



Ontario
College of
Teachers

Ordre des
enseignantes et
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de l'Ontario

Accreditation Committee Decision

Faculté d'éducation Université d'Ottawa

Application for Review of a Program Change

Multi-session consecutive program of professional education with areas of study in the Primary/Junior and Junior/Intermediate divisions, leading to a Bachelor of Education degree (French-language program offered by partial distance education)

Accreditation Committee Decision Regarding the Program Change Application Submitted by la Faculté d'éducation, Université d'Ottawa

Introduction

The Faculté d'éducation, Université d'Ottawa, the "Faculté", submitted a program change application on March 12, 2015 to add a full distance education delivery format to the following accredited program of professional education:

- Multi-session consecutive program of professional education with areas of study in the Primary/Junior and Junior/Intermediate divisions, leading to a Bachelor of Education degree (French-language program offered by partial distance education)

The Accreditation Committee, by virtue of the authority granted under the *Ontario College of Teachers Act, 1996*, and Regulation 347/02, Accreditation of Teacher Education Programs, conducted a review of the program change to determine if there is a reason to believe that the provider substantially changed the character, duration or components of the program of professional education, and reviewed the program to determine if it continues to qualify for accreditation.

In making its decision, the Accreditation Committee considered the Faculté's application for review of a program change submitted March 13, 2015, the Accreditation Committee decisions for the multi-session program above, dated April 15, 2013 and for the concurrent program offered entirely by distance education, dated November 19, 2013, and the regulatory requirements of Regulation 347/02, Accreditation of Teacher Education Programs.

Decision of the Accreditation Committee at its Meeting of May 26, 2015

Findings and Reasons

Substantial Change

The Accreditation Committee finds that there is a reason to believe that the program change constitutes a substantial change to the character, duration or components of the program pursuant to section 21 of Regulation 347/02, Accreditation of Teacher Education Programs, (the "Accreditation Regulation" of the *Ontario College of Teachers Act*), since the program will be offered with a full distance education option in addition to the existing format offered by partial distance education and this would change the character of the program.

The Faculté provided information to show how the modified program will meet the enhanced accreditation requirements of the Accreditation Regulation as they will read on September 1, 2015. Under the transitional subsection 15.2(4) of the regulation, modifications made to a program to comply with those requirements are deemed not to constitute a substantial change of the program. Consequently, the Accreditation Committee considered whether the modified program would satisfy the accreditation requirements as they read on the date the decision was issued.

Review Process

The Accreditation Committee conducted a modified review of the program to determine if the program continues to qualify for accreditation rather than to direct an accreditation panel to do so. The Accreditation Committee decided to conduct the review given its familiarity with the components of both programs, having rendered a decision on the multi-session consecutive program as recently as April 15, 2013 and on the concurrent program offered by full distance education on November 19, 2013.

Accreditation Requirements

The findings and reasons for the committee's decision on whether the program continues to qualify for accreditation and the facts on which it is based follow herein:

Findings

The Accreditation Committee reviewed the application for review of a program change provided by the Faculté. The committee accepts the attestation made by the Dean of the Faculté that there are no changes other than as described in the application.

With respect to Requirement 6, the committee finds that the structure of the new full distance education option is appropriate. Candidates reported for a transitional certificate of qualification and registration will successfully complete the first two academic semesters which includes a practicum component. In making this finding, the committee confirmed that the first-session of the multi-session program is comprised of the first and second semesters, and that these semesters include 9 post-secondary methodology credits and three credits in education foundations. Although not required until September 1, 2015, the committee also notes that the first session of the program will include a practicum component of at least 10 days.

Based on the information provided for the Accreditation Committee to consider, the Accreditation Committee finds that the multi-session consecutive program, as modified, continues to substantially satisfy the accreditation requirements with conditions related to Requirements 6, 8 and 10. For the facts and reasons given below, the Accreditation Committee adds a condition to Requirement 6, continues the existing conditions on Requirement 8 and amends the condition in respect of Requirement 10.

The Accreditation Committee acknowledges that in its November 19, 2013 decision, it had found that the concurrent program offered entirely by distance education substantially satisfied Requirements 6 and 10. As to Requirement 6, the mode of delivery by distance education being an integral part of the modified program, the Accreditation Committee transfers the existing condition on the revoked concurrent program to the modified program.

The Accreditation Committee notes that the condition on Requirement 10 of the concurrent program offered entirely by distance education, although similar to that set on this multi-session program, applied to the Primary/Junior divisions as well as the Junior/Intermediate divisions. The amended condition on Requirement 10 applying to both sets of divisions will replace the existing multi-session program condition on Requirement 10 as set out in the April 15, 2013 decision.

The Faculté had three years from receipt of the Accreditation Committee's decision, that is, until June 18, 2016, to satisfy the conditions on the multi-session consecutive program offered by partial distance education. The committee affirms that June 18, 2016 will remain the date of satisfaction for the existing, amended and new conditions of the program offered by full distance.

Accreditation Period and Satisfaction of Conditions

The Accreditation Committee confirms that the following program, as modified below, continues to qualify for general accreditation with conditions for a period of seven years until April 15, 2020 or for an amended period of time that is in accordance with Section 15 of Regulation 347/02, Accreditation of Teacher Education Programs:

- Multi-session consecutive program of professional education with areas of study in the Primary/Junior and Junior/Intermediate divisions, leading to a Bachelor of Education degree (French-language program offered by partial or full distance education)

The conditions on the modified multi-session consecutive program are as follows:

- Requirement 6 as set out in this decision;
- Requirement 8 as originally set out in the decision of the Accreditation Committee dated April 15, 2013 for the multi-session consecutive program and set out in this decision; and
- Requirement 10 as set out in this decision.

