Reach Intern Program: Early Completion Option (2016-17)

The Reach Institute for School Leadership offers two different pathways to a California Preliminary Teaching Credential. The first option is the standard Reach Intern Program, a 2-year preparation program focused on relevant and applied coursework to support growth as an educator through the support of weekly seminars, a collaborative cohort of peers, and individualized coaching. The second option is the Early Completion Option (ECO), an accelerated (but higher risk) 1-year pathway designed for experienced educators who already possess the knowledge and skills of a proficient beginning teacher, as defined by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) through the Teaching Performance Expectations (TPEs) in alignment with the California Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP). Participants are required to demonstrate their existing knowledge and skills through the California Teaching Performance Assessments (CalTPA, or TPAs).

In order to qualify for this program before the start of the 2016-17 academic year, participants must meet **ALL** the following requirements by August 11, 2016:

- **Intern Credential** - An Intern Credential qualifies the holder to occupy a Teacher of Record position at his/her school. This credential recommendation will be made to the CTC by Reach once the participant has met the full entrance requirements articulated on the Application Checklist. **Note:** While attempting to qualify for ECO, participants must still meet summer preservice requirements, as articulated by the CTC, through the Reach 210 course or an approved equivalent.

- **NES APK Exam** - This exam is an Assessment of Professional Knowledge (APK) of teaching. Participants must register for and take the exam in time to provide official documentation of passing exam scores by August 11. As long as passing scores are received by August 11, participants may retake the exam if necessary, taking into account Pearson’s 45-day mandatory waiting period for repeated attempts.

- **CalTPA Task 1** - Participants must pass the first California Teaching Performance Assessment (CalTPA) Task, referred to as TPA Task 1 - Subject Specific Pedagogy. Participants who indicate they wish to pursue this pathway will be given the opportunity to attend an orientation to the TPA Task by Reach faculty. The Task must be completed and submitted to Reach by **8am on Tuesday, August 2**. The Task is then sent to external calibrated assessors for official scoring (with scores received by August 11) and must be passed on the first attempt in order to qualify for ECO. If a participant does not pass, s/he is disqualified from this pathway and may have the option to pursue the standard 2-year program, pending enrollment capacity limitations.

- **School Recommendation** - The participant’s employer must agree that the participant is best served through attempting the ECO pathway and must agree to provide the necessary support/supervision hours for successful completion (see completion requirements below).

- **Advisory Meeting** - The candidate must meet with the Intern Program Coordinator to ensure that s/he is aware of both the benefits and risks of attempting the ECO pathway.
The ECO pathway must be completed within one year of qualification, as required by the CTC. During this year, ECO participants must pass each of the remaining three CalTPA Tasks also on the first attempt, demonstrating that his/her existing knowledge and skills meet the expectations for a proficient beginning teacher. (Participants in the standard 2-year Reach Intern Program may attempt each TPA three times in order to pass.) Full completion of the ECO pathway consists of the following:

- Passing the remaining CalTPA Tasks each on the first attempt
  - The remaining Tasks are:
    - TPA Task 2 - Designing Instruction
    - TPA Task 3 - Assessing Learning
    - TPA Task 4 - Culminating Teaching Experience
  - Sessions will be held to orient participants to the Tasks and some resources may be provided on key topics, but the expectation is that participants already possess the background knowledge and skills necessary to pass the assessments. These sessions focus on understanding the assessments and do not provide instruction that otherwise meets credentialing requirements (e.g., classroom management, instruction and assessment, etc.).
- Participating in 189 hours of support/supervision, which may be a combination of the following (TBD for each individual participant in collaboration with the participant’s school):
  - School/district/network professional development
  - Site-based coaching (with an identified coach who meets the CTC qualifications)
  - Completion of select courses from the standard 2-year Reach Intern Program
  - Coaching by a Reach faculty member
- Completing the Reach Technology Module
- Providing proof of CPR certification (including child and infant)
- Providing passing scores for the Reading Instruction Competency Assessment (RICA)
  - Note: RICA required only for participants pursuing a multiple subjects credential
- Completing the Reach year-end participant survey

If the participant does not pass any TPA Task on the first attempt, s/he will no longer be eligible for the ECO pathway and will be subject to the full credentialing requirements. The participant may then have the option to complete the full 2-year course sequence of the standard Reach Intern Program, or the participant may choose to pursue his/her credential through an alternate institution. (Note: Depending upon the support/supervision plan developed, this could potentially extend program participation to three years before earning a preliminary teaching credential. Since an Intern Credential is valid for two years, this would require an appeal to the CTC for an extension, which is granted solely at the discretion of the CTC.)

Participants who complete the 1-year ECO program and earn a Preliminary Teaching Credential must, in most cases, complete two years of an Induction Program to earn a Clear Credential. (Participants who complete the standard 2-year Reach Intern Program and continue at a Reach partner school automatically qualify for the 1-year Early Completion Option of the BTSA/Induction Program to earn a Clear Credential.)