
MACTE August 2023 Newsletter

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August 2023 Newsletter

Welcome to the MACTE Newsletter for the 2023-2024 academic year! This newsletter is sent once a month during the academic year to update the MACTE community about collaborative work, MACTE events, and information and opportunities relevant to teacher preparation in Minnesota.

MACTE Updates

Fall Meeting & Conference - October 26-27, Crowne Plaza, Plymouth

Join your peers on [October 26-27, 2023 for our fall collaboration!](#) **The Fall Meeting and Conference will be MACTE's only in-person event this year as we continue our new practice of holding Winter and Spring events online. We hope that as many members as possible will join us at the Crowne Plaza!**

This fall our conference will be particularly important, with many items being discussed both Thursday and Friday that will have lasting impacts on Teacher Preparation Programs in the state. The schedule will include:

Thursday:

- Focus on new funding opportunities in Minnesota provided by recent legislation.
- PELSB updates

- Draft proposal from MACTE executive representatives on PELSB's Assessment and Accountability Taskforce (Presentation of Proposal and Feedback)
- New MACTE business and staffing proposals from the executive committee.
- Extended caucus meeting for consideration of new proposals
- Role-alike and special interest groups.

Friday:

- Collaborative worktime focused on new SEP implementation.
- Break-out session addressing:
 - MACTE's early reading methods project (videos and supplementary methods materials)
 - Apprenticeship models for teacher preparation
 - Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

Come get updates on all things teacher preparation related with colleagues across Minnesota!

Registration is \$110/person per day. A room block is available at a discounted \$121 rate. When making reservations, please call IHG Central Reservations at 1-855-914-1303 or the Crowne Plaza hotel directly at 763-559-6600 and request the MACTE 2023 Fall Conference block to receive the discounted group rate. [Room reservations may also be made online.](#)

Call for Proposals for Fall Conference

MACTE is in its third year of implementing Minnesota's Due North Education Plan. This year's theme is Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). MACTE is currently seeking proposals for engaging presentations from teacher educators that address this theme. The conference planning committee will review and approve presenter applications. Both practical and researched-based presentations are encouraged.

[Submit a Proposal](#)

MACTE Staffing Update - New Executive Director

After multiple conversations among current and retiring executive committee members, as well as with deans and directors, MEC is preparing a proposal to share with the full MACTE membership at the fall conference that will create a new MACTE executive director. Like the legislative liaison and executive assistant, the executive director position will be part time.

MACTE President Darrell Stolle summarized the reasons behind this initiative in June to the executive committee, saying “This was one of the priorities I wanted to move forward when I agreed to serve as president. I believe a position such as this will make us more agile in responding to emerging issues that impact our programs - something that has become increasingly important given the legislative and policy pressures we now face.”

Full details of this proposal will be given at the fall conference, and Institutional Representatives will vote on the funding for the new staffing models after the fall business meeting.

Drawing on savings that have accumulated over the pandemic, the MACTE Executive Council has decided to create an Interim Executive Director position to serve through the end of the calendar year. MEC is happy to announce that Cari Maguire has agreed to fill this interim role. After the fall business meeting, if the funding proposal is approved by MACTE institutional representatives, a search for the permanent executive director will be held.

MACTE Early Reading Methods Grant Materials Available this Fall

Last year, MACTE applied for and received a grant from National AACTE to develop materials to support the teaching of early reading methods, especially phonemic awareness and phonics. A small group of MACTE faculty have been working in collaboration with ServeMinnesota to prepare classroom videos and supporting learning materials that will be available to all MACTE members to use in their early reading methods courses. The materials will be introduced at the fall conference. If you would like information about this project or access to the classroom videos prior to the fall conference, please contact Cari Maguire (maguire@umn.edu).

Legislative Updates

Summary of the 2023 Session

In June, [Laura presented a summary of the 2023 Legislative Session](#) to MACTE Deans and Directors. Later this summer the FY23 Grow Your Own (GYO) grant recipients and the FY23 Collaborative and Urban and Greater Minnesota Educators of Color (CUGMEC) grant recipients were announced! The GYO grant program is administered by MDE and the funding goes to school districts working to address teacher shortages through pathways for youth and for adults. The CUGMEC grant is administered by PELSB and the funding goes to institutions of higher education. PELSB is still working on

setting up grant contracts and the list of awardees will be public soon. Other grants coming soon include MDE's Special Education Teacher grant and more PELSB grants - more information is below.

Another outcome of the 2023 legislation was the removal of the MTLE requirement for those who completed an approved licensure program, effective August 1, 2023. PELSB has updated their website to show the testing requirements for each tier: <https://mn.gov/pelsb/current-educators/testing/>

MN Special Education Teacher Pipeline Grant

The Minnesota Department of Education held an info session in August for the new Special Education Teacher Pipeline Grant FY24. This is similar to Grow Your Own and the request for proposals will be available in early fall. Districts apply for this funding with teacher preparation partner(s). [There is a link to the slides from the information session here.](#)

ACTION item for Special Education programs: following this meeting, MACTE Legislative Liaison Laura Mogelson offered to create a directory for districts to use to find out more information about approved Special Education programs when they are developing their proposals and budgets. She is asking all MACTE programs to provide their information here and MDE will share it with applicants: [link to the directory is here](#) (request edit access to fill in information).

