

TITLE 92 - NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
CHAPTER 20 - APPROVAL OF TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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001 General Information.

001.01 Statutory Authority. This chapter is adopted pursuant to Section 79-318 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska (R.R.S.).

001.02 Scope and Application. This chapter provides procedures for the approval of teacher education programs conducted in Nebraska postsecondary educational institutions designed for the purpose of certifying certifying teachers and administrators and other professional school personnel requiring certification.

001.03 Related Regulations. Throughout this chapter reference is made to other Department of Education regulations relating to teachers and administrators. Procedures for the issuance of certificates to teach, counsel, or supervise in Nebraska schools are contained in Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code (NAC), Chapter 21. 92 NAC 23 contains regulations concerning the basic skills competence testing of teachers. 92 NAC 24 contains regulations regarding the issuance of endorsements on teaching, administrative, or special services certificates in Nebraska. 92 NAC 27 contains regulations and standards for professional practices criteria. Copies of these regulations are available from the Department at <http://www.education.ne.gov/LEGAL/index.html>.

001.04 Implementation Date. The implementation date of this chapter will be August 1, 2014 2008, or the effective date of approval, whichever is later. CollegesInstitutions must meet these requirements after this date. Prior to that implementation date, the provisions of this chapter, as approved with an effective date of March 6, 2002 January 19, 2008, shall remain in effect.

002 Definition of Terms. As used in this chapter:

002.01 Academic year shall mean the school year which consists of two (2) regular consecutive semesters that occur from fall through spring.

002.02 Advanced program shall mean a program at the postbaccalaureate level for (a) educators who have previously completed initial preparation or (b) the preparation of other school professionals.

002.0203 Board shall mean the Nebraska State Board of Education.

002.04 Candidate shall mean an individual admitted to, or enrolled in, a program for the initial or advanced preparation of educators, or educators continuing their professional development.

002.0305 Certificate shall mean a teaching, administrative, or special services certificate issued by the Department pursuant to 92 NAC 21.

002.06 Clinical practice shall mean culminating supervised experiences which provide candidates with opportunities to demonstrate competence in the professional roles for which they are preparing, which includes student teaching and internships.

002.0407 Commissioner shall mean the Nebraska State Commissioner of Education.

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~~002.05 Comparable and equivalent certificate shall mean a certificate issued by another state, or by the U. S. Department of Defense K-12 school system or a foreign country, pursuant to standards comparable and equivalent to those in 92 NAC 21.~~

002.08 Content test shall mean a Praxis or School Leadership Series test published by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) of Princeton, NJ.

002.09 Cooperating educator shall mean an educator employed in a setting utilized for a clinical experience who has the appropriate certification and experiences to perform responsibilities for observation, coaching, mentoring, and/or evaluation of a candidate.

002.10 Coursework shall mean experiences required to complete the preparation program and may include class instruction, field experiences, or other required activities.

002.0611 Credit hour shall mean the equivalent of fifteen (15) instructional class periods of fifty (50) minutes or more.

002.0712 Department shall mean the Nebraska State Department of Education, which is comprised of the Board and the Commissioner.

002.13 Diversity shall mean differences among groups of people and individuals based on ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status, gender, exceptionalities, language, religion, sexual orientation, and/or geographical areas.

~~002.08 Education students shall mean individuals who have elected to pursue programs for the preparation and continuing education of teachers or other professional school personnel. They include those students who seek initial certification or licensure, major in education, and/or are in advanced professional education programs.~~

002.14 Educator shall mean a holder of a teaching, administrative or special services certificate.

002.15 Educator certificate shall mean a certificate issued pursuant to standards comparable and equivalent to those in 92 NAC 21.

002.0916 Endorsement shall mean an area of specialization indicated on a certificate issued pursuant to 92 NAC 21 signifying that the individual has met specific content preparation requirements contained in 92 NAC 24.

~~002.10 Exceptional Expertise for faculty without terminal degrees shall mean: documentation of P-12 experience and enrollment in a program of study leading to a terminal degree.~~

~~002.10A Exceptional Expertise for faculty with terminal degrees shall mean: documentation of P-12 experience, or experience in teaching in a professional teacher education program including responsibility for teaching methods classes for the content area, or expertise/experience in the teacher education program's priorities such as diversity, scholarship, assessment, and/or technology.~~

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002.17 Faculty shall mean all professional education faculty, including adjunct faculty and graduate students, employed by a standard institution of higher education who teach one or more courses in professional education and/or supervise field experiences.

002.1418 Field-based experiences shall mean ongoing experiences in which education students an opportunity for candidates to observe, assist, tutor, instruct, and/or conduct research to develop professional education knowledge, skills, and dispositions. Field experiences include practicum and clinical practice requirements. Field experiences are designed and implemented through collaboration with school partners and faculty and occur in either on or off-campus settings such as schools, community centers, human services agencies, or clinics school systems or other settings serving students.

002.19 Initial program shall mean a program at the baccalaureate or postbaccalaureate level that prepares candidates for their first license to teach. They include five-year programs, master's programs, and other postbaccalaureate and alternate route programs that prepare individuals for their first license in teaching.

002.1220 Internship shall mean an experience supervised by an individual who holds a certificate in the field in which the candidate is preparing to work. The internship provides opportunities to practice and demonstrate the knowledge and skills of the specialization area in a setting that is similar to the setting in which the candidate intends to work. Internship differs from student teaching in that it is only applicable to graduate-level endorsements, a clinical practice in which candidates practice and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions required for advanced programs.

002.13 Mentor shall mean a certificated teacher or administrator who has demonstrated the competencies necessary for successful teaching or administration and is selected to assist newly-certified persons toward mastery of those competencies.

002.1421 Practicum shall mean an extensive experience in which education students practice professional skills and knowledge. Both student teaching and internships are examples of a practicum, a field experience completed prior to a culminating supervised clinical practice.

002.22 Professional dispositions shall mean candidate attitudes, values, and beliefs demonstrated in interactions with students, families, educators, and communities consistent with ethical performance criteria contained in 92 NAC 27.

002.1523 Professional Education coursework shall mean those courses which include foundations of education, methods and materials of teaching, supervised experiences, and student teaching or internship designed to provide the competencies required in the education profession coursework, including field experience, designed to develop educator competencies including, but not limited to, student development, learning differences, learning environments, content knowledge and its application, assessment, planning for instruction, instructional strategies, collaboration, and ethical practice.

002.16 Professional Education faculty shall mean all higher education and school-based faculty who teach one or more courses in professional education and/or supervise field-based experiences, student teaching and/or internships.

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002.4724 Professional teacher Education program or unit shall mean the school, college, department or other administrative body within the institution that is primarily responsible for the preparation of teachers, administrators, and other professional education school personnel. ~~Not all of the programs for the preparation of school personnel need to be administratively located within the unit. However all professional education programs are organized, unified, and coordinated by the unit.~~

002.4825 Regional Accreditation shall mean a voluntary process by which one (1) of several accrediting bodies, each serving one (1) of six (6) defined geographic areas of the country, accredits PK-12 schools, colleges, and universities. Nebraska institutions are served by the North Central Association, of Colleges and Schools Higher Learning Commission.

002.26 School partner shall mean school systems and other education programs that collaborate with the teacher education program in designing, developing, and implementing field experiences, delivery of instruction, and research.

002.27 School system shall mean an institution that is accredited or approved by the Department to provide instruction at any level PK-Grade 12, including an educational service unit accredited by the Department.

002.4928 Special Authorization shall mean a process by which Department approval ~~from the Commissioner and the State Board~~ can be granted for a Standard Institution of Higher Education to offer a pilot endorsement program ~~to address an unmet need.~~

002.2029 Standard Institution of Higher Education or Institution shall mean any college or university whose ~~educator preparation teacher education~~ programs are fully approved by the Board or by a comparable agency in any other state or country.

002.2430 Student teaching shall mean a ~~full-time, supervised teaching experience conducted in a school setting. It shall provide supervised opportunities to practice and demonstrate over a continuous, extended time period the unique knowledge and skills of teaching in the specific endorsement area(s)~~ clinical practice in a school system which provides initial preparation candidates with a culminating supervised experience to demonstrate competence in the professional roles for which they are preparing.

