OFFICE OF QUALITY PROFESSIONALS
Summary of State Board of Education Items
October 22-23, 2009

EDUCATOR LICENSURE

To Approve Endorsement Code 209 for Early Oral Intervention License for Birth-Kindergarten Hearing Impaired Children as Recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure (cleared APA with no public comments)

Specifications:

On July 10, 2009, the Certification Commission approved the new license endorsement code number 209 for the masters degree program in Early Oral Intervention for Hearing Impaired children Birth –Kindergarten at the University of Southern Mississippi. This degree program was approved for licensure last month by the state board. Once this endorsement code is on the approved list of licensure codes, graduates from this program can be licensed to work with hearing impaired preschool children that have had cochlear implants.

Background Information:

At the present time, The Office of Educator Licensure grants licenses for K-12 Hearing Impaired endorsement 208 through the bachelor's degree program at USM or the 208 can be added to a standard license as a supplemental endorsement if candidates can successfully challenge the approved Praxis II test for Hearing Impaired. There is no longer a masters degree program in Mississippi for K-12 Hearing Impaired. The newly approved masters degree program at USM for Early Oral Intervention targets preschool hearing impaired children, ages birth to kindergarten, therefore the existing K-12 code cannot be used for this degree. The Commission is recommending the new code of 209.

For other special licenses, two tests are required for certification, usually Praxis I and a Praxis II subject area test or a Praxis II professional knowledge test such as the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT). The Commission and State Board have approved PLT tests for K-5, 5-8 and 7-12, however, at this time, there is not an approved PLT test for preschool. Within the next year, we hope to complete the validation process with ETS to add the Early Childhood PLT test to our list and bring a recommendation of adding that test to the requirements for this license. Until that time, only the Praxis I will be required for candidates that complete the degree program without a standard license.

Attachments:

1. Proposed licensure guideline for the 209 endorsement
2. Description of Early Oral Intervention program at USM

Proposed Class AA license in Birth-Kindergarten Early Oral Intervention:

FIVE YEAR EDUCATOR LICENSE – EARLY ORAL INTERVENTION (209) (Birth to Kindergarten Hearing Impaired)			
License	**Requirements**	**Validity**	**Renewal#**
Class AA	EITHER 1. Hold a five year teaching license 2. Complete a master's degree program in Early Oral Intervention for Hearing Impaired Children Birth to Kindergarten OR 1. Complete an approved master's degree program in Early Oral Intervention for Hearing Impaired Children Birth to Kindergarten 2. Praxis I (Pre-Professional Skills Test-PPST)	5 years	Three (3) semester hours in content or job/skill related area **OR** Five (5) continuing education nits (CEUs) in content or job/skill related area