

New Business Item 13-37

Introduced 5/23/2014

Approved 5/23/14

TITLE: Extension of State Approval for Teach for America

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board approves an extension to the Teach for America (TFA) unit and program approval for their Alternative Post-baccalaureate programs from December 2014 to June 30, 2016.

Rationale: TFA is currently a member of the Council for the Accreditation of Education Preparation (CAEP) and is seeking accreditation through the TEAC legacy route. They have written their Inquiry Brief draft, however, after meeting with TEAC staff it is not anticipated that they will be able to complete all of the steps towards national accreditation by December 2014. TEAC recommended an audit site visit date in the Fall of 2015. The Commission would then give their audit results in the Spring of 2016.

Submitted by: Terry Lynn Holck

Referred to: Teacher Education Committee

One day, all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education.

TEACHFORAMERICA

April 22, 2014

Esteemed Members of the Hawai'i Teachers Standards Board,

We are writing to request an extension of Teach For America-Hawai'i's accreditation, currently scheduled to expire in December 2014. We are experiencing challenges with meeting the deadline due to delays in scheduling our national accreditation visitation.

TFA-Hawai'i is already a member of Council for the Accreditation of Education Preparation (CAEP) and on track to receive national accreditation through the TEAC legacy route. We have written a draft Inquiry Brief and have met individually with TEAC staff to review this draft during the recent CAEP conference in the last week of March 2014. Although it was stated that we are well on our way to receiving accreditation, we do not anticipate completing all steps towards national accreditation by December 2014. As of now, we have been unable to secure a date from TEAC for an accreditation visit. As you know, this is a time of large state and national change, as we move from TEAC and NCATE to CAEP, and there is a long national backlog for accreditation for many programs, including ours. Our understanding from our meeting with representatives from TEAC and CAEP in March 2014 is that we should be able to arrange a visitation in Fall 2015, which would put us on track for approval in Spring 2016. Nevertheless, given the national uncertainty, we would like to extend our current accreditation an additional six months to provide a buffer.

For these reasons, Teach For America-Hawai'i requests an extension of our accreditation to June 2016. This extended timeline will allow us to meet all the requirements laid out by the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board and our national accreditation partners.

Aloha,



William Scott

Managing Director, Teacher Leadership Development
Chair, Alternative Route to Credential Program



AN AMERICORPS PROGRAM



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Dear Hawaii Teacher Standards Board Colleagues,

I am writing to affirm that Teach for America–Hawaii is an Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) in good standing with CAEP, and that we have agreed to the following timeline for the TFA-Hawaii accreditation process:

- The first draft of the Inquiry Brief Proposal using TEAC Quality Principles should be submitted to CAEP in Fall 2014
- The TFA-Hawaii site visit should be scheduled for Fall 2015
- The CAEP Inquiry Brief Commission review, leading to a decision regarding TEAC accreditation, would take place in Spring 2016

TFA-Hawaii faculty have participated in two CAEP Inquiry Brief writing workshops, in December 2013 and March 2014. As of March 2014, the draft of the Inquiry Brief Proposal was well underway. In the CAEP IB Pathway, EPPs typically also engage in individual formative evaluation, and CAEP staff recommended that TFA-Hawaii avail itself of this option, to ensure that TFA-Hawaii will be able to represent its case as effectively as possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at christine.gorowara@caepnet.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Carrino Gorowara". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christine Carrino Gorowara, Ph.D.
Senior Director of Accreditation, Inquiry Brief Pathway

cc: Kara Kusunoki
Lia Rozmiarek
Will Scott