002.31 Teacher education program shall mean the system of procedures, coursework and activities in a college, school, or department of an approved standard institution of higher education which result in the initial or advanced preparation of teachers, administrators, and other school professionals.

002.32 Terminal degree shall mean the highest degree available in a specific field of preparation or recognized by the profession.

003 Requirements for Teacher Education Program Approval

003.01 Original Teacher Education Program Approval

003.01A Applications for Original Approval Letter of Application and Institutional Planning Report. Any Nebraska institution of higher education may apply for approval of

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its teacher, ~~administrator, or special services~~ preparation programs ~~and approval of its endorsement programs~~ by submitting ~~an application for approval~~ a letter of intent to seek approval and an Institutional Planning Report (IPR) signed by the chief academic officer of the institution on behalf of the governing board of the institution. ~~The application for approval~~ These documents must be received by the Commissioner on or before January ~~31~~15 of the calendar year in which the institution seeks to begin the approval process.

~~003.01 Application and Institution Planning Report. The application must include five (5) copies of the Institution Planning Report. The Institution Planning Report may include charts, graphs, diagrams, tables, and other similar means of presenting information, but each must be accompanied by a supporting narrative. The Institution Planning Report shall include:~~

~~003.01~~AB Governing Board Approval. The ~~Report~~ IPR shall include documentation that the governing board of the institution has approved the plans and a time table whereby the institution will meet each of the requirements to become a Standard Institution of Higher Education within four (4) years.

~~003.01~~BC Chapter 20 Compliance. The ~~Report~~ IPR shall include the procedures and time table for compliance with the ~~numbered~~ requirements in Sections ~~005004~~ through ~~006007~~ of this ~~C~~hapter.

~~003.01~~CD Collaboration and Support of K-12 Schools School Systems. The ~~Report~~ IPR shall contain statements of support from ~~approved or accredited public or private K-12 schools school systems~~ documenting their collaboration and assistance in planning to provide field ~~based and student teaching placements~~ experiences which meet the requirements of 92 NAC 20 and 92 NAC 24.

~~003.01~~DE The ~~Report~~ IPR shall contain documentation that the institution is regionally accredited.

003.02 Initial Provisional Approval

~~003.02~~A The Commissioner, after receiving the institution's request to begin the process of becoming a Standard Institution of Higher Education, shall appoint a team to visit ~~the campus of~~ the institution and report on the institution's ability to comply with the provisions of this chapter.

~~003.02A~~1 The team shall ~~respond with a scheduled~~ schedule a visit to the institution within ~~ninety (90)~~ sixty (60) days after receiving the ~~Institution Planning Report~~ IPR.

~~003.02~~BA2 The team shall file a recommendation with the Commissioner within sixty (60) days after the scheduled visit to the institution.

~~003.02~~CA3 Following a review of the institutional visit report, the Commissioner shall file a recommendation with the Board regarding the application and shall notify the institution of the recommendations. Notification shall be sent by certified mail to the chief academic officer of the institution. The institution shall have thirty (30) days after receipt of the recommendation to request an opportunity for a hearing before the Board as provided in Section 008 of this chapter.

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~~003.032A4 Provisional Approval.~~ Following a review of the Commissioner's recommendation, and after giving the institution an opportunity for a hearing, if requested, the Board shall either approve or deny the institution's implementation of the plan under Provisional Approval. Provisional Approval permits the institution to phase in a teacher education program, excluding student teaching clinical practice, over a period of time not to exceed three (3) years. ~~By March 1 of each year of the Provisional Approval Phase the institution shall file five (5) copies of the Provisional Approval Report with the Commissioner.~~

003.03 Continuing Provisional Approval

003.03A Provisional Approval Report. ~~By March 1 of each year during provisional approval the institution shall file T~~the Provisional Approval Report with the Commissioner which includes shall include:

003.03A1 Documentation that written notification has been made to all students candidates taking education courses that the institution has provisional approval, but is not yet approved for recommending certification.

003.03A2 Statements of continuing participation by the K-12 schools school systems in which the institution is placing college students candidates for field-based experiences.

003.03A3 Documentation of the degree to which the institution is in compliance with all applicable sections of 92 NAC 20, excluding Student Teaching clinical practice; 92 NAC 23; and 92 NAC 24. The Provisional Approval Reports shall indicate how, in each succeeding year, the institution attains greater compliance, until the last report indicates is progressing toward total compliance, excluding student teaching clinical practice.

003.03B The Department Commissioner may respond each year with a scheduled visit by a team or staff, to the institution within ~~ninety (90)~~ sixty (60) days after receiving the Provisional Approval Report.

003.03C The team or staff conducting such a visit shall file a recommendation with the Commissioner within ~~sixty (60)~~ thirty (30) days after a scheduled visit.

003.03D Following a review of the report, the Commissioner shall file a recommendation with the Board regarding the application and shall notify the institution of the recommendations. Notification shall be sent by certified mail to the chief academic officer of the institution. The institution shall have thirty (30) days after receipt of the recommendation to request an opportunity for a hearing before the Board as provided in Section 008 of this chapter.

003.03E Following a review of the Commissioner's recommendation, and after giving the institution an opportunity for a hearing, if requested, the Board shall either approve or deny continuation of ~~the approval process~~ provisional or recommend temporary approval.

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003.04 Temporary Approval to Offer a Teacher Education Program. If the Commissioner recommends and the Board concurs, the institution may be granted a one (1) year ~~Temporary Approval~~. Temporary ~~Approval~~ allows the institution to place ~~student teachers candidates~~ and to recommend graduates of the program to the Department for certification. Temporary approval may be renewed on a yearly basis for a maximum of three (3) years, using the process found in Sections 003.04A through 003.04F of this chapter for each of these years.

~~003.04A Temporary Approval may be renewed on a yearly basis for a maximum of three (3) years, using the process found in 003.04B to E for each of these years.~~

003.04BA By March 1 of each year in which the institution is operating with temporary approval, the institution shall file ~~five (5) copies of~~ a Temporary Approval Report with the Commissioner. The Temporary Approval Report shall document complete compliance with all applicable sections of 92 NAC 20, 92 NAC 23, and 92 NAC 24.

~~003.04B1 The Temporary Approval Report shall document complete compliance with all applicable sections of 92 NAC 20, 92 NAC 23, and 92 NAC 24.~~

003.04CB The ~~Department Commissioner~~ may respond with a scheduled visit by a team or staff, to the institution within ~~ninety (90)~~ sixty (60) days after receiving the Temporary Approval Report.

003.04DC The team or staff conducting such a visit shall file a recommendation with the Commissioner within ~~sixty (60)~~ thirty (30) days after the scheduled visit.

003.04ED Following a review of the report, the Commissioner shall file a recommendation with the Board regarding the application and shall notify the institution of the recommendations. Notification shall be sent by certified mail to the chief academic officer of the institution. The institution shall have thirty (30) days after receipt of the recommendation to request an opportunity for a hearing before the Board as provided in Section 008 of this chapter.

003.04FE Following a review of the Commissioner's recommendation, and after giving the institution an opportunity for a hearing, if requested, the Board shall exercise one of the following options: (~~4a~~) approve the institution as a ~~S~~standard ~~I~~institution of ~~H~~higher ~~E~~education, (~~2b~~) grant it temporary approval for another year, or (~~3c~~) deny the institution further status as a teacher education program.

003.054F Once the Board has approved the institution as a ~~S~~standard ~~I~~institution of ~~H~~higher ~~E~~education, the institution is subject to the provisions in Section ~~004003.05~~ 003.05 of this chapter.

~~003.06 If the Commissioner recommends denial of further status as a teacher education program, the hearing procedures in section 008.06 shall be used.~~

003.05 Continuing Approval of a Teacher Education Program. Continuing approval shall be for the period of August 1 through July 31 of the next year and shall be conditional upon the institution's compliance with the requirements in Sections 003 through 007 of this chapter.

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The institution's failure to meet a numbered regulation shall be considered a violation and will be subject to the provisions of Section 003.05C of this chapter.

003.05A Annual Board Approval. The institution shall submit the information requested in Sections 003.05A1 through 003.05A4 of this chapter by May 15 of each year. Recommended forms may be found on the NDE Teacher Education website.

