

State Approval of Educator Approval Programs

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<p>What is state program approval?</p>	<p>Maryland has regulatory authority over the professional educator preparation programs offered in Maryland in what are considered traditional programs, and over non-traditional pathways called Maryland Approved Alternative Preparation Programs, which may or may not include colleges and universities. MAAPPs are always housed in the local school system (LSS) and include such providers as The New Teacher Project, Teach for America, the Urban Teacher Center, or the LSS may offer its own program without a provider. This authority assures citizens that those who are prepared, certified, and employed in Maryland have completed an educator preparation program that meets state and national standards. Preparation programs offered include early childhood education, elementary education, special education, specific secondary content areas, educational administration, school counseling, reading specialist, school psychology, and educational media.</p>
<p>What kinds of things does the state look for when it reviews programs?</p>	<p>When state teams evaluate approved programs and MAAPPs, they look for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adherence to state and national standards; • strong academic foundation; • extensive internships (preferably) in professional development schools; • performance assessment throughout programs; • links to state and local K-12 priorities.
<p>How often are preparation programs reviewed?</p>	<p>On-site program approval reviews are conducted every seven years; MAAPPs are reviewed every five years. When institutions seek accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation, as required by state law, the Maryland State Department of Education works in partnership to evaluate the program simultaneously for state approval purposes.</p>
<p>What are the outcome options following a state review?</p>	<p>The outcomes may be of three types: full approval, probation, or denial:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Full approval lasts for seven years for college and university programs and for five years for MAAPPs.</i> This recommendation may specify that one or more issues need to be addressed in a given period of time, such as inclusion of certain important information in the college catalog or adequate implementation of a required plan. <p style="text-align: right;">(More)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Probation is a form of approval that is limited to one or two years with state monitoring. During probation, the institution and its students receive the benefits of state approval; the State Superintendent of Schools must determine that the conditions of probation have been met. If these conditions are not met, the State Superintendent terminates state approval. • Denial means that the program is no longer approved by the state.
<p>If an institution is faced with probationary status, what are its effects on its current students?</p>	<p>None. While on probation, the program is still state-approved. Students' transcripts will bear the following wording: "This student has completed a Maryland Approved Certification Program using state-recognized state or national standards."</p>