Looking Ahead to the 2024 Session

The 2024 legislative session is scheduled to begin February 12, 2024. Laura Mogelson will serve as our Legislative Liaison again for the 2023-2024 year. At our upcoming fall conference, we will review the draft of legislative priorities for the 2024 session. Laura has met with legislators this summer and we know that Special Education and tiered licensure will be an early topic of discussion in the House and Senate, with possible early legislative action. In May, the US Department of Education's Office of Special Education (OSEP) alerted MDE regarding concerns with our tiered licensure system. MDE submitted a corrective action plan that was accepted by OSEP. Read the [MDE press release](#) and [press coverage](#).

Similar to our 2023 legislative priorities, our 2024 priorities will include a focus on this issue and we will advocate for the following:

- Prohibit Tier 1 licenses to be issued in the fields of special education or related services
- Limit the eligibility for a Tier 2 license in the field of special education to completion or enrollment in a special education licensure program
- Limit the number of renewals for a Tier 2 in the fields of special education.

AACTE Updates

***EdPrep Matters Blog* In the States: Florida Law has Sweeping Ramifications for Local School Districts**

The “In the States” feature by Kaitlyn Brennan is a weekly update to keep members informed on state-level activities impacting the education and educator preparation community.

Earlier this year, Florida’s Republican-controlled legislature enacted measures to expand education transparency laws in the state. The new regulations involve stricter oversight of potentially explicit or sexually related content in books and/or any such text that could be considered “harmful to minors.” Under the law, FL HB1069, such texts are required to be removed from shelves within five days and remain inaccessible to students. The actions are part of a broader effort led by Florida Governor and Republican presidential candidate Ron DeSantis to exert greater control over the curriculum in schools. [Continue Reading](#).

AACTE Awards Program: Call for Entries

The AACTE Awards Program recognizes excellence in both member institutions and individuals who have made significant contributions to the field of educator preparation. In identifying notable programs, practices, activities, writing, and research, these awards encourage all member institutions to strengthen the profession of teacher preparation through innovation, high standards, and leadership. For an overview of the the 2023 award winners, read the [press release](#).

PELSB Updates

Updated Tiered Licensure Infographic Available

The 2023 state legislature enacted a number of changes to the tiered licensure system. Please review this infographic to learn more.

[View the Updated Infographic](#)

PERCA Update

For PERCAs submitted this fall, please be mindful to:

- Identify specific, detailed learning opportunities and assessments that align to each standard (especially for reading methods, content-specific methods, and new Standards of Effective Practice). Pay attention to all aspects of a standard and not only what has been previously approved. If using textbooks or readings as a learning opportunity, include the titles of the reading and chapters. Clearly describe how individual assignments are assessed by the teacher educator (for example, if a lesson plan is used as an assessment, include the required components of the lesson plan).
- If there are learning opportunities and assessments in online learning management platforms, provide details in documentation uploaded to "Course Sequence Screen" in EPPAS so that reviewers are able to verify that standards are "met."
- For Elementary, Early Childhood, and Special Education programs, it is required to have a clinical experience connected to reading methods instruction (refer to [Minn. Rule 8710.3200, Subp. 3E5](#)). Provide details about the clinical assessments, and plan for who will be conducting those assessments (verifying that those individuals have the knowledge and training needed to provide quality evaluation and feedback to candidates). A MACTE workgroup has been working on creating resources to support teacher preparation providers with assessing candidates' ability to teach reading; stay tuned for more information.

PELSB Teacher Mentorship Grant and Pathway Preparation Grant Opportunities Now Available

Legislation for the Teacher Mentorship and Retention of Effective Teachers Grant was recently revised and \$3.5 million dollars in funding was appropriated by the Minnesota legislature for state fiscal year 2024.

Application materials and a Q&A document have been posted on [PELSB's Grants page](#).

September 1: Intent to Submit is due [via this link](#)

- September 22: Applications are Due by 4:30PM (CST)
- Awards notifications will go out in late October/early November, funding grant activity taking place from (approximately) December 2023 through June 30, 2025.

Legislation for a Pathway Preparation Grant was recently created and \$400,000.00 dollars in funding was appropriated by the Minnesota legislature for state fiscal year 2024.

Application materials and a Q&A document have been posted on [PELSB's Grants page](#).

- September 1: Intent to Submit (a simple statement via email) is due
- September 22: Applications are Due by 4:30PM (CST)
- Awards notifications will go out in late October, funding grant activity taking place from (approximately) December 2023 through June 30, 2025.

Please contact Laura Dyer (Laura.Dyer@state.mn.us) with any questions.

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