003.05A1 Endorsements Offered. A written list of endorsements to be offered for the period of approval. For each endorsement, the institution must provide the Commissioner with a current list of required courses which also specifies alignment of the courses to the requirements in 92 NAC 24.

003.05A2 Program Outcomes. Information regarding program admission, program completion, graduate follow-up, and program changes made or planned in response to candidate or graduate performance, or changes made or planned in response to the needs of school systems.

003.05A3 Assurance of Compliance. The chief academic officer or designee for the institution shall indicate compliance or noncompliance status with the numbered provisions of 92 NAC 20.

003.05A4 Correction of Areas of Noncompliance. For any area of noncompliance identified in Section 003.05A3 of this chapter, a plan for correction must be provided. In addition, the annual report shall contain documentation of resolution/status of any areas of noncompliance reported in the previous annual report to the Board.

003.05B State Program Review. At least once every seven (7) years, the Commissioner shall conduct a full review of the teacher education program to determine compliance with all applicable provisions of 92 NAC 20 and 92 NAC 24. The review includes both an offsite and an onsite component.

003.05B1 The state program review shall be conducted by a state team, appointed by the Commissioner, which includes representation from the Nebraska Council on Teacher Education (NCTE), persons with content knowledge in the endorsement areas offered by the teacher education program, and Department staff.

003.05B2 For institutions participating in a national accreditation review of education preparation programs, the state program review shall be conducted to coordinate with the national accreditation process.

003.05B3 Offsite Review

003.05B3a Institutional Report. Qualitative and quantitative information regarding compliance with the requirements of Sections 004 through 007 of this chapter shall be submitted on a schedule established by the Commissioner. Recommended forms may be found on the NDE Teacher Education website.

003.05B3b Endorsement Program Folios. Information regarding each endorsement program offered by the institution shall be submitted on a schedule

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established by the Commissioner. Recommended forms may be found on the NDE Teacher Education website. Folio information will include:

003.05B3b1 Documentation of compliance with the endorsement requirements in 92 NAC 24.

003.05B3b2 Quantitative and qualitative candidate assessment and performance information.

003.05B3b3 Changes made in response to data regarding candidate or graduate performance and/or in response to the needs of school systems.

003.05B4 Onsite Review. An onsite review shall be conducted to validate information submitted by the institution in response to Section 003.05B3 of this chapter or to acquire additional information to determine compliance with the provisions of 92 NAC 20 and 92 NAC 24.

003.05B5 Results of the state program review shall be reported to the Board during the annual approval meeting.

003.05C Correction of Areas of Noncompliance. The institution shall have until May 1 of the year following the Board's annual approval decision to correct areas of noncompliance identified in Section 003.05 of this chapter.

003.05C1 Approval on Probation. The Commissioner may recommend to the Board approval on probation for an institution with uncorrected areas of noncompliance on May 1 of the first year following the Board's annual approval decision.

003.05C2 Denial of Approval. The Commissioner may recommend to the Board denial of approval for an institution with uncorrected areas of noncompliance on May 1 of the year following designation of approval on probation.

003.05C3 Notification and Appeal. The Commissioner shall notify the chief academic officer of the institution of a recommendation for probation or denial of approval in writing by certified mail. The institution shall have thirty (30) days after receipt of the recommendation to request an opportunity for a hearing as provided in Section 008 of this chapter.

003.06 Special Endorsement Authorization. A Nebraska standard institution of higher education may apply for approval of a special authorization to offer an endorsement program that is not included in 92 NAC 24.

003.06A Application for Approval. An application must be received by the Commissioner on or before January 15 of the calendar year in which the institution seeks to begin the new endorsement program.

003.06A1 The application must include justification of interest and need for the proposed new endorsement program, educator competencies appropriate for the proposed new endorsement program, a list of the required courses that will address

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the competencies and accompanying syllabi, and the timetable for candidates' completion of the proposed new endorsement program.

003.06A2 The application shall contain statements of support from school systems documenting their collaboration and assistance in planning to provide field experience placements which meet the requirements of 92 NAC 20 and 92 NAC 24.

003.06A3 Within thirty (30) days from receipt of the application, the Commissioner shall assign a team to assess the information provided in the application, which may include a visit to the institution. The team will include members representing the Nebraska Council on Teacher Education (NCTE) and persons with content knowledge in the proposed endorsement area.

003.06A4 The team shall file a recommendation with the Commissioner for denial of the application or provisional approval.

003.06A5 The Commissioner shall provide written notification by certified mail of the decision to the chief academic officer of the institution by May 1. The institution shall have thirty (30) days after receipt of the notification to request a meeting with the Commissioner if the decision is to deny approval. Following the meeting, the Commissioner shall inform the institution in writing if the decision to deny is upheld.

003.06B Provisional Approval of a Special Endorsement Authorization.

003.06B1 Following provisional approval by the Commissioner, the institution may phase in the new endorsement program over a period of time not to exceed three (3) years, excluding clinical practice.

003.06B2 By March 1 of each year following provisional approval, the institution shall file a written progress report on the program with the Commissioner which shall include:

003.06B2a Enrollment data and documentation of written notification to the candidates that the institution has provisional approval, including candidate recourse if the program is eliminated;

003.06B2b Statements of continuing participation from school systems for placement of candidates for field experiences; and

003.06B2c Reaffirmation or updated information regarding elements in Sections 003.06A1 and 003.06A2 of this chapter.

003.06B3 The review team identified in Section 003.06A3 of this chapter shall review the progress report which may include an onsite visit, and file a recommendation of denial, continued provisional approval, or temporary approval with the Commissioner within thirty (30) days following the review.

003.06B4 The Commissioner shall provide written notification by certified mail of the decision to the chief academic officer of the institution by May 1. The institution shall have thirty (30) days after receipt of the notification to request a meeting with the Commissioner if the decision is to deny approval. Following the meeting, the

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Commissioner shall inform the institution in writing if the subsequent decision to deny is upheld.

003.06C Temporary Approval of a Special Endorsement Authorization.

003.06C1 Following temporary approval by the Commissioner, the endorsement program may place candidates and recommend graduates of the program for certification by the Department.

003.06C2 By March 1 of each year following temporary approval, the institution shall file a written progress report on the program with the Commissioner which shall include:

003.06C2a Enrollment data and documentation of written notification to the candidates that the institution has temporary approval, including candidate recourse if the program is eliminated;

003.06C2b Statements of continuing participation from school systems for placement of candidates for field experiences; and

003.06C2c Reaffirmation or updated information regarding elements in Sections 003.06A1 and 003.06A2 of this chapter.

003.06C3 The review team identified in Section 003.06A3 of this chapter will review the progress report which may include an onsite visit, and file a recommendation with the Commissioner to (a) continue temporary approval until the endorsement is placed in 92 NAC 24, (b) return to provisional status, or (c) deny any further approval.

003.06C4 By May 1, the Commissioner shall consider the team's recommendation and provide written notification by certified mail to the chief academic officer of the institution of the decision to (a) renew temporary approval for a period not to exceed three (3) years, (b) return the endorsement to provisional status, (c) deny further approval and the reasons for the decision, or (d) recommend the special authorization be moved forward for inclusion in 92 NAC 24.

003.06C5 The institution shall have thirty (30) days after receipt of the notification to request a meeting with the Commissioner if the decision is to deny approval. Following the meeting, the Commissioner shall inform the institution in writing if the subsequent decision to deny is upheld.

004 Professional Teacher Education Program Requirements.

004.01 General Policy Statements. The institution shall have a written policy stating its philosophy and objectives and which delineates its goals and commitment to the preparation of educators. Not all of the programs for the preparation of school personnel need to be administratively located within the unit; however all professional education programs are organized and coordinated by the unit.

004.02 Personnel Requirements.

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004.02A Unit Administrator. The institution shall designate an individual to administer the professional teacher education program or unit. This individual shall hold, qualify for, or have held an educator certificate.

004.02B Certification Officer. The institution shall designate a faculty or staff member to receive correspondence regarding this chapter and to oversee the submission of certified records, transcripts, reports, and/or recommendations to the Department for the purpose of certification and/or endorsement.

004.02C Field Experience Coordinator. The institution shall designate a faculty or staff member to coordinate field experience requirements contained in this chapter.

