

Utah Educator Preparation Program

2021 Annual Report

Brigham Young University

[Section 1: Enrollment Count Spreadsheet](#)

See attached worksheet—BYU EPP Enrollment Counts

[Section 2: Enrollment Follow-up Questions](#)

Please answer the following questions about your program(s) enrollment in narrative form. If you are unable to answer a question, please provide an explanation as to why you are unable to answer the question.

1. Describe how your institution defines enrollment in an educator preparation program. When is a candidate considered 'enrolled' in a program? Does this definition vary from program to program? What are the requirements for enrollment in each of your programs?

The BYU EPP defines enrollment in an educator preparation program as beginning when the candidate has been admitted into the respective licensure program. At the initial undergraduate level, candidates may declare a pre-major and then make application to the major teaching program. This application requires verification of basic skills, minimum GPA, fingerprinting and background check, course requirements, and the creation of a graduation plan. Beginning January 1, 2020, these application materials are submitted in the Educator software system and reviewed by program coordinators (prior data was stored in the mYlink software system). Approval of the application places candidates in the teaching major and into the licensure track. Once admitted into the teaching major, candidates are included in the enrollment counts. All initial licensure programs in the BYU-EPP follow this process.

For advanced programs (School Leadership and School Psychology), candidates are considered enrolled once they are admitted into the program and begin courses on campus. Candidates apply through the BYU graduate school. Programs use prior GPA, GRE scores, candidate interviews, and letters of recommendation as requirements for acceptance and enrollment in the program.

2. Describe your programs' policies regarding a candidates' enrollment status and actively participating in a program. For example, if a candidate takes a leave of absence from school or is not currently taking classes, are they still considered enrolled in the program? Does your definition of enrollment include criteria on 'actively participating' in the program or 'making adequate progress' in the program?

Candidates are considered enrolled in a program until they withdraw from the program (change of major), withdraw from the university, or complete the program. BYU has a number of candidates who choose to defer enrollment at the university for a period of 18-24 months for volunteer service. Most often, these deferments occur during the pre-major status. However, if a candidate is admitted into the program, and thus enrolled, and then chooses to defer, they are still considered enrolled. The BYU EPP does not have a specific criteria for 'actively participating' or 'making adequate progress' in the program. At the initial licensure program, especially in the secondary education programs, candidates apply to the major in the junior year. Given the nature of the BYU context, most candidates make continual progress towards degree. The BYU EPP has identified a number of candidates who enrolled in an initial licensure program but are not actively taking classes and who have not officially withdrawn from the university.

The Advanced Program candidates are required to make active progress towards their degree. This process is managed by the Graduate School at the university and by program coordinators. In the School Psychology program, there are instances in which a candidate may need an additional year to complete the thesis. These candidates are included in the enrollment count as they are working towards degree completion under the supervision of program faculty.

3. Please provide information on your program completion rates. How do you calculate your program completion rates? (e.g. # of candidates per cohort who complete program / # of candidates per cohort who enrolled in the program). On average, how many years does it take candidates to complete your programs? On average, how many candidates drop out or discontinue in the program per cohort?

The BYU EPP collects enrollment data through the university Office of the Registrar. These numbers indicate the enrollment in the program. The BYU EPP also collects data for admission through completion in its Educator software system, which has been live for less than 24 months. Using the resources available, the EPP has been able to track candidates by enrollments for each semester. However, with the format of available data, having a true completion rate is difficult because BYU does not track by cohorts, but by enrollment periods. The data are impacted by possible deferments (most often LDS missionary service), transfer from one teaching program to another, or switching from a teaching major to a non-teaching major. To gain a sense of the completer trends, the BYU EPP chose to pull from 2014 to present in order to track completion over time. During the seven-year period, the EPP had 5257 enrollments with 2458 completers (46.7 percent). Included in these enrollments are current candidates who, when they complete the program, will increase the completer total and percentage. Since 2014, the average time to completion (from admittance into program) is 2.6 years for initial licensure programs.

Both advanced programs track their completion rates in their cohorts. Given the smaller scale of enrollment and the context of their programs, these two licensure programs can track completion rates accurately. School Psychology has a completion rate of 100 percent (12/12) for the cohort that entered in 2017 and completed internships in the past academic year.

4. Briefly share information on your program(s) enrollment capacity from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021. Did you reach maximum program enrollment capacity during this school year? If your program(s) were not at maximum capacity, please share information on why you think you did not obtain full enrollment capacity. Please provide details on program capacity for each program (e.g. Elementary education, School Leadership, etc).

The BYU EPP did not reach enrollment capacity between September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021 in its initial licensure programs (exception of the limited enrollment programs in Music Education). These programs maintain sufficient faculty, course enrollment space, and physical facilities to increase enrollment. The BYU EPP has seen similar downward trends in education licensure enrollment that are similar to those nationally. BYU no longer does post-bac teaching experiences, which has had an impact on enrollment totals.

Early Childhood and Elementary Education programs have slowly and steadily increased enrollment over the past several years. Both programs had higher credit hours and potential candidates were selecting lower credit hour majors. With recent USBE policy changes, both the Early Childhood and Elementary Education programs have revised their programs and reduced the required credit hours by 10-12. These revisions allow candidates to possibly eliminate one semester of their preparation experience.

Secondary Education programs have capacity to add additional candidates with the goal to return to previous enrollment levels. Programs have seen a number of potential candidates move to STEM related non-teaching fields. Special Education programs are still below enrollment capacity, though their numbers have been steadily increasing over the past two years.

School Leadership has revised its program to eliminate certain degree tracks and to streamline its program with the USBE standards. It is currently marketing the new program and degree tracks with applications currently underway. School Psychology has a surplus of candidates and fills its limited spots annually.

Section 3: School Leadership Program Entrance Requirement Waivers

Please Note: If your institution does not have a Board-approved School Leadership licensure program, you do not need to complete this section.

School Leadership admitted one individual who did not meet one of more of these entrance requirements, representing just under 5% of total candidates (1 of 22) admitted to our program from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021. Details on these waivers are as follows:

Student 1: Lapsed license. Graduated from a teacher education program and runs her own preschool. Working on renewing her license before graduation.