MEMORANDUM

TO: Deans/Directors of Teacher Preparation Programs
    School District Superintendents

FROM: Jacob Oliva

DATE: August 26, 2022

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 2524 – Call for Workgroup Members Relating to Educator Preparation Programs

Senate Bill 2524, signed by Governor DeSantis on June 2, 2022, revises the continued approval criteria for Initial Teacher Preparation and Educator Preparation Institute (EPI) programs. It also amends the initial approval process to include field experience hours for EPI programs. Below is the list of changes due to passage of this bill that will require stakeholder input.

- Adds candidate readiness based on passage rates on educator certification examinations under section (s) 1012.56, Florida Statutes (F.S.) as applicable.
- Adds evidence of workforce contributions, including placement of program completers in instructional positions in Florida public and private schools, with additional weight given to production of program completers in statewide critical teacher shortage areas as identified in s. 1012.07, F.S.
- Allows the State Board of Education to authorize continued program approval based on a review conducted by a nationally recognized accrediting entity. The rules must establish criteria (based on program size) for determining whether a program review is necessary, whether program quality should be aggregated and measured at the provider or institution level and outline the validity of whether program reviews may be conducted on a remote basis.
- Requires candidates entering an EPI program in the 2023-2024 school year to complete a minimum number of hours of preservice field experiences before serving as the teacher of record.

Contact Information:
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The Florida Department of Education is currently seeking individuals for a workgroup to review policy recommendations to address the above changes affected by the passage of Senate Bill 2524. Individuals selected to participate in this workgroup are encouraged to have at least one of the following qualifications:

- Have three years of experience working with Florida teacher preparation programs at a district or institutional level;
- Have at least one year of experience as an assessment or data coordinator; or
- Have participated in at least two site visits for continued approval of teacher preparation programs at the state level since 2017.

Workgroup meeting participation will be on a hybrid basis with some meetings occurring in person and other meetings conducted remotely. Participation will be ongoing, and participants must be available for multiple meetings. Travel reimbursement will be paid.

Individuals seeking to participate in this workgroup must email their interest including a resume with above qualifications to EdPrepFolio@fldoe.org by September 9, 2022.

If you have additional questions, please contact Dr. Jesse Jackson, Senior Program Director for Educator Preparation at Jesse.Jackson@fldoe.org.

JO/jj