004.02D Cooperating Educators. The institution shall ensure that cooperating educators employed by school systems or other field-based settings shall have a minimum of three (3) years of education employment experience and hold an appropriate certificate with an endorsement in the area or level they are supervising.

004.03 Professional Teacher Education Program Faculty Requirements.

004.03A Minimum Required Faculty

004.03A1 Undergraduate faculty. There shall be a minimum of three (3) full-time professional education faculty.

004.03A2 Graduate faculty. Each advanced degree program leading to the doctorate has at least three (3) full-time professional education faculty members who have earned the doctorate in the field of specialization for which the degree is offered.

004.03B Faculty Qualifications

004.03B1 All professional education faculty shall hold a master's degree.

004.03B2 The preparation, research, and experience of each faculty member shall be in the field in which he or she teaches.

004.03B3 All professional education faculty, hired after July 1, 1994, shall have two (2) years of PK-12 teaching experience in state approved or accredited elementary or secondary schools or similarly constituted and governed schools in a state where non-public schools are not recognized by the state.

Faculty who do not possess two (2) years of PK-12 teaching experience must meet the exceptional expertise requirement defined as documented scholarship, skill, or experience in the priorities of the teacher education program such as content specialization, diversity, assessment or technology.

004.03B4 At least one-third of the full-time undergraduate faculty shall hold a terminal degree.

004.03B5 At least one-half of full-time graduate faculty shall hold a terminal degree.

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004.03B6 All faculty in programs which grant the sixth year specialist's certificate or doctorate degree shall hold the doctorate and have two (2) years of teaching or school administration experience.

004.03B7 Adjunct faculty utilized for clinical experience supervision must hold or have held appropriate certification for the area and/or level which they are supervising.

004.03C Faculty Load

004.03C1 For undergraduate faculty, assignments for teaching, supervision of clinical experience, and administration shall not exceed twenty-four (24) credit hours within the same academic year for a full-time equivalent undergraduate faculty member except as provided in Section 004.03C3 of this chapter.

004.03C2 For graduate faculty, assignments for teaching, supervision of clinical experience, and administration shall not exceed eighteen (18) credit hours within the same academic year for a full-time equivalent graduate faculty member with the exception stated in Section 004.03C3 of this chapter.

004.03C3 For faculty teaching a combination of undergraduate and graduate assignments, the load may be a proration of nine (9) and twelve (12) credit hours, with total hours assigned within the same academic year not to exceed twenty-one (21) hours.

004.03C4 Supervision of clinical experiences shall not exceed a ratio of eighteen (18) full-time equivalent candidates to one (1) full-time equivalent faculty member within one (1) semester.

004.03C5 Advising for advanced program candidates shall be assigned to advanced program faculty.

004.04 Minimum Endorsement Offering Requirements. The institution shall offer courses for a minimum of eight (8) approved subject and/or field endorsements contained in 92 NAC 24 and have on file a plan of study which documents that required courses are offered on a schedule to enable candidates access to the coursework in a four (4) year period.

004.05 Library Requirements. Library holdings, curriculum materials, and related technology resources shall provide adequate scope, breadth, and currency to support education candidates and faculty. The institution shall employ staff to work collaboratively with the unit to acquire relevant and current resources and to provide support services for material utilization.

004.06 Policies for Program Admission, Progression, and Completion. The institution must have on file, and systematically communicate to all candidates, specific requirements regarding candidate admission, progression, and completion of the teacher education program, including:

004.06A Disclosure. The institution shall require the prospective candidate to disclose all criminal convictions, except traffic offenses.

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004.06B Notice Regarding Convictions. The institution shall inform all persons who apply for admission to its program that persons who have felony convictions, or misdemeanor convictions involving abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct, as defined in Section 004.06D of this chapter, are automatically rejected by the Department for certification, and may only be considered for certification, or participation in field experiences, with the approval of the Department. A person with a conviction as defined in Section 004.06D of this chapter may request approval by the Department using the procedures set forth in 92 NAC 21 Sections 009.02 through 009.04.

004.06C Criminal Background Check. The institution shall conduct or verify an official criminal background check on candidates prior to admission to an initial teacher education program and again prior to clinical practice.

004.06D Convictions

004.06D1 For purposes of this chapter, a felony conviction means any felony offense under the laws of any jurisdiction, including misdemeanor convictions in other jurisdictions that would constitute a felony if committed in Nebraska.

004.06D2 For purposes of this chapter, a misdemeanor conviction involving abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct means an offense under the laws of any jurisdiction, which, if committed in Nebraska, would constitute one of the following misdemeanors (with the applicable sections of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska in parentheses):

- 004.06D2a Assault (third degree) (28-310)
- 004.06D2b Child Enticement (28-311)
- 004.06D2c Stalking (28-311.03)
- 004.06D2d Hazing (28-311.06)
- 004.06D2e Unlawful Intrusion (28-311.08)
- 004.06D2f Violating a Harassment Protection Order (28-311.09)
- 004.06D2g False Imprisonment (28-315)
- 004.06D2h Sexual Assault (third degree) (28-320)
- 004.06D2i Domestic Assault (28-323)
- 004.06D2j Child/Vulnerable Adult Contact with Methamphetamine (28-457)
- 004.06D2k Abandonment of Spouse or Child (28-705)
- 004.06D2l Child Abuse (28-707)
- 004.06D2m Contributing to the Delinquency of a Child (28-709)
- 004.06D2n Prostitution (28-801)
- 004.06D2o Keeping a Place of Prostitution (28-804)
- 004.06D2p Debauching a Minor (28-805)
- 004.06D2q Public Indecency (28-806)
- 004.06D2r Sale of Obscene Material to Minor (28-808)
- 004.06D2s Obscene Motion Picture Show, Admitting Minor (28-809)
- 004.06D2t Obscene Literature Distribution (28-813)
- 004.06D2u Sexually Explicit Conduct (28-813.01)
- 004.06D2v Resisting Arrest (28-904(1)(a)), when the conviction involves use or threat of physical force or violence against a police officer
- 004.06D2w Indecency with an Animal (28-1010)
- 004.06D2x Intimidation by Phone Call (28-1310)

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004.06D2y Violating a Protection Order (42-924(4))

004.06D3 For purposes of this chapter, in addition to the offenses listed above, felony convictions, and misdemeanor convictions involving abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct shall also include convictions related to such crimes, including: (with the applicable sections of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska in parentheses)

004.06D3a Attempt to Commit A Crime (28-201)

004.06D3b Criminal Conspiracy (28-202)

004.06D3c Accessory to a Felony (28-204)

004.06D3d Aiding, Abetting, Procuring, or Causing Another to Commit an Offense (28-206)

004.06D4 Convictions which have been set aside, nullified, expunged, or pardoned shall not be considered convictions for purposes of this chapter, unless the laws of the jurisdiction of the conviction would allow the conviction to be used as the basis for denial of permission to teach or participate in classroom or field experiences, or for denial of a certificate to teach, counsel, supervise, administer, or provide special services in schools. However, such convictions shall be listed by the candidate as required in Section 004.06A of this chapter.

004.06E Grade Point Average.

004.06E1 Candidates must hold a cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent for admission to a teacher education program.

004.06E2 Candidates for admission to clinical practice must hold a cumulative GPA of at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent.

004.06F Basic Skills Test. Prior to admission to a teacher education program, the candidate must have achieved a satisfactory score on an examination as specified in 92 NAC 23.

004.06G Application. Candidates for admission to a teacher education program shall complete an application process which includes consideration of components identified in Section 004.06 of this chapter and other institution-determined criteria for selection, such as recommendations from professional educators, interviews, or essays.

004.06H Performance Assessments. The institution must identify the performance standards and assessments for successful progression and completion of the education programs offered by the unit.

005 Initial Program Coursework Requirements.

005.01 General Education Coursework. The institution shall require that all undergraduate candidates meet the institution's general education course requirements. These courses may also be used to meet endorsement requirements. General education course requirements are established by the institution for all students.

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005.02 Professional Education Coursework. At least one-sixth of the total credit hour requirement established by the institution for the completion of a degree shall be professional education coursework which may include practicum experiences, but shall not include clinical experiences.

