

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Hartford**

**TO BE PROPOSED:**

June 14, 2017

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education, pursuant to Section 10-145d-9(g)(2)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, grants full approval for the period June 14, 2017, through April 30, 2023, to the Office of Higher Education Alternate Route to Certification (OHE ARC) Program, with annual progress reporting required until OHE ARC's Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) site visit, for the purpose of certifying graduates from OHE ARC in the following new certification area:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Program Level</u>	<u>Program Type</u>
Business Education	7-12	Initial	Alternate Route to Certification

and directs the Commissioner to take the necessary action.

Approved by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ this fourteenth day of June, Two Thousand Seventeen.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dianna R. Wentzell, Secretary  
State Board of Education

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Hartford**

**TO:** State Board of Education

**FROM:** Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell, Commissioner of Education

**DATE:** June 14, 2017

**SUBJECT:** New Educator Preparation Program Approval, Business Education (7-12),  
Office of Higher Education, Alternate Route to Certification Program

**Executive Summary**

**Introduction**

All institutions or organizations proposing new educator preparation programs must seek official approval through the Connecticut State Board of Education (SBE). Each institution or organization is required to participate in a Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) review and evaluation process designed to guide and support new program proposal efforts. The proposal then moves forward to the CSDE Review Committee, which makes recommendations to the Commissioner of Education regarding approval based on team evaluation findings (Attachment A).

The Connecticut Office of Higher Education Alternate Route to Certification (OHE ARC) program is a non-credit bearing educator preparation program approved by the SBE in 1987 for the purpose of recruiting mid-career adults into the teaching profession. OHE ARC is charged specifically by state statute with bringing people possessing strong content knowledge and related professional experience into teaching, particularly for content areas identified as designated shortage areas by the CSDE. Additionally, OHE ARC is charged with assisting urban areas in recruiting and retaining teachers. OHE ARC is one of the oldest alternate route programs in the nation having trained over 5,000 teachers since its inception.

**History/Background**

In February 2017, OHE ARC submitted a proposal to the CSDE for a business education program. On May 9, 2017, an evaluation team consisting of content area experts reviewed the proposal to evaluate the quality of:

- (1) Program design, scope and sequence, including coursework and fieldwork/clinical experiences;
- (2) Candidate assessment and program evaluation, including data collection, analysis, and reporting methods;
- (3) Program faculty and instructor qualifications; and
- (4) Program resources to support the training of program candidates and program viability.

CSDE consultants also reviewed the proposal for compliance with Connecticut statutory and regulatory requirements pertaining to educator preparation programs.

Based on a review of all proposal materials, the evaluation team identified minor areas for improvement and was unanimous in its decision that the OHE ARC business education program proposal move forward to the CSDE Review Committee for consideration. During a May 19, 2017, meeting, OHE ARC presented to the Review Committee all required proposal revisions. Based on evaluation team findings and the OHE ARC presentation, the Review Committee recommended full approval for the OHE ARC business education program, with annual progress reporting required until OHE ARC's Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) site visit, currently scheduled for fall 2022, during which all OHE ARC educator preparation programs will be reviewed.

### **Recommendation and Justification**

Currently, only two Connecticut educator preparation providers offer a business education program leading to teacher certification. There is a critical need in the state for additional, high quality business education programs.

Based upon evaluation team findings and the recommendation of the CSDE Review Committee, I recommend that the OHE ARC business education program be granted full approval for the period June 14, 2017, through April 30, 2023, at which point this new program will be reviewed along with all OHE ARC educator preparation programs during OHE ARC's mandated CAEP continuing program approval site visit.

### **Follow-up Activity**

If granted full approval by the SBE, the current dean of the OHE ARC program will be immediately notified so that they may start recruiting for the fall 2017 entering class.

Prepared by: Katie Toohey, Ph.D., Program Approval Coordinator  
Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification

Reviewed by: Shannon Marimón, Division Director  
Bureau of Educator Effectiveness

Approved by: Sarah J. Barzee, Ph.D., Chief Talent Officer  
Talent Office

**CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Educator Preparation Review Committee Members**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Representation</b>	<b>Term Ending</b>
1. Hari Koirala	Eastern Connecticut State University	Higher Education	Jan. 3, 2019
2. Tamika La Salle	University of Connecticut	Higher Education	Jan. 3, 2020
3. Catherine O'Callaghan	Western Connecticut State University	Higher Education	Jan. 3, 2020
4. Julie Sochacki	University of Hartford	Higher Education	Jan. 3, 2020
5. Joseph Bonillo	Waterford Public Schools	K-12	Jan. 3, 2019
6. Thomas Danehy	Area Cooperative Educational Services	K-12	Jan. 3, 2020
7. David Erwin	Berlin Public Schools	K-12	Jan. 3, 2019
8. Ana Ortiz	Oxford Public Schools	K-12	Jan. 3, 2020
9. Shuana Tucker	New Britain Public Schools	K-12	Jan. 3, 2020
10. Evette Avila	Connecticut Center for School Change	Community	Jan. 3, 2020
11. Stanley Battle	University of Saint Joseph	Community	Jan. 3, 2020
12. A. Bates Lyons	A. Bates Lyons Associates	Community	Jan. 3, 2019