



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

May 18, 2007

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Dear Certification Officer:

It has come to the attention of the Office of Professional Preparation Services (OPPS) that some confusion exists regarding the process for recommending the Autism Collaborative Endorsement (ACE) candidates for a Professional Education certificate.

The ACE program was established as a consortium of universities to provide a program to prepare teachers of students with autism spectrum disorder. As you know, the courses are provided through the collaboration of the various institutions and the teacher earns credit from more than one university. The result has been confusion as to whether the program is at odds with the administrative rules requiring a planned program to be consolidated on one transcript. Since this program has received the full approval of the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), it may be considered to be a recognized planned program which satisfies the education requirement for advancement to the Professional Education certificate.

Upon completion of all coursework and the appropriate work experience, the participating teacher may make application for a Professional Education teaching certificate and endorsement to the MDE by completing the appropriate form. The teacher must include, along with the form, a work experience report and all relevant college transcripts. A verification of coursework will be made by the Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services (OSE-EI). When the verification of documents has been concluded, the MDE will submit the recommendation of the teacher for the Professional Education certificate.

Enclosed is a copy of the application form to be used by the teacher. The form should be mailed to the MDE with all supporting documentation by the teacher.

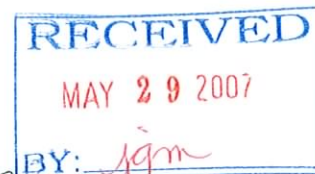
If you have further questions about these procedures, contact Dr. Joanne Winkelman, OSE-EI, at 517-373-1696, or Dr. Frank Ciloski, OPPS, at 517-373-6791.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Flora L. Jenkins, Ph.D.
Director
Office of Professional Preparation Services
Childhood Education

Jacquelyn Thompson, Ph.D.
Director
Office of Special Education and Early
and Intervention Services



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