BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY
Adolescent to Young Adult License, Physical Sciences: Physics (grades 7 – 12)

RECOMMENDATION

This licensure program meets the Chancellor's requirements for academic programs and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for the AYA Physical Science licensure in Physics. Approval is recommended for Wittenberg University until the next professional accreditation review. In addition, 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: Wittenberg University requests approval for an undergraduate and post-baccalaureate program of study leading to an AYA license in Physical Science: Physics (7 – 12)

Profile: Wittenberg University is a four-year, private liberal arts university founded in 1845 and affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Located in Springfield Ohio, the University has an enrollment of approximately 1950 students. Wittenberg attracts and admits academically strong students with approximately 65% of the entering students graduating in the top fifth of their high school classes. The university provides a strong liberal arts curriculum.

Accreditation/Authorization: The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC) regionally accredits the institution. Wittenberg University is HLC accredited until its next scheduled review in 2017. The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accredits Wittenberg University's educator preparation programs at the initial and advanced level until its next review in 2015.

Background: To obtain initial licensure as a grade seven through twelve (7-12) physical sciences teacher in Ohio, teacher candidates must complete a program of study in a physical science concentration (physics) that is equivalent to at least an academic major. Students also complete education foundation and pedagogy courses. The state of Ohio also requires all AYA candidates to complete three (3) semester hours of reading that connects literacy instruction to the candidate's specific content area specialization. In addition, the Ohio Department of Education mandates that all licensure areas provide evidence that teacher candidates understand the principles of value-added instruction and assessment. Wittenberg University's program meets these standards and expectations.

Recommendation: This program meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for the AYA license in Physical Science: Physics. Approval is recommended for Wittenberg University until its next professional accreditation review. In addition, 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.