The institution shall identify required coursework leading to candidate development and competency demonstration in the following areas:

005.02A Student Development. The candidate understands how students grow and develop, recognizing that patterns of learning and development vary individually within and across the cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and physical areas, and designs and implements developmentally appropriate and challenging learning experiences.

005.02B Learning Differences. The candidate uses understanding of individual differences and diverse cultures and communities to ensure inclusive learning environments that enable each student to meet high standards.

005.02C Learning Environments. The candidate works with others to create environments that support individual and collaborative learning, and that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.

005.02D Content Knowledge. The candidate understands the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline(s) he or she teaches and creates learning experiences that make these aspects of the discipline accessible and meaningful for students to assure mastery of the content, including the ability to integrate the Nebraska Content Standards (92 NAC 10 Appendices A-D) into instruction.

005.02E Application of Content. The candidate understands how to connect concepts and use differing perspectives to engage students in critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative problem solving related to authentic local and global issues.

005.02F Assessment. The candidate understands and uses multiple methods of assessment to engage students in their own growth, to monitor student progress, and to guide the candidate's and student's decision making.

005.02G Planning for Instruction. The candidate plans instruction that supports every student in meeting rigorous learning goals by drawing upon knowledge of content areas, curriculum, cross-disciplinary skills, technology, and pedagogy, as well as knowledge of the student and the community context.

005.02H Instructional Strategies. The candidate understands and uses a variety of instructional strategies to encourage students to develop deep understanding of content areas and their connections, build reading and writing skills, and to apply knowledge in meaningful ways. This includes developing competency for utilizing technology for instruction, assessment, and communication.

005.02I Professional Learning and Ethical Practice. The candidate engages in ongoing professional learning, models ethical professional practice, and uses evidence to continually evaluate his/her practice, particularly the effects of his/her choices and

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actions on others (students, families, other professionals, and the community), and adapts practice to meet the needs of each student.

005.02J Leadership and Collaboration. The candidate seeks opportunities to take responsibility for student learning, to collaborate with students, families, colleagues, other school professionals, and community members to ensure student growth, and to advance the profession.

005.02K Human Relations. The institution shall offer training integrated into a required course or combination of required courses which shall be designed to lead to the following skills as enumerated in Section 79-807(6) R.R.S.:

005.02K1 An awareness and understanding of the values, lifestyles, contributions, and history of a pluralistic society;

005.02K2 The ability to recognize and deal with dehumanizing biases, including, but not limited to, sexism, racism, prejudice, and discrimination, and an awareness of the impact such biases have on interpersonal relations;

005.02K3 The ability to translate knowledge of human relations into attitudes, skills, and techniques which result in favorable experiences for students;

005.02K4 The ability to recognize the ways in which dehumanizing biases may be reflected in instructional materials;

005.02K5 Respect for human dignity and individual rights; and

005.02K6 The ability to relate effectively to other individuals and to groups in a pluralistic society other than the applicant's own.

005.02L Special Education. The institution will require one (1) or more courses which provide candidates with systematic and continuing opportunities to develop knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions for teaching students with disabilities, including the areas enumerated by Section 79-807(7) R.R.S.:

005.02L1 Knowledge of the exceptional educational needs of the disabilities defined by Section 79-1118.01 R.R.S.;

005.02L2 Knowledge of the major characteristics of each disability defined by Section 79-1118.01 R.R.S. in order to recognize its existence in children;

005.02L3 Knowledge of various alternatives for providing the least restrictive environment for children with disabilities;

005.02L4 Knowledge of methods of teaching children with disabilities in the regular classroom; and

005.02L5 Knowledge of prereferral alternatives, referral systems, multidisciplinary team responsibilities, the individualized education plan process, and the placement process.

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005.03 Field Experience Coursework. The institution shall require practicum and clinical experiences that provide candidates opportunities to work with students and school partners to develop knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions. When viewed as a whole, field experiences are central to candidate preparation and shall provide opportunities to work with diverse students which may include, but is not limited to, differences based on ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status, gender, exceptionalities, and language.

005.03A Initial Program Field Experience. These experiences shall range from candidate interaction with students to assuming responsibility for instructional planning and implementation, and assessment of student learning.

005.03A1 Practicum experience consists of a minimum of one hundred (100) clock hours of contact with students. Field-based practicum experiences are completed prior to clinical practice and provide opportunities for candidates to observe, assist, tutor, instruct, or conduct research. Practicum experiences may occur in settings such as school systems, or other settings serving students.

005.03A2 Clinical Practice. The institution shall require a clinical practice experience for initial teacher certification in which candidates demonstrate knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions by assuming responsibility for whole class instruction in the area of the endorsement and within the grade level for which they are preparing.

005.03A2a The institution shall have a clear statement of policies and procedures relating to clinical practice which shall be made available, together with the Standards for Professional Practices Criteria in 92 NAC 27, to all persons involved in the clinical practice experience.

005.03A2b All clinical practice shall be conducted in a Nebraska school system, or in an approved, accredited or otherwise legally operated school in another state or an English-speaking school in another country where teachers and administrators in the school are required by law or regulation to be certificated by the state or nation's educational authority.

005.03A2c The institution shall engage with school partners on a regular and ongoing basis to develop and communicate the roles and responsibilities of candidates, college supervisors, cooperating educators, and other school personnel; to provide opportunities for school partners to provide input to the program regarding candidate placements, candidate performance, and program improvement; and to develop opportunities for faculty and school-based educators to work collaboratively to enhance candidate development.

005.03A2c1 The institution shall negotiate written agreements delineating the roles and responsibilities of candidates in clinical practice, college supervisors, and the cooperating educators.

005.03A2d The institution shall require a clinical practice experience equivalent to:

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005.03A2d1 A minimum of one (1) semester (at least fourteen (14) full-day weeks) for one (1) field endorsement; one (1) field endorsement and one (1) subject endorsement which is a content area specified in the field endorsement and is at the same grade level; or up to two (2) subject endorsements at the same grade level;

005.03A2d2 A minimum of eighteen (18) full-day weeks for two (2) field endorsements; one (1) field endorsement and one (1) subject endorsement which is not a content area specified in the field endorsement; one (1) field endorsement and one (1) subject endorsement which is a content area specified in the field endorsement but is not at the same grade level; or two (2) subject endorsements which are not at the same grade level;

005.03A2d3 A minimum of an additional nine (9) full-day weeks for each field or subject endorsement added to those described in Section 005.03A2d1 or Section 005.03A2d2 of this chapter.

005.03A2e The institution shall ensure that a minimum of five (5) formal observations by faculty shall be conducted during clinical practice for candidates preparing for initial level teaching certification. Three (3) observations must be onsite and two (2) of the observations may be conducted utilizing technology which allows for visual contact between the parties.

005.03B Speech Language Pathology and School Psychologist Preparation Programs at the Initial Teacher Certification Level Field Experience. The institution shall ensure that a minimum of three (3) formal onsite observations by faculty shall be conducted.

006 Advanced Program Field Experience.

006.01 The institution shall have a clear statement of policies and procedures relating to field experiences which shall be made available, together with the Standards for Professional Practices Criteria in 92 NAC 27, to all persons involved in the field experience.

006.02 Institutions shall require field experiences for advanced certification programs.

006.03 All clinical practice shall be conducted in a Nebraska school system, or in an approved, accredited or otherwise legally operated school in another state or an English-speaking school in another country where teachers and administrators in the school are required by law or regulation to be certificated by the state or nation's educational authority.

006.04 The institution shall engage with school partners on a regular and ongoing basis to develop and communicate the roles and responsibilities of candidates, college supervisors, cooperating educators, and other school personnel; to provide opportunities for school partners to provide input to the program regarding candidate placements, candidate performance, and program improvement; and to develop the skills of faculty and school-based educators to work collaboratively to enhance candidate development.

007 Program Quality Indicators. The institution shall establish a systematic process to address and document program quality indicators.

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007.01 Candidate Admission and Completion. The institution utilizes information related to candidate admission, progression, completion, and graduate employment to document the institution's continuing and purposeful expectations for candidate quality.

007.02 Content Knowledge. The institution utilizes candidate performance information from content tests, as set forth in 92 NAC 24, to determine potential areas for improvement in content knowledge preparation of candidates.

