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**Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) Unit & Specialty Area Program (SAP) Approvals**

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**The Background:**

The Department of Education is responsible for the review of the Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) (e.g., Union University) and the Specialty Area Programs (i.e., the endorsement program; e.g., Elementary Education K-5) offered by in-state educator preparation providers. Action recommendations made by the department must be approved by the State Board of Education.

Steps in the review process include:

- Report prepared by the EPP that responds to the Council for the Accreditation of Education Preparation (CAEP) national accreditation standards and state specialty program standards;
- On-site review conducted by an on-site state review team; for national accreditation, CAEP on-site team also conducts a review;
- On-site review report submitted to the EPP;
- EPP response to the on-site review report submitted to the department;
- Department presents recommendations to the State Board of Education; and
- CAEP accreditation/state approval comprehensive review occurs on a seven-year cycle, which may include focused reviews during the interim period.

The Department of Education recommendations for EPPs and Specialty Area Programs fall into one of several categories: Full Approval, Approval, Minor Stipulations, Probationary Approval, Major Stipulations or Denial of Approval. For EPPs seeking CAEP accreditation, the accreditation status is reported.

Attached are action recommendations for EPPs and Specialty Area Programs for the following EPPs:

Southern Adventist University  
Tennessee State University  
Vanderbilt University  
Martin Methodist College

**Joint CAEP Accreditation/State Specialty Area Program Comprehensive Review:**

*Southern Adventist University*

The review team concluded that the EPP meets expectations on all CAEP standards. No critical deficiencies were cited. The provider was approved, along with 16 specialty area programs.

*Tennessee State University*

The review team concluded that the EPP meets expectations on all CAEP standards. No critical deficiencies were cited. The provider was approved, along with 19 specialty area programs.

*Vanderbilt University*

The review team concluded that the EPP meets expectations on all standards. No critical deficiencies were cited. The provider was approved, along with 22 specialty area programs.

**State-only EPP and Specialty Area Program Comprehensive Review:**

*Martin Methodist College*

The review team concluded that the EPP meets expectations on all CAEP standards. No critical deficiencies were cited. The provider was approved, along with seven specialty area programs.

**The Recommendation:**

The Department of Education recommends adoption of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.