

**VSBE**

**Date: Oct. 14, 2021**

**Item: TAP's Request for Approval of Computer Science Endorsement**

**ITEM:** Shall the VSBE approve the Teacher Apprenticeship Program (TAP) request for approval to recommend candidates for the Computer Science Teacher endorsement?

**AGENCY RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**That the VSBE approve the Teacher Apprenticeship Program (TAP) request for approval to recommend candidates for the Computer Science Teacher endorsement.**

**BACKGROUND:** TAP is currently approved to recommend completers in 25 endorsements. It is an alternate program in which TAP faculty review applicants' transcripts to ensure they have met the content-focused endorsements and then teach them the pedagogy endorsements/Core Teaching Standards (CTS) during an internship.

**RATIONALE:** Since TAP would follow the same model used for their other approved programs, a ROPA review would not be necessary. The ROPA team would only need to review the evidence for preparing teachers to meet the CTS, which has already been approved.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:** Letter from TAP requesting approval.



**CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE**  
Teacher Apprenticeship Program

163 South Willard St  
P.O. Box 670  
Burlington, Vermont  
05402-0670  
[www.tapvt.org](http://www.tapvt.org)  
802-651-5844

September 24, 2021

Dear Members of the VSBPE,

We are writing to request approval to add the computer science endorsement to our list of approved programs. We are seeking this approval because we have been contacted by a local school that is interested in “growing their own” computer science educator. Their current teacher is provisionally licensed and would like to join a TAP cohort to pursue their professional teaching license.

We believe there is a limited pool of computer science educators in the state. There is currently only one approved preparation program for the computer science endorsement in the state of Vermont. UVM, is offered at the post-baccalaureate level. It is our hope that by adding this endorsement to our existing approved programs, we can better meet the needs of Vermont’s schools and educators while maintaining the strength of the TAP program.

Similar to all of our approved areas, we will review available content specific texts and seek mentors who can best support interns who are seeking a computer science endorsement either onsite or remotely, given the limited number of licensed computer science educators across the state.

Thank you for considering this request. We include here our [endorsement proficiency chart](#) that we would require for every computer science candidate for your review. Our candidates use Personalized Learning Plans (PLPs) to align and link their course work, life experiences, and 18 week internship to document their endorsement competencies (Knowledge and Performance Standards) across our 15 programs.

Sincerely,

Ellen Emery  
TAP Director, Champlain College  
802-651-5844