

**Correspondence to Candidates Pertaining to NCATE Re-Accreditation  
April 3, 2017**

*The purpose of this message is to outline assessment results related to the Conceptual Framework and NCATE expectations for re-accreditation.*

Dear Graduate or Undergraduate Student,

Shippensburg University and the College of Education and Human Services (COEHS) has prepared evidence with respect to re-accreditation from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), a professional association established to monitor high quality teacher preparation in the United States. Shippensburg University has been accredited by NCATE since 1954.

*“NCATE’s performance-based system of accreditation fosters competent classroom teachers and other educators who work to improve the education of all P-12 students. NCATE believes every student deserves a caring, competent, and highly qualified teacher”*  
([www.NCATE.org](http://www.NCATE.org)).

As part of the evidence for re-accreditation, SU’s Professional Education Faculty, the Director of Field Experience & Partnerships, the Associate Dean and the Dean, which comprise Ship’s Professional Education Preparation Unit (“the Unit”), have analyzed course and program level data generated from Initial (undergraduate) and Advanced (graduate) candidates’ learning outcomes. Assessments from courses in PK-4, 4-8, PK-4/Dual Special Education, Secondary Education (Science, Social Studies, Mathematics, Modern Languages, English and Art), Educational Leadership, Reading, Special Education, Curriculum and Instruction, and School Counseling have been examined within each program, and these assessments have served as evidence of the Unit’s outcomes related to the Conceptual Framework (see [www.ship.edu/COEHS/NCATE/Conceptual Framework/](http://www.ship.edu/COEHS/NCATE/Conceptual_Framework/)). Faculty have analyzed data gathered from these assessments to determine the Unit’s level of mastery for each Conceptual Framework goal. Findings from these analyses are described in the attached documents titled: ‘2016 ITP Data Analysis Executive Summary’ and ‘UAR 2016 Advanced Program Executive Summary’.

In addition, the Unit has reviewed the implementation of the Unit Assessment System protocol and produced an analysis of system-wide recommendations. Please review the attached documents titled: ‘2016 Meta Assessment Analysis’ and ‘Proposed Action Plan to Use 2016 Assessment Results’. These documents describe goals for improving the link between candidates’ learning outcomes, field experiences, and transitions throughout programs with the Unit’s Conceptual Framework.

Please note that meetings will be held later in the semester (i.e., Professional Development Seminar on May 11<sup>th</sup>), and also early in the Fall semester to discuss and reflect on the four attached documents.

Shippensburg University and the College of Education and Human Services is dedicated to preparing competent human service professionals by providing leadership directed toward encouraging collaboration to develop and apply theory, research, policy, resources, practices, and innovative models. We foster these skills by identifying, creating, and disseminating knowledge, respecting diversity, and valuing an attitude of life-long learning in the human services. We strive to instill a sense of responsibility, commitment, and professionalism in our candidates who in turn provide service to people and institutions. At the same time, we strive for expertise in major areas of study by:

- Incorporating a significant liberal arts component into each of the professional programs.
- Identifying outcomes to measure effectiveness of programs.
- Preparing students to demonstrate ethical practices related to common social behavior and legal issues.

In summary, NCATE Unit-Wide faculty and COEHS administrators have determined that our candidates' learning outcomes are linked to the Conceptual Framework, and where candidates' level of mastery is not within the target parameters, the Unit has generated an action plan to address each specified competency.

We encourage your careful review of the four attachments and we appreciate your dedication and commitment to this important professional responsibility. Please forward all questions or comments to: COEHS@ship.edu

Sincerely,



Nellie M. Cyr, Ph.D., FACSM  
Associate Dean, College of Education & Human Services  
NCATE Coordinator

Attachments:

2016 ITP Data Analysis Executive Summary

UAR 2016 Advanced Executive Summary

2016 Meta Assessment Analysis

Proposed Action Plan to Use 2016 Assessment Results