



December 2021 Newsletter

Welcome to MACTE's newsletter. This monthly newsletter will be a hub for a variety of updates from the Minnesota state chapter, updates from The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE), and from the MACTE Executive Council on the state of teacher preparation in the state of Minnesota.

MACTE Updates



Winter MACTE Meeting will be VIRTUAL

Join us on February 10 and 11, 2022 for our business meeting and collaboration session. To keep all attendees safe amid the omicron variant surge, the winter conference will be held on Zoom in a compressed, one and a half day format. Thursday afternoon, February 10th, will feature role-alike meetings. The business meeting will take place Friday morning and Friday afternoon will feature collaborative learning on MACTE's 2022 focus area: Anti-bias education.

The rate for the virtual conference is \$25. Please register today to claim your seat.

[Register Today](#)

Deans and Directors Retreat Planned for January 13th

A morning retreat for all MACTE deans, directors, and chairs will be held on Thursday, January 13, 2022 from 9:00 - 12:00. The retreat will be virtual over

Zoom. All units are encouraged to have representation at the meeting. Please email mactecommunication@gmail.com if your institution's representative has not received an invitation. As we navigate the implementation of new unit rule, the complications brought about by the pandemic, and the urgency to diversify the teacher workforce, biannual deans and directors meetings will be a central tool to increase our collaborative efforts.

Training Opportunity for Educators: Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS)

Minnesota licensed educators, including licensed teacher educators, have the opportunity to be trained in LETRS. This professional development is being organized by the Minnesota Department of Education and was funded by [a legislative grant](#).

LETRS focuses on building teacher and teacher educator knowledge of the foundations and fundamentals of reading and writing instruction—phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension and written language. The training further develops educators' language and literacy expertise in understanding why reading is complex, the source of reading difficulties, and how to successfully teach all students, including those with significant and persistent literacy-related needs.

The LETRS training opportunity is open to licensed Minnesota educators who hold the following positions:

- Kindergarten - grade 3 classroom teachers
- Elementary reading specialists and intervention teachers
- Elementary literacy coaches
- Elementary special educators responsible for reading instruction
- Literacy and language professors in Minnesota institutes of higher education
- Administrators

Registration opened on December 15, 2021 and will remain open until all seats are filled.

To learn more about LETRS, including a recorded informational webinar, LETRS resources, cohorts and training dates, and the online registration form, visit [the Minnesota LETRS website](#).

If you have questions regarding this communication or the LETRS training opportunity, please contact MDE staff: amy.schulting@state.mn.us or jennifer.wazlawik@state.mn.us

Substitute Teacher Shortage Response

One MACTE member has responded to the substitute teacher crisis currently impacting our school partners by getting a sub license and returning to the classroom as an occasional sub. See [her story featured on KARE 11](#).

New unit rule requires all teacher educators to spend an average of ten hours a year in schools. We encourage all MACTE members to consider spending a few days as a sub to help ease the shortage!

Assessment and Accreditation Work Group Update

PELSB has convened an Assessment and Accreditation Workgroup to examine candidate and unit assessment and accountability practices. This work group will focus on all areas of accreditation that touch teacher preparation, including the edTPA, the MTLEs, and other required assessment practices.

The workgroup has met twice and will continue to meet for the next several months. A workgroup member will update the MACTE community at our February conference. MACTE members gathered feedback at our last conference that will be shared with the workgroup. If you have further comments or thoughts about unit and candidate assessment, please share them with Cari Maguire (mactepres@gmail.com). Your comments will be added to the report we are preparing for the workgroup.

Legislative Updates

The Minnesota Legislature will convene its 2022 session on Monday, January 31, 2022. MACTE has a set of legislative priorities for the 2022 session. [The full list of priorities can be found here](#). In summary, we will be advocating for the following:

1. Maintaining high quality standards for teacher preparation and supporting legislative initiatives that accurately reflect the research base around teaching methodologies.
2. Increasing the diversity of Minnesota's teaching force through strategies to recruit, support, prepare, and retain teachers of color, including provisions in the 2022 Increase Teachers of Color Act that reduce barriers for candidates to become teachers.
3. Improving the retention of teachers.
4. Supporting high quality research-based E-12 instructional practices.

Any MACTE members who are interested in being involved in our advocacy efforts are invited to join the MACE legislative workgroup. Please email MACTE legislative liaison Laura Mogelson at mogelson@umn.edu if you would like more information.

AACTE Updates

Happy Holidays from AACTE



[AACTE Endorses Educators for America Act](#)

On behalf of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE), President and CEO Lynn M. Gangone issued the following statement in support of the Educators for America Act, which would update and modernize Title II of the Higher Education Act:

“AACTE enthusiastically supports the Educators for America Act and thanks Sen. Reed and Rep. Adams for their unwavering leadership in support of educator preparation. This comprehensive bill will make robust investments in teacher and other educator preparation programs while alleviating our nation’s educator shortage, diversifying the profession, and providing critical support to our member institutions and their community partners.”