007.03 Graduate follow-up. The institution utilizes a graduate follow-up process to obtain program completer input regarding satisfaction, relevance and effectiveness of their preparation for professional roles and responsibilities.

007.04 Employer follow-up. The institution utilizes a process for collecting information from employers regarding satisfaction with the program and program completers.

007.05 Graduate Support. The institution makes resources available to support its graduates who are new to the teaching profession.

007.06 Program Improvement. The institution initiates program improvement strategies based on regular analysis of data, current research, and/or as the result of engagement with PK-12 education partners regarding initiatives and challenges of PK-12 education.

~~004 Continuing Approval.~~ Each institution seeking continuing approval of its programs shall submit an application to the Department by June 1 of each year, on forms provided by the Department. Continuing approval will be conditioned upon the institution's compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

~~004.01 Period of Approval.~~ Approval is granted annually from September 1 to August 31.

~~004.02 Special Authorization.~~ The Department may approve a Special Authorization allowing an institution to offer a pilot endorsement program in an area that is not included in 92 NAC 24. The process consists of the following steps:

~~004.02A Any Nebraska standard institution of higher education may apply for approval of a special authorization to offer an endorsement program that is not included in Rule 24. An application must be received by the Commissioner on or before January 31 of the calendar year in which the institution seeks to begin the new endorsement program.~~

~~004.02A1 The application must include justification (interest, need, employment opportunities, etc.), teacher competencies appropriate for the proposed endorsement, a list of the required courses that will address the competencies and accompanying syllabi, and the timetable for candidates' completion of the program.~~

~~004.02A2 The application shall contain statements of support from approved or accredited public or private schools documenting their collaboration and assistance in planning to provide field-based and student teaching placements which meet the requirements of 92 NAC 20 and 92 NAC 24.~~

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~~004.02A3~~ The Commissioner shall assign a review team to assess the application. The review team will have representation from the membership areas of the Nebraska Council on Teacher Education, (which is an advisory group previously established by the Board), and will include persons with content knowledge in the proposed endorsement area. The team will conduct a visit to the institution within thirty (30) days after receiving the assignment.

~~004.02A4~~ By March 1, the team will make a recommendation of denial of the application or provisional approval based on the elements in section 004.02A1 to the Commissioner who will respond to the institution.

~~004.02A5~~ The Commissioner shall consider the team's recommendation and make a decision regarding the application based on the elements in section 004.02A1 and provide written notification to the chief academic officer of the institution. The institution shall have thirty days after receipt of the notification to request a meeting with the Commissioner if the decision is not favorable.

~~004.02A6~~ Following the meeting, the Commissioner shall inform the institution in writing if the decision to deny is upheld or not. The institution may file an appeal with the State Board of Education under the provisions of 92 NAC 61 within sixty (60) days after receipt of the decision.

004.02B Provisional Approval

~~004.02B1~~ Following provisional approval by the Commissioner, the institution may phase in the new endorsement program over a period of time not to exceed three (3) years, excluding student teaching.

~~004.02B2~~ By March 1 of each year following provisional approval, the institution shall file a written progress report on the program with the Commissioner.

~~004.02B3~~ The progress report shall include enrollment data, documentation of written notification to the students that the institution has provisional approval including candidate recourse if the program is eliminated; and

~~004.02B3a~~ Statements of continuing participation from the approved or accredited public or private schools for placement of students for field-based experiences.

~~004.02B3b~~ The review team identified in section 004.02A3 will visit the program annually to validate the program's progress, based on the elements in section 004.02A1, and file a recommendation of denial, continued provisional approval, or temporary approval with the Commissioner within thirty (30) days following the visit.

004.02C Temporary Approval

~~004.02C1~~ Following temporary approval by the Commissioner, the endorsement program may place student teachers and recommend

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~~graduates of the program for certification by the Nebraska Department of Education.~~

~~004.02C2 Enrollment, student teaching performance data, employment and graduate follow-up data on program graduates will be provided annually to NDE until the program is officially approved and placed in 92 NAC 24.~~

~~004.02C3 The review team will visit the program annually to validate the program's continued progress on the program's development and file a recommendation with the Commissioner based on the elements in section 004.02A1 to either (1) deny further status as temporarily approved, (2) return to provisional status, or (3) to continue temporary approval until the endorsement is placed in 92 NAC 24.~~

~~004.02C4 Following receipt of the recommendation in section 004.02C3, based on the elements in section 004.02A1, the Commissioner may (1) deny continued temporary approval, (2) return the endorsement to provisional status, or (3) renew the temporary approval for any period not to exceed three (3) years. The Commissioner's decision shall be provided to the institution in writing within sixty (60) days, and shall state the reason(s) for a denial if that is the decision.~~

~~004.02C5 If the Commissioner's decision is to deny the temporary approval of the special authorization, the institution may file an appeal with the State Board of Education under the provisions of 92 NAC 61 within sixty (60) days.~~

~~004.03 Audits. The Department may conduct periodic on-site audits of institutions to determine compliance with provisions of this chapter.~~

~~005 Basic Approval Requirements. All institutions must meet the basic requirements for program approval found in sections 005 through 007.~~

~~005.01 Basic Skills Test. Each institution must annually provide for administration of a basic skills test, the Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST) as approved by the Board in accordance with the provisions of 92 NAC 23.~~

~~005.02 Test Scores. No student may be permitted to enroll in an approved teacher education or administrator education program until he/she has achieved a satisfactory score on an examination as specified in 92 NAC 23 or has achieved a composite score of 513 on the PPST, with no scores lower than one point below the required score on any of the three basic skills tests that comprise the PPST. The composite score will be accepted upon the recommendation of a standard institution of higher education.~~

~~005.03 Course Reporting. A listing of all current endorsement offerings or courses which are offered in meeting the requirements of this chapter shall be filed with the Department on forms prescribed by the Commissioner and any changes shall be promptly reported in writing to the Department. Each institution shall also submit its current graduate and undergraduate teacher education catalog or bulletin to the Department whenever such catalog or bulletin is published.~~

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~~005.04 Unit Administrator.~~ An officially designated professional educator administers the professional education unit.

~~005.05 Certification Officer.~~ The chief academic officer or unit administrator of each institution shall designate one permanent faculty or staff member to receive correspondence regarding this chapter from the Department and to provide certified records, transcripts, reports, and/or recommendations to the Department, as requested, for the purpose of certification and/or endorsement.

~~005.06 General Policy Statements.~~ Each institution shall have a written policy stating its philosophy and objectives and which delineates its goals and commitment to the education of teachers.

~~005.06A~~ It shall have a written policy on the acceptance of transfer credit.

~~005.07 Information Regarding Convictions.~~ The institution shall inform all persons who apply for admission to its program that persons who have felony convictions, or misdemeanor convictions involving abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct, as defined in Section 005.07A, are automatically rejected by the Department for certification, and may only be considered for certification, or participation in pre-student teaching field, laboratory, and classroom experiences or student teaching with the approval of the Commissioner or the Board.

~~005.07A~~ The institution shall require the prospective teacher education student to provide it with a list of all criminal convictions, except traffic offenses. The institution shall require the prospective student to affirm under oath that he or she has no felony convictions, and no misdemeanor convictions involving abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct as hereinafter defined:

~~005.07A1~~ For purposes of this Chapter, a felony conviction means any felony offense under the laws of any jurisdiction, including misdemeanor convictions in other jurisdictions that would constitute a felony if committed in Nebraska.

