

**OFFICE OF CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Items**  
**June 19-20, 2014**

**OFFICE OF EDUCATOR LICENSURE**

41. Approval to enter into an agreement with the Mississippi Community College Foundation to continue to administer the Alternate Route Administrator Program known as the Mississippi Alternate Path to Quality School Leadership (MAPQSL) for the 2014-2015 School Year

Background Information:

In 2005, the State Board approved the Mississippi Alternate Path to Quality School Leadership (MAPQSL) program to alternatively train and license K-12 administrators. The contract was awarded at that time to the Mississippi Community College Foundation (MCCF) to operate this program under the supervision of the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE).

For the 2007-2008 to 2013-2014 school years, MCCF conducted the MAPQSL program through funds generated through tuition fees gleaned from the participants. Because there are no state funds allotted for the MAPQSL program, MDE and MCCF are again entering into an agreement to continue to operate the program.

The State Board is being asked to consider approval of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Mississippi Community College Foundation and MDE to operate the MAPQSL alternate route administrator program for the 2014-2015 school year.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

**Mississippi Alternate Path to Quality School Leadership Program (MAPQSL)**  
**MS Community College Foundation**  
**1900 Lakeland Drive, # 941**  
**Jackson, MS 39216**

The Mississippi Community College Foundation (MCCF), is pleased to offer the Mississippi Alternate Path to Quality School Leadership Program (MAPQSL) for educators who aspire to be prepared for a leadership role in a school system in the state of Mississippi. This program is offered in collaboration with the Institute for Education and Workforce Development. This program utilizes the National Institute for School Leadership's research-based curriculum.

The MAPQSL program has been redesigned to meet new requirements by the MS Department of Education. The class beginning June 2, 2014 will be open for a total of 75 participants. The MAPQSL program is being held June 2 through June 25, 2014. MAPQSL will host classes at 2 or 3 sites at strategically located community college campuses in central, north central and south central Mississippi. The number of sites will depend upon overall enrollment.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

This program will be available to K-12 educators who meet the following qualifications:

- Currently employed in a Mississippi school system
- Master's degree or higher from an accredited Institution of Higher Learning
- Valid Class AA Mississippi educator license
- Minimum three (3) years of teaching experience

**GUIDELINES**

*Applicants for the MAPQSL program need to furnish the following materials to be considered for enrollment:*

A completed MAPQSL application

Official transcripts of all college work

Letter of recommendation from a MS school superintendent

Letter must verify the candidate's interest in becoming a school leader, and must provide examples of the candidate's leadership experiences, excellence in teaching, and commitment to students. The superintendent must agree to provide a 40 hour per week internship for a period of one year with a district principal.

Three (3) additional letters of recommendation from supervising principal, a colleague and from the parent of a current or former student

Verification that applicant has a minimum of three (3) years teaching experience

A two to four page typed essay stating personal and professional goals and why the candidate should be selected for the MAPQSL program

### **Application Process**

The application process is open November 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014. All application packets must be sent to the MS Community College Foundation at 1900 Lakeland Drive, # 941, Jackson, MS 39216.

### **Where is the training offered?**

MAPQSL will host classes at 2 or 3 sites at strategically located community college campuses in central, north central and south central Mississippi. The number of sites will depend upon overall enrollment.

### **CRITERIA & GUIDELINES**

Applicants to the Alternate Path to Quality School Leadership program must have:

1. Master's degree in an educational field from an accredited Institution of Higher Learning.
2. Three (3) years teaching experience in their field.
3. Must be employed in a MS school system and have a favorable recommendation from their Superintendent.

### **PROCESS:**

An applicant screening team will review all applications.

Each applicant will be assessed an application fee of \$50 money order or cashier's check (non-refundable) to be considered for the MAPQSL program.

Each applicant will complete a two to four page typed essay stating his/her personal/professional goals and why he/she should be selected for the MAPQSL program.

All applicants who meet the criteria on the qualification process will be interviewed. The interviews will be held in April, 2014.

The screening team will look at each applicant's past educational record, essay, interview and strength of recommendations in considering that applicant's suitability for admission to the MAPQSL program.

Candidates must be employed by a Mississippi school district, and the Superintendent must commit to a 40 hour per week internship for the candidate for a period of one year. Candidates have a three year period to pass the School Leadership Licensure Assessment test (SLLA).

### **TRAINING PROGRAM**

The training program for MAPQSL candidates includes the following components:

1. *Summer Training* – Participants accepted into the program must successfully complete the 15-day administrator training program offered from June 2 – June 25, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., at one

of three community college program sites. Participants must attend all sessions to obtain the One-Year Alternate Route Assistant Administrator license #494.

2. *Saturday Sessions* – Participants must complete the MAPQSL Practicum, including nine (9) Saturdays during the school year following the summer program (one per month from August to May). All summer program participants will complete the Practicum while they are serving the one year internship so that they will be eligible for the five-year alternate route license when an administrative position becomes available.
3. *Internship* – Program participants must participate in an internship for 40 hours a week under an approved successful principal or district administrator. The one-year internship will include supervision and mentorship by NISL MAPQSL faculty and the approved district mentor. During the internship, the mentor must validate work completed toward goals of the program decided by the district mentor and NISL MAPQSL faculty through provided logs. In order to receive the 5 year administrator's license, participants must also successfully complete the School Leadership Licensure Assessment (SLLA) test. The cost of the SLLA is \$425.00 and is at the participant's expense.

### **PROGRAM COMPLETION**

When program participants have completed the summer training program, the 9-day practicum, and have passed the SLLA, they may apply for a five (5) year Entry-level Administrator license. This five-year license is non-renewable. Licensure guidelines require that new alternate route administrators holding the five-year Entry-level license will be required to complete SEMI Entry-level Orientation to School Leadership (OSL) training and six (6) hours of Educational Leadership coursework to be eligible for a Career-level Administrator license. The university coursework will be at the participant's expense. The university credit and OSL work can also be completed during the internship year.

For questions, please contact  
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