

AGENCY OF EDUCATION  
Montpelier, Vermont

**TEAM:** School Finance

**ITEM:** Will the State Board of Education grant renewal of tutorial approval to Mountainside House in Ludlow, VT, to serve a maximum of twelve male and female youth, 13-18 years of age, who are in need of crisis stabilization?

**SECRETARY'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**That the State Board of Education grants renewal of tutorial approval to Mountainside House in Ludlow, VT, to serve a maximum of twelve male and female youth, 13-18 years of age, who are in need of crisis stabilization. This approval is for a two-year term through June 30, 2024.**

**This approval is conditional on the requirement that the school reports to the Agency of Education within five business days whenever any changes occur in enrollment, programs, policies, facilities, financial capacity, staffing or administration during the approval period.**

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Title 16 V.S.A. § 828  
State Board Rules 2235

1. A tutorial program means that education is provided to a pupil placed in a short-term program that is not administered by a school district. The purpose of the program is to provide evaluation and/or treatment and to mitigate learning loss during the duration of a student's stay for assessment and placement in an appropriate program.
2. The average length of stay for students in a tutorial program is generally three to six months and that may be extended, by the Department for Children and Families, for up to nine or more months, depending upon treatment and placement considerations of each child.
3. Mountainside House has the capacity to serve twelve youth. It is the responsibility of the Department for Children and Families' (DCF) Residential Treatment Licensing Office to set the maximum number of youth that can be served. DCF temporarily reduced the capacity at Mountainside House from twelve beds to six beds, due to staffing shortages

and pandemic pressures. It is expected that the number of youth to be served will be adjusted by DCF as additional staff is employed.

4. Mountainside House is seeking renewal of its tutorial approval.
5. Mountainside House was last granted tutorial approval by the State Board on July 18, 2018, through June 30, 2020.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:** None

**STAFF AVAILABLE:**

Patrick Halladay, Director of Educator Quality Division

Cassandra Ryan, Director of Regulatory Compliance and Risk Management