



February 8, 2023

TO: Dr. Adrea Lawrence
Dean
Phyllis J. Washington College of Education
University of Montana

SUBJECT: Initial and Advanced Level Educator Preparation Program Accreditation and Approval

Dear Dr. Adrea Lawrence,

Congratulations! This letter confirms the action taken by the Montana Board of Public Education (BPE) on January 12, 2023, granting accreditation and approval of the initial-licensure and the advanced level Educator Preparation Program (EPP) at the Phyllis J Washington College at the University of Montana. This accreditation status is effective between Fall 2022 and Fall 2027. The next site review will take place in Spring 2027.

The University of Montana EPP is granted accreditation and program approval with the following improvement (AFI) areas identified by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) through the joint accreditation process.

10.58.312 and 10.55.606	Initial and Advanced Clinical Partnerships and Practice
10.58.313 and 10.55.607	Initial and Advanced Candidate Quality, Recruitment, and Selectivity
10.58.314	Initial Program Impact
10.58.315 and 10.58.609	Initial and Advanced Provider Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement

The Areas for Improvement should be remediated by the next accreditation cycle and progress toward improvement is reported annually through the annual report to the OPI/BPE. During the next accreditation review, the Educator Preparation Program at both the initial and advanced levels must demonstrate that the AFIs have been corrected.

I wish to extend a special thank you to Dr. Adrea Lawrence, Dr. Daniel Lee, and Kristine Steinberg, for their leadership in guiding your team through a successful virtual site visit. The Phyllis J. Washington College of Education Program at the University of Montana is highly respected across the state.

Thank you for your commitment to advancing educator preparation in Montana.

For more information, contact Julie Murgel at 406-444-3172 or julie.murgel@mt.gov.

Sincerely,

Elsie Arntzen
State Superintendent

cc: Dr. Seth Bodnar, President, University of Montana
Sharyl Allen, Deputy Superintendent, Office of Public Instruction
Julie Murgel, Chief Operating Officer, Office of Public Instruction