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Dear Colleagues,

As you may have seen in our June newsletter, the Subject Matter Knowledge Guidelines have been updated to reflect two licenses approved by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education last year: Teacher of Students with Moderate Disabilities, PK-2 and Teacher of Students with Severe Disabilities, PK-2. Both of these licenses now also appear on our list of MA High Needs Programs.

At this time, we would like to offer a streamlined approval process for proposed programs in these new licenses. This option is only available for sponsoring organizations that meet the below requirements:

- For a PK-2 Moderate Disabilities Program, the sponsoring organization currently has an approved program in **both** of the following areas:
  - PK-2 Early Childhood program at the same level (Baccalaureate or Post-Baccalaureate) as the proposed program
  - Moderate Disabilities PK-8 and/or 5-12 at the same level (Baccalaureate or Post-Baccalaureate) as the proposed program
- For a PK-2 Severe Disabilities Program, the sponsoring organization currently has an approved program in **both** of the following areas:
  - PK-2 Early Childhood program at the same level (Baccalaureate or Post-Baccalaureate) as the proposed program
  - Severe Disabilities, All Levels at the same level (Baccalaureate or Post-Baccalaureate) as the proposed program

If your organization is eligible and interested in proposing both a Baccalaureate and a Post-Baccalaureate program in either license, a separate program of study must be submitted for each of these two levels.

If you are eligible and interested in pursuing this streamlined approval process for PK-2 Moderate Disabilities or PK-2 Severe Disabilities, please complete the attached Statement of Assurance and submit it along with a program of study for each proposed program to educatorpreparation@mass.gov. We will review these proposals on a rolling basis.

If your organization does not meet these requirements, any proposed PK-2 Moderate Disabilities or PK-2 Severe Disabilities programs must go through the standard informal review process.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Lindsay (on behalf of EE team)