~~005.07A2~~ For purposes of this Chapter, a misdemeanor conviction involving abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct means an offense under the laws of any jurisdiction, which, if committed in Nebraska, would constitute one of the following misdemeanors (with the applicable sections of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska in parenthesis):

~~005.07A2a~~ Assault (third degree) (28-310)

~~005.07A2b~~ Child Enticement (28-311)

~~005.07A2c~~ Stalking (28-311.03)

~~005.07A2d~~ Hazing (28-311.06)

~~005.07A2e~~ Unlawful Intrusion (28-311.08)

~~005.07A2f~~ Violating a Harassment Protection Order (28-311.09)

~~005.07A2g~~ False Imprisonment (28-315)

~~005.07A2h~~ Sexual Assault (third degree) (28-320)

~~005.07A2i~~ Domestic Assault (28-323)

~~005.07A2j~~ Child/Vulnerable Adult Contact with Methamphetamine (28-457)

~~005.07A2k~~ Abandonment of Spouse or Child (28-705)

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- ~~005.07A2l Child Abuse (28-707)~~
- ~~005.07A2m Contributing to the Delinquency of a Child (28-709)~~
- ~~005.07A2n Prostitution (28-801)~~
- ~~005.07A2o Keeping a Place of Prostitution (28-804)~~
- ~~005.07A2p Debauching a Minor (28-805)~~
- ~~005.07A2g Public Indecency (28-806)~~
- ~~005.07A2r Sale of Obscene Material to Minor (28-808)~~
- ~~005.07A2s Obscene Motion Picture Show, Admitting Minor (28-809)~~
- ~~005.07A2t Obscene Literature Distribution (28-813)~~
- ~~005.07A2u Sexually Explicit Conduct (28-813.01)~~
- ~~005.07A2v Resisting Arrest (28-904(1)(a)), when the conviction involves use or threat of physical force or violence against a police officer~~
- ~~005.07A2w Indecency with an Animal (28-1010)~~
- ~~005.07A2x Intimidation by Phone Call (28-1310)~~
- ~~005.07A2y Violating a Protection Order (42-924(3))~~

~~005.07A3 For purposes of this Chapter, in addition to the offenses listed above, felony convictions, and misdemeanor convictions involving abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct shall also include convictions related to such crimes, including: (with the applicable sections of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska in parenthesis)~~

- ~~005.07A3a Attempt to Commit A Crime (28-201)~~
- ~~005.07A3b Criminal Conspiracy (28-202)~~
- ~~005.07A3c Accessory to a Felony (28-204)~~
- ~~005.07A3d Aiding, Abetting, Procuring, or Causing Another to Commit an Offense (28-206)~~

~~005.07A4 Convictions which have been set aside, nullified, expunged, or pardoned shall not be considered convictions for purposes of this Chapter, unless the laws of the jurisdiction of the conviction would allow the conviction to be used as the basis for denial of permission to teach or participate in pre-student teaching field, laboratory, and classroom experiences or student teach, or for denial of a certificate to teach, counsel, supervise, administer, or provide special services in schools. However, such convictions shall be listed by the student as required in Section 005.07A.~~

~~005.07B A person with a conviction as defined in Section 005.07A shall not be allowed to participate in pre-student teaching field, laboratory, and classroom experiences or student teach, without approval by the Commissioner or the Board. A person with a conviction as defined in Section 005.07A may request approval by the Commissioner or the Board by using the procedures set forth in 92 NAC 21 Sections 009.02 through 009.04.~~

~~005.08 General Education. Each institution shall require all candidates for education degrees to have a minimum of forty (40) semester credit hours in general education courses. These courses may also be used to meet endorsement requirements. General education courses are those designed for all students, as opposed to those designed to meet professional education requirements.~~

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~~005.09 Pre-Student Teaching Requirements. Each institution shall require all candidates for education degrees to complete at least one-sixth of their total degree credit hour requirements in courses that include knowledge of the foundations of education, human growth and development, methods and materials of teaching, assessment of student learning, and supervised field-based and practicum experiences.~~

~~005.09A Pre-student teaching field experiences consisting of at least one hundred (100) clock hours of contact with elementary or secondary students will be included in these requirements.~~

~~005.10 Coursework and experiences to be completed prior to student teaching must include the following:~~

~~005.10A Reading and Writing Teaching Competencies. Each institution shall require all teacher education candidates to participate in activities which will enable them to develop competencies in teaching the reading and writing skills necessary for the areas for which they are planning to seek endorsement. The institution must have on file, at the institution, a plan which identifies the courses and course completion requirements which the institution uses to meet the requirements of this section.~~

~~005.10B Training in Human Relations. Certification officers shall be required, as a condition of program approval, to provide written assurance to the Department, of the completion of training in human relations by applicants for certificates or permits. Each institution shall offer training integrated into a required course or combination of required courses which shall be designed to lead to the following skills (as enumerated in 79-807(6) R.R.S.):~~

~~005.10B1 An awareness and understanding of the values, lifestyles, contributions, and history of a pluralistic society;~~

~~005.10B2 The ability to recognize and deal with dehumanizing biases, including, but not limited to, sexism, racism, prejudice, and discrimination, and an awareness of the impact such biases have on interpersonal relations;~~

~~005.10B3 The ability to translate knowledge of human relations into attitudes, skills, and techniques which result in favorable experiences for students;~~

~~005.10B4 The ability to recognize the ways in which dehumanizing biases may be reflected in instructional materials;~~

~~005.10B5 Respect for human dignity and individual rights; and~~

~~005.10B6 The ability to relate effectively to other individuals and to groups in a pluralistic society other than the applicant's own.~~

~~005.10C Special Education Course Work. Each institution shall require each candidate for an education degree to earn a minimum of three (3) semester hours of credit for course work in special education, as defined by section 79-807(7) R.R.S., which shall provide each candidate with all of the following:~~

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~~005.10C1 Knowledge of the exceptional educational needs of the disabilities defined by section 79-1118.01 R.R.S.;~~

~~005.10C2 Knowledge of the major characteristics of each disability in order to recognize its existence in children;~~

~~005.10C3 Knowledge of various alternatives for providing the least restrictive environment for children with disabilities;~~

~~005.10C4 Knowledge of methods of teaching children with disabilities in the regular classroom; and~~

~~005.10C5 Knowledge of prereferral alternatives, referral systems, multidisciplinary team responsibilities, the individualized education plan process, and the placement process.~~

~~005.10D Learners with High Ability. Each Nebraska teacher education institution shall require all teacher education candidates to participate in coursework and activities which will enable them to develop competencies in teaching learners with high ability. The institution must have on file, within the institution, a plan which identifies those courses and course completion requirements which the institution utilizes to assure that these competency requirements have been met.~~

~~005.10E Technology. Each Nebraska teacher education institution shall require all teacher education candidates to participate in coursework and activities which will enable them to develop competencies in utilizing current technologies for communication and instruction. The institution must have on file, within the institution, a plan which identifies those courses and course completion requirements which the institution utilizes to assure that these competency requirements have been met.~~

~~005.10F Student Assessment. Each Nebraska teacher education institution shall require all candidates to have the knowledge and skill to assess student learning in the areas for which they are preparing to teach. The institution must have on file, within the institution, a plan which identifies those courses and course completion requirements which the institution utilizes to assure that these competency requirements have been met.~~

~~005.10G Nebraska Content Standards. Each Nebraska teacher education institution shall require all candidates to have the knowledge, understanding of, and the ability to teach the concepts, skills, and processes of the Nebraska Content Standards as adopted by the State Board of Education in 92 NAC 10, and appropriate for their endorsed area(s). The institution must have on file, within the institution, a plan which identifies those courses and course completion requirements which the institution utilizes to assure that these competency requirements have been met.~~

~~005.11 Student Teaching. Each institution shall have a student teaching program which meets the following requirements:~~

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~~005.11A The institution shall have a clear statement of policies and procedures relating to student teaching which shall be provided in written form, together with the Standards for Professional Practices Criteria in 92 NAC 27, to all persons involved in the student teaching program.~~

~~005.11A1 Candidates must hold a GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent, to be admitted to student teaching.~~

~~005.11B All student teaching shall be conducted in Nebraska schools that are approved or accredited by the Department or out-of-state schools approved by another state education agency or in similarly constituted English-speaking schools in another nation. Non-public schools, in states or nations where a state or national approval/accreditation process exists, which do not meet that standard, do not fit this definition.~~

~~005.11C The institution shall negotiate written agreements delineating the roles and responsibilities of student teachers, college supervisors, and the cooperating school and teachers.~~

~~005.11D The institution shall require student teaching experience full-day for one semester (at least 14 weeks) for any combination of subject endorsement(s) and a field endorsement. A minimum of ten (10) weeks full-time is required for each of two or more field endorsements.~~

~~005.11E The institution shall ensure that a minimum of five (5) onsite visits by college supervisory staff shall be conducted during the student teaching.~~