The legislation, introduced by Sen. Jack Reed (D-R.I.) and Rep. Alma Adams (D-N.C.), addresses crises in educator preparation, including the growing teacher shortage, fewer students completing bachelor’s degrees in education, and the lack of diversity in the profession. The primary purpose of the Educators for America Act is to “build the capacity of educator preparation programs to ensure all students have access to profession-ready educators, recruit new and diverse educators into the profession, invest in partnerships between higher education, state and local partners, and support innovation to meet the changing needs of students.” The legislation specifically calls for

- Authorizing two, \$500 million grant programs to support states in developing and implementing strategies to meet their educator workforce needs, as well as expanding partnership programs such as the Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP).
 - Reauthorizing the Honorable Augustus F. Hawkins Centers of Excellence Program to support historically Black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions in expanding and strengthening their educator preparation programs.
 - Doubling TEACH Grants to \$8,000 per year and providing additional protections and options to make becoming a teacher more affordable.
-

PELSB Updates

R4576 Implementation Updates Frequently Asked Questions

All new and revised answers are highlighted in the [updated FAQ](#) (also available on the PELSB website on the [Teacher Preparation Manual page](#)). The topics of new and revised questions are highlighted and listed below:

- Effective date (page 4)
- Clinical experience reporting (page 9)
- Cooperating teacher training (page 12)
- Student teaching weeks (page 15-16)
- Dual elementary and middle level endorsement student teaching (page 18)
- Supervisors with teaching experience in countries where formal teaching licenses are not issued (page 30)
- Licensure tests (page 51-52)

Please continue to submit questions about R4576 to our [R4576 Unit and Program Rule Question Box](#).

Pool of Unit Reviewer Application

Last summer, PELSB held its first training for our Pool of Unit Reviewers (PUR). This is a great professional development opportunity and a wonderful way to provide a service to the profession while learning more about the implementation of 2021 Unit Rule. If you are interested in applying for the PUR, please review the information provided on the [application](#) and submit to

Pathway 4 Guidance for Teacher Educators

On a quarterly basis, PELSB plans on convening a committee to provide guidance on equivalency for pathway 4 for teacher educators and methods instructors. A form will be available soon for providers to submit for guidance. The committee will not make determinations about whether individual teacher educators are qualified in alignment with rule but rather make general recommendations of equivalency.

Title II Update

On December 20th, 2021, Tyra Reck sent an email with updates to Title II coordinators. She noted that

- Westat is no longer the Vendor for this federal reporting system. The Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE), Higher Education Act Title II Accountability is beginning its State Report Card (SRC) data collection this week. That change caused a delay in some initial reporting that now has a January 20th deadline.
- The January 20th date does not match the timeline that many EPPs have provided Tyra with in terms of Title II data that is reported through Pearson.

Tyra is working on getting clarity and will communicate with Title II coordinators again soon.

Tyra shared that:

We are ready to support you as you submit these important data.

Title II data provide critical measures of teacher preparation programs and insight into the K-12 teacher pipeline for policymakers and educators at all levels. These data are even more valuable since the COVID-19 pandemic has led many K-12 teachers to retire, and during a time when fewer students are enrolling in teacher preparation programs. Monitoring the licensure of new teachers, both nationally and within states, demands policymakers' attention.

Because we know your staff time is limited, please note a few items to consider as you complete the SRC:

- The reporting instrument website has had some minor changes since the last time you submitted data, but the data you are required to submit are the same.
- The deadline for reporting has been extended to January 20, 2022.

You can submit your data via the Title II website at title2.ed.gov.

We look forward to working with you. If you have questions about your participation, please contact our Title II Help desk at title2@rti.org or by phone at 866-214-2038.

New Unit Leader Training

On January 12, 2022, PELSB will host a 90 minute training for Unit Leaders. While this training is designed with new unit leaders in mind, all are welcome to attend. We will provide an overview of the Teacher Preparation Manual, discuss the overall roles and responsibilities of a unit leader, offer general tips for working with PELSB, review IOwA, EDIAM, and EPPAS requirements and FAQ's. We'll also allow time for providers to ask questions.

Link to the meeting: <https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/j.php?MTID=m0eb1fdedfb855ea337d9ecd259bb22b2>

Wednesday, Jan 12, 2022 10:00 am | 1 hour 30 minutes | (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 2495 990 3044

Password: NULT22

Join by video system

Dial [24959903044@minnesota.webex.com](tel:24959903044@minnesota.webex.com)

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone

+1-415-655-0003 United States Toll

Access code: 249 599 03044

Copyright © 2021 Minnesota Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

Minnesota Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

86 Pleasant St SE, 110 Wulling Hall

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

[Add us to your address book](#)