

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

MUSKINGUM UNIVERSITY Teacher Leader Endorsement (K-12)

RECOMMENDATION

This program meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for an educational program leading to the Teacher Leader Endorsement. As part of the review, areas for improvement in assessing student learning and fieldwork/clinical experiences were identified. Conditional approval is recommended for a three-year period of time until 2014, with a progress report required by December 31, 2011. The progress report should 1) provide a complete description of key assessments indicating specifically how the teacher leader standards are met; and 2) provide a complete description of all fieldwork and clinical opportunities, including the alignment between fieldwork experiences, standards and assessments. It should be noted that the program is subject to periodic review by the Chancellor to ensure that the standards for Ohio licensure continue to be met.

Request: Muskingum University requests approval for a Teacher Leader Endorsement (K-12).

Profile: Muskingum University is a private, non-profit university established in 1837 and located in New Concord, Ohio. Muskingum University has more than 2200 students in undergraduate and graduate degree programs, including multiple majors in preK-12 education leading to provisional licensure in Ohio and preparation for educational leaders in various specializations and endorsement areas.

Accreditation/Authorization: The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC) regionally accredits the institution. Muskingum University is HLC accredited until its next scheduled review in 2013. The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accredits Muskingum University's educator preparation programs at the initial and advanced level. The next NCATE accreditation review is scheduled for fall of 2012.

Background: The Teacher Leader Endorsement can be added to an existing teacher license, K-12. The endorsement requires that the applicant has successfully completed four years of teaching experience, has a master's degree and meets the program standards for the endorsement. The Teacher Leader Standards focus primarily on: effective leadership and teacher learning; data-based decision making and demonstrating evidence-based practice; facilitating a collaborative learning culture; participation in a shared vision and goals for the school; and promotion and modeling of ongoing professional learning and improved practice.

The Teacher Leader endorsement is valid for mentoring and coaching teachers, providing staff development, and assisting the building principal in developing and supporting a shared vision and shared goals for the school. Muskingum University's program comprises 11 hours and meets the minimum requirements for the endorsement. Areas of improvement were noted in the review. Muskingum University is required to provide a progress report to detail

improvements in the assessment of students and the use of fieldwork/clinical experiences to address the standards for teacher leader programs.

Recommendation to the Chancellor: This program meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for an educational program leading to the Teacher Leader Endorsement. As part of the review, areas for improvement in assessing student learning and fieldwork/clinical experiences were identified. Conditional approval is recommended for a three-year period of time until 2014, with a progress report required by December 31, 2011. The progress report should 1) provide a complete description of key assessments indicating specifically how the teacher leader standards are met; and 2) provide a complete description of all fieldwork and clinical opportunities, including the alignment between fieldwork experiences, standards and assessments. It should be noted that the program is subject to periodic review by the Chancellor to ensure that the standards for Ohio licensure continue to be met.