Requirement 6

Fully satisfying this requirement is contingent upon the Dean of the Faculté d'éducation at the Université d'Ottawa submitting evidence acceptable to the Accreditation Committee, that the proposed program's format and structure is appropriate for the course content.

1. To fully satisfy the condition that all course outlines for the proposed program include a section detailing an explicit integration of the conceptual framework, the Dean could provide detailed evidence of the following, for example, for the committee to consider:
 - a universal template for course outlines for the program that includes a section identifying how the course relates to one or more components of the program's conceptual framework, and
 - affirmation from the Dean of a policy requiring the use of the template.
2. To fully satisfy the condition that the program curriculum content includes teaching methods in Health and Physical Education appropriate for the Primary/Junior division and for the Junior component of the Junior/Intermediate program, the Dean could provide detailed evidence of the following, for example, for the committee to consider:
 - an explanation of how the Faculté will ensure that all candidates in the Primary/Junior divisions will be prepared to teach Health and Physical Education, such as by means of a revised table of courses, according to teaching divisions, and
 - an explanation of how the Faculté will ensure that all candidates in the Junior/Intermediate divisions will be prepared to teach Health and Physical Education in the Junior division, such as by means of a revised table of courses, according to teaching divisions, and
 - course outlines for one or more method courses for the Primary/Junior and Junior/Intermediate areas of study in this program that explicitly reference division-

appropriate Ontario program and curriculum content in Health and Physical Education, as well as subject-appropriate pedagogy, resources and delivery format, and

- artifacts verifying that the content has been addressed, such as teacher candidate assignments reflecting the application of Health and Physical Education teaching methods or relevant summaries of outcomes of student course evaluations and/or faculty program reviews.

The Dean must submit evidence to the College by June 18, 2016. Once the Dean provides information that the Accreditation Committee finds to be acceptable evidence for both conditions, Requirement 6 will be fully satisfied for this program.

Requirement 8

Fully satisfying this requirement is contingent upon the Dean of the Faculté d'éducation at the Université d'Ottawa submitting evidence acceptable to the Accreditation Committee, that the practicum placements for these programs include observation and practice teaching in schools or other situations that use the Ontario Curriculum and that the placements enable every teacher candidate to participate in settings related to each division and at least one relevant subject area for the program.

3. To fully satisfy this condition, the Dean could provide detailed evidence of the following, for example, for the committee to consider:
 - published policies describing the requirement for non-publically funded practica sites to be instructional settings that use the Ontario curriculum, such as a Practica Handbook for the program and/or other forms of communication with teacher candidates and practicum partners outlining criteria, and
 - names of practica sites for schools that are non-publically funded, or other approved settings, with information to verify whether the setting is a school that uses the Ontario curriculum, and that associate teachers are experienced Ontario certified teachers, and
 - a practicum compilation table that describes the practicum placements for teacher candidates, identifying length for the placement, divisions, nature of experience (i.e. observation, teaching, observation and teaching), single or multi-subjects, name of the placement school, and
 - a description of the quality assurance processes in place for tracking future teacher candidate placements and verifying that the practica experience complies with all regulatory requirements.

The Dean must submit evidence to the College within three years of its receipt of the Accreditation Committee's decision (June 18, 2016). Once the Dean provides information that the Accreditation Committee finds to be acceptable evidence, Requirement 8 will be fully satisfied for this program.

Requirement 10

Fully satisfying this requirement is contingent upon the Dean of the Faculté d'éducation at the Université d'Ottawa submitting evidence acceptable to the Accreditation Committee that the teaching method courses in the program are appropriate in relation to the divisions to which they relate.

4. To fully satisfy the condition that the program curriculum content includes teaching methods in Health and Physical Education appropriate for the Primary/Junior division and for the Junior component of the Junior/Intermediate program, the Dean could provide detailed evidence of the following, for example, for the committee to consider:
 - an explanation of how the Faculté will ensure that all candidates in the Primary/Junior divisions will be prepared to teach Health and Physical Education, such as by means of a revised table of courses, according to teaching divisions, and
 - an explanation of how the Faculté will ensure that all candidates in the Junior/Intermediate divisions will be prepared to teach Health and Physical Education in the Junior division, such as by means of a revised table of courses, according to teaching divisions, and
 - course outlines for one or more method courses for the Primary/Junior and Junior/Intermediate areas of study in this program that explicitly reference division-appropriate Ontario program and curriculum content in Health and Physical Education, as well as subject-appropriate pedagogy, resources and delivery format, and
 - artifacts verifying that the content has been addressed, such as teacher candidate assignments reflecting the application of Health and Physical Education teaching methods or relevant summaries of outcomes of student course evaluations and/or faculty program reviews.

The Dean must submit evidence to the College by June 18, 2016. Once the Dean provides information that the Accreditation Committee finds to be acceptable evidence, Requirement 10 will be fully satisfied for this program.

As required in subsection 16(1) of Accreditation Regulation 347/02, Accreditation of Teacher Education Programs, the Dean of the Faculté d'éducation shall report annually to the Accreditation Committee on the progress in satisfying the conditions. The next annual report is due on or before April 15, 2016.