



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.
Commissioner

June 20, 2017

Dr. Jacqueline Moloney
Chancellor
University of Massachusetts Lowell
Suite 400
220 Pawtucket St.
Lowell, MA 01854

Dear Chancellor Moloney:

Under the authority of the certification law (M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 38G), the Commissioner “may approve programs devoted to the preparation of teachers and other education personnel.” In support of this, University of Massachusetts – Lowell underwent a formal review during the 2016-2017 academic year in accordance with the regulations outlined in [603 CMR 7.00](#) and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s (ESE) [Guidelines for Program Approval](#).

In coordination with the leadership and staff at your organization, ESE was able to conduct a robust performance evaluation that included a document review, an assessment of available outcome data, and an onsite visit during which we interviewed several stakeholder groups including recent program completers, current candidates, and your PK-12 partners.

Based on the evidence and judgments outlined within the enclosed Formal Review Report, I have determined that University of Massachusetts – Lowell is granted **full approval**. A Sponsoring Organization that has been granted full approval is recognized by the state to have met all standards for preparing effective educators in Massachusetts. Candidates are well-served by this organization or program and receive a high-quality preparation experience. Attainment of full approval under the 2012 Program Approval Standards is a significant achievement. I extend my congratulations to you and the University of Massachusetts - Lowell community for achieving full approval of your educator preparation programs.

This approval status is provided to your Sponsoring Organization overall. Your organization’s overall approval status affords you the authority and the responsibility as an educator preparation provider to continue to monitor and assess the efficacy of individual programs throughout the period of approval. Given the status of approved, your organization is authorized to endorse candidates for licensure through August 31, 2024 with an anticipated review in the 2023-2024 academic year.

In the event that your Sponsoring Organization ceases to meet the requirements set forth in [603 CMR 7.03 \(2\) through \(4\)](#) or ESE finds insufficient evidence of your ability to continue to meet standards at

either the program or organization level, ESE may conduct an interim review on an as-needed basis at any interval during the seven-year review cycle.

During your period of approval, candidates must be endorsed electronically through ESE's Early ID system by the individual you have identified as responsible for completing an audit of each candidate's successful completion of all approved program requirements prior to endorsement. Transcripts of University of Massachusetts – Lowell's candidates for licensure must include the following endorsement statement:

(This candidate) has completed a Massachusetts State approved program for licensure in (indicate field, level and type, e.g., Mathematics, 5-8, Initial) and is endorsed for licensure in this field under terms pursuant to the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement.

On behalf of the Commonwealth, I would like to take this opportunity to commend University of Massachusetts - Lowell for its demonstrated commitment to effectively preparing educators for Massachusetts' schools. I am grateful for your efforts and the resulting impact you have in supporting the success and achievement of our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mitchell Chester" followed by a stylized flourish or initials.

Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.

Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education

C: Anita Greenwood, Dean, Graduate School of Education
Vera Ossen, Accreditation and New Program Initiatives Program Advisor
Charmaine Branchaud, Licensure Officer
Susan Pham, ESE State Specialist for Educator Preparation
Marty Meehan, President, University of Massachusetts System

Enclosure