

## BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

### KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

#### Reading Endorsement, Grades K-12

#### RECOMMENDATION

This endorsement meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for a reading endorsement (grades K-12). There were no major concerns identified in the review. Approval is recommended until the next national accreditation visit. In addition, it should be noted that the program is subject to periodic review by the Chancellor to ensure that the standards for Ohio endorsements and licenses continues to be met.

**Profile:** Kent State University was founded as a public teacher-training institution in 1910 and now serves more than 18,000 undergraduate students and nearly 5000 graduate students through an array of associate, baccalaureate, masters and doctoral degrees. Kent State University is located in northeastern Ohio.

**Accreditation/Authorization:** The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC) regionally accredits the institution. Kent State University is HLC accredited until its next scheduled review in 2015. The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accredits Kent State University's educator preparation programs at the initial and advanced level until 2015.

**Request:** Kent State University requests continued approval for a Reading Endorsement (K-12).

**Background:** Kent State University is currently approved by the State Department of Education to provide teacher preparation programs leading to licensure in the following areas: early childhood education, middle childhood education, adolescent and young adult education (major subject areas), intervention specialist (mild/moderate and deaf), library/media education, multi-age areas (e.g. art, health, foreign language, physical education) and career-technical teacher education. KSU also offers programs leading to licensure for educational personnel (principal, school counselor, school psychologist, superintendent, educational administrative specialist in various areas, audiologist, speech-language pathologist) and several endorsements. Kent State University has both undergraduate and graduate degrees leading to initial licensure. KSU is submitting its request to ensure alignment of the current program with national standards and Ohio standards and requirements.

The Reading Endorsement can be added to an existing teacher license, K-12 and meets the knowledge and skills standards of the International Reading Association and the Ohio Performance Based Teacher Licensure Standards. In addition, Ohio requires a minimum 12-semester hour reading core for all licensure candidates. Kent State University's Reading Endorsement program builds from the required reading core and incorporates additional graduate coursework and field experiences. Students have the opportunity to further engage in the study and practice of literacy through Kent State University's graduate program in literacy.

**Recommendation to the Chancellor:** This program meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for a program leading to the reading endorsement. There were no major concerns identified in the review. Continued approval is recommended until the next national accreditation visit. In addition, it should be noted that the program is subject to periodic review by the Chancellor to ensure that the standards for Ohio endorsements and licenses continues to be met.

**End of Comment Period: April 15, 2011**

**No comments received, recommend approval**

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Office of Academic Quality Assurance has verified that this institution has met the standards and requirements of the Ohio Board of Regents and any applicable standards and requirements established by the Ohio State Board of Education.

*Sheryl Hansen* *4-20-2011*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

**APPROVED**

*Jim Petro* *4-25-11*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Petro, Chancellor Date

*mlc*