~~005.11F Cooperating teachers employed by K-12 schools and other field-based supervisors shall have a minimum of three (3) years experience in the areas they are supervising and hold either a teaching or administrative certificate for the areas/levels they are teaching or supervising.~~

~~005.12 Minimum Offering and Graduation Requirements. Each institution shall establish a basic teacher education program graduation requirement and must offer sufficient courses on a schedule that enables students to complete such program within four (4) years.~~

~~005.13 Minimum Endorsement Offering Requirements. Each institution shall offer courses for a minimum of ten (10) endorsements contained in 92 NAC 24.~~

~~005.14 Faculty Requirements.~~

~~005.14A Undergraduate Professional Education Faculty. The institution shall meet the following undergraduate professional education faculty requirements:~~

~~005.14A1 All professional education faculty, excluding K-12 school-based faculty, but including adjunct and graduate student faculty, shall hold the master's degree.~~

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~~005.14A2 No less than one-third of the full-time professional education faculty shall hold the doctor's degree or a terminal degree.~~

~~005.14A3 Faculty members without a terminal degree shall possess exceptional expertise as defined in section 002.10.~~

~~005.14A4 All faculty members, initially hired after July 1, 1994, who are responsible for student teaching supervision or teach professional courses in education shall have taught for at least two (2) years in state-approved or accredited elementary and/or secondary schools or similarly constituted and governed schools in a state wherein non-public schools are not recognized by the state.~~

~~005.14A4a Faculty members with terminal degrees who are hired after July 1, 1994, but do not possess two (2) years of P-12 experience must meet the exceptional expertise requirements as defined in section 002.10A.~~

~~005.14A5 Individual faculty scheduled teaching assignments shall not exceed twenty-four (24) credit hours within the same academic year.~~

~~005.14A6 Instructional staffing for supervision of student teaching shall not exceed a ratio of eighteen (18) full-time equivalent FTE students to one full-time equivalent faculty member.~~

~~005.14A7 Each professional education unit shall have at least three (3) professional education faculty members assigned full-time to the unit.~~

~~005.14B Graduate faculty. The institution shall meet the following graduate professional education faculty requirements:~~

~~005.14B1 The graduate faculty in programs which grant no degree or certificate above the master's level shall be qualified as follows:~~

~~005.14B1a The faculty, including adjunct faculty, and teaching graduate students shall hold an advanced degree, and at least half of the faculty shall hold the doctorate.~~

~~005.14B1b The preparation, research, and experience of each faculty member shall be in the field in which he or she teaches courses.~~

~~005.14B2 The graduate faculty, including adjunct faculty, teaching graduate fellows, or visiting faculty in programs which grant the sixth-year specialist's certificate or doctorate degree shall hold the doctorate.~~

~~005.14B3 The load for faculty teaching only graduate courses shall not exceed eighteen (18) credit hours within the same academic year.~~

~~005.14B4 The load for faculty teaching a combination of undergraduate and graduate courses may be a proration of nine (9) and twelve (12) credit hours,~~

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~~with total hours assigned within the same academic year not to exceed twenty one (21) hours.~~

~~005.14B5 Graduate level students shall be assigned to graduate faculty for advisement purposes.~~

~~005.14B6 Each advanced degree program leading to the doctorate has at least three (3) full-time faculty members who have earned the doctorate in the field of specialization for which the degree is offered.~~

~~005.14B7 Internship supervisors and other field-based supervisors employed by K-12 schools shall have a minimum of three (3) years experience in the areas they are supervising and hold a teaching, administrative, or special services certificate for the areas/levels they are supervising.~~

~~005.15 Library Requirements. Library holdings shall provide adequate scope, breadth, and currency to support the professional education programs. The library holdings shall include educational related electronic information, video resources, computer hardware and software.~~

~~005.15A Volume Requirements. Each institution shall have a basic minimum library collection of 85,000 volumes or computer access to data representing an equivalent number of volumes.~~

~~005.15A1 Each institution shall have an identifiable, relevant, and current media and curriculum materials collection accessible to education students and faculty.~~

~~005.15B Librarian Requirements. The institution shall employ a minimum of one full-time librarian, and other technical staff as deemed necessary by the institution, to support the library, instructional materials collection, and media/computer support services.~~

~~006 Affirmation of Compliance with Additional Requirements. To obtain and retain approval, the institution must meet the following requirements, in addition to the basic approval requirements set out in this chapter, and must submit an institutional report, as requested by the Department, affirming that its teacher preparation program includes the following:~~

~~006.01 Teacher Certification Requirements. Each Nebraska teacher education institution must have on file, within the institution, a plan which identifies the courses and course completion requirements which the institution utilizes to assure that all candidates complete the program of study described in institution catalogues and other documents. Documentation of the plan is submitted to the Nebraska Department of Education annually.~~

~~006.02 Performance Standards. Each Nebraska teacher education institution must have on file, within the institution, a plan which identifies the performance standards and assessments for successful completion of the education programs offered by the unit.~~

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~~006.03 Unit Program Standards.~~ Each Nebraska teacher education institution must have on file, within the institution, a plan which identifies the program standards and data which will be used to assess the quality of the teacher education unit.

~~006.04 Assistance to new graduates.~~ Each Nebraska teacher education institution must have on file, within the institution, a plan which identifies the support available to all new graduates during their first year of employment as an educator, including:

~~006.04A Follow-up of Graduates.~~ The unit shall maintain relationships with graduates from its professional education programs that include follow-up studies and assistance to beginning professionals.

~~006.04B~~ Assistance shall include more than one of the following techniques: follow-up newsletters; access to and utilization of electronic communication with faculty; and seminars for first-year teachers.

~~007 Institutional Report.~~ The Institutional Report is a qualitative and quantitative assessment of the institution's professional education unit. The Institutional Report shall be submitted to the State Department of Education for review at least one (1) month prior to the scheduled campus accreditation visit.

~~007.01 Preliminary Information.~~ The first section of the institutional report must contain the following:

~~007.01A Overview of the Institution.~~

~~007.01B Description of the Programs offered by the teacher education unit.~~

~~007.01C Program changes since the last on-site visit.~~

~~007.01D Future Program Plans.~~

~~007.02 Standards for the Unit.~~ This section shall describe how the unit meets the standards and criteria listed in this chapter.

~~007.03 Program Descriptions.~~ Endorsement matrices which describe the professional education programs offered at the institution and program folios that include candidate performance assessment data are also provided for each program.

~~008 Nonapproval of Programs.~~ Sections 003 through 007 of this chapter identify requirements that must be met by an institution as a condition for approval. Failure to comply with these regulations may cause an institution to lose its continuing approval.

~~008.01 Violations.~~ Any failure to meet a numbered regulation shall constitute a separate violation.

~~008.02 Reporting Violations.~~ An institution shall report any violations on its annual application for continuing approval.

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~~008.03 Correction of Violations. An institution reporting any violations will have until April 1 of the academic year following identification of the violations in which to correct such violations.~~

~~008.04 Effect of Violations. An institution with any uncorrected violations on April 1 of the academic year following identification of the violations will be recommended for approval on probation.~~

~~008.05 Loss of Approval. An institution approved on probation continuing to have the same uncorrected violation(s) by May 31 of a year in which it is on probation shall be recommended by the Commissioner to the Board for denial of continuing approval for the next year.~~

008.06 Provisions for Notice and Hearing.

008.06A01 When the Commissioner makes a recommendation to the Board for an institution to be placed on probation or for the denial of continuing approval, notice of the recommendation and of the right to request a hearing within thirty (30) days after receipt shall be given to the institution by certified mail. Copies shall be sent to the certification officer and the chief executive officer, if known. This notice shall specify the basis for the recommendation and the tentative date that the Board will consider the recommendation unless a formal hearing is requested.

008.06B02 If the institution files a request for a formal hearing within thirty (30) days after receipt of the recommendation, the Board shall schedule a hearing date. If no formal hearing is requested, the recommendation shall be considered by the Board and adopted or modified by order of the Board.

008.06C03 All hearings arising under this chapter shall be conducted in accordance with the hearing procedures of Chapter 61 of Title 92 of the Nebraska Administrative Code.