations.