

May 6, 2021

## Update to the Certification Matrix Review Process

Deans and Program Leaders,

Per the request at the meeting of the Deans and Program Leaders with the Commissioner on the afternoon of April 29<sup>th</sup>, matrices from approved educator preparation programs will no longer be required. Only Initial Program Approval will continue to require a matrix approval as noted in **5 CSR 20-400.440 (p. 26)** in the [Missouri Secretary of State: Code of State Regulations](http://mo.gov) (<http://mo.gov>).

For educator preparation programs who find the matrix review process helpful, we will continue the iterative review process with those programs. For those who no longer wish to submit matrices for review, this will no longer be a requirement. Current matrices will continue to be posted on the Educator Preparation webpage when submitted.

Educator preparation programs should note that there are requirements contained in rules **5 CSR 20-400.500 (pg. 27)** through **5 CSR 20-400.650 (pg. 52)** for each area of certification. These requirements are posted [here](#). A recommendation for certification by an approved educator preparation program indicates these requirements have been met by the candidate being recommended.

A candidate who has been recommended by an approved educator preparation program, has been awarded the appropriate degree, has cleared a fingerprint background check and has achieved a passing score on their content and performance assessment will be issued the appropriate certification.

Sincerely,



Paul Katnik, Assistant Commissioner  
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education