INSTITUTION: **University of North Alabama**

ANALYSIS FORM FOR: **290-3-3-. 44 Alternative Class A Programs for Teaching Fields**. (adopted 8-3-2009)

All Standards Met, October 2013

	IHE Evidence	**TEAM ✓**	**Comments**
290-3-3-.44 Alternative Class A Programs for Teaching Fields.	XXX	XXX	XXX
(1) Purposes of Alternative Class A Programs. The purposes of an Alternative Class A program shall be identical to the purposes for preparing teachers at the Class B level in the same teaching field, except that persons who complete the Alternative Class A program shall have acquired knowledge and skill above the level required for completion of a Class B program, including content knowledge, teaching and learning, literacy, diversity, and professionalism. Additional information is provided in Rule 290-3-3-.03.	• Alt A TEP Handbook p. 11	✓	
(2) Institutional and Program Requirements.	XXX	XXX	XXX
(a) The provision of Class A programs shall be limited to institutions that meet the standards for accreditation at the master's degree or higher level by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.	• Graduate Catalog p. 1	✓	
(b) Post-bachelor's degree coursework shall comply with the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools' *Principles of Accreditation*, section on Educational Programs.	• Graduate Catalog p. 1	✓	
(c) Institutions must have and enforce policies that preclude a candidate who took a course for undergraduate credit from taking the same course for graduate credit.	• Graduate Catalog p. 36	✓	
(d) Completion of a Class A program for a teaching field requires at least 30 semester hours of graduate credit not used for prior certification in the same field.	• Graduate Catalog p. 75-77 • Program Checklists	✓	

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(3) Admission to Alternative Class A Programs.	XXX	XXX	XXX
(a) <u>Unconditional admission</u>.	XXX	XXX	XXX
1. Each institution shall establish and enforce a policy that specifies when the candidate must meet admission criteria before she or he is admitted to the program.	• Graduate Catalog p. 76 • Alt A TEP Handbook p. 12-13	✓	
2. The policy must include all admission requirements specified in Rules 290-3-3-.44(3)(a)3. through .44(3)(d).	• Graduate Catalog p. 76 • Alt A TEP Handbook p. 12-13	✓	
3. Candidates admitted on or after October 1, 2009, may complete no more than five approved program courses prior to unconditional admission.	• Graduate Catalog p. 65, 76 • Alt A TEP Handbook p. 11-12	✓	
4. Teaching field course requirements specified in Rule 290-3-3-.44(3)(d) must be met prior to unconditional admission unless a graduate course will be used to meet the requirement of a course in each of the areas listed in a comprehensive middle level or secondary teaching field (English language arts, general science, general social studies).	• Graduate Catalog p. 76 • Alt A TEP Handbook p. 12-13	✓	
(b) <u>Degree requirements</u>. A person who is eligible for admission to an Alternative Class A program shall have earned a bachelor's or higher degree with a minimum grade point average (GPA) overall of 2.50. This GPA must be documented on the official transcript of the degree granting institution and must be the GPA that was used as the basis for granting the degree. In addition, the person must meet one of the following options:	• Graduate Catalog p. 65 • Alt A TEP Handbook p. 11	✓	

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1. Earned a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university.	• Graduate Catalog p. 65 • Alt A TEP Handbook p. 11	✓	
2. Earned a bachelor's degree from a non-regionally accredited institution <u>and</u> an earned master's or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution, and has attained a passing score on the prescribed Praxis II subject assessment of the Alabama Prospective Teacher Testing Program (APTTP). This option is permitted only when <u>both</u> of the following conditions are met:	N/A		
(i) At the discretion of the administrative head of the unit and in accordance with institutional policy.	N/A		
(ii) If there is a prescribed Praxis II subject assessment of the APTTP.	N/A		
3. Earned a bachelor's degree from a non-regionally accredited institution, holds a valid professional educator certificate in the state where the institution is geographically located, and has attained a passing score on the prescribed Praxis II subject assessment of the APTTP. This option is permitted only when <u>both</u> of the following conditions are met:	N/A		
(i) At the discretion of the administrative head of the unit and in accordance with institutional policy.	N/A		
(ii) If there is a prescribed Praxis II subject assessment of the APTTP.	N/A		

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(c) General studies. Individuals applying for admission to:	XXX	XXX	XXX
1. Alternative Class A programs in early childhood education, elementary education, early childhood special education, or collaborative special education teacher (K-6) shall have earned at least 12 semester hours of acceptable credit, as verified on official transcripts, in each of the following areas: English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies or, effective May 4, 2009, earned the current passing score on the prescribed Praxis II subject assessment of the Alabama Prospective Teacher Testing Program.	N/A		
2. Alternative Class A programs in collaborative special education teacher (6-12) shall have earned at least 12 semester hours of acceptable credit, as verified on official transcripts, in each of the following areas: English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.	N/A		
3. Alternative Class A programs in teaching fields other than early childhood education, elementary education, early childhood special education, collaborative special education (K-6 or 6-12):	• Official Transcript	✓	
(i) Candidates admitted before October 1, 2009, must meet general studies requirements for courses including humanities, social science, science, and mathematics.	• Official Transcript	✓	
(ii) Candidates admitted on or after October 1, 2009, are not required to meet general studies requirements for courses including humanities, social science, science, and mathematics.	• Official Transcript	✓	

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(d) Teaching field. Prior to unconditional admission, a person who wishes to earn certification in a teaching field listed below shall have completed one of the options in Rule 290-3-3-.44(3)(d)1.- 5. below:	XXX	XXX	XXX
1. For any teaching field, effective May 4, 2009, in lieu of Rule 290-2-3-3-.44(3)(d)2. through 5., verification of a current passing score on the prescribed Praxis II subject assessment of the Alabama Prospective Teacher Testing Program.	• Graduate Catalog p. 65, 76 • Alt A TEP Handbook p. 12	✓	
2. Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Early Childhood Special Education, Collaborative Special Education Teacher K-6, Collaborative Teacher 6-12: At least 32 semester hours with at least 19 semester hours at the upper-division level courses appropriate to the curriculum indicated in *Alabama Courses of Study* and/or related pedagogy or, at a minimum, the institution must require 12 semester hours in each of the four areas of general studies as prescribed in Rule 290-3-3-.44(3)(c)1. and 2. The institution may have additional requirements as it deems appropriate.	N/A		
3. Single Teaching Field for Middle Level or Secondary: An academic major in the teaching field, or if an academic major is not on the official transcript, 32 semester hours appropriate to the teaching field including at least 19 semester hours of upper-division credit.	N/A		

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4. Comprehensive Middle Level or Secondary Teaching Fields:	XXX	XXX	XXX
(i) English Language Arts: An academic major in an area included in English language arts—e.g., English, speech, drama/theatre, and journalism—and at least one course in each of the other listed areas of English language arts. If an academic major is not on the official transcript, then the admission requirement shall be 32 semester hours of credit appropriate to English language arts, including at least 19 semester hours of upper-division credit. At a minimum, coursework must include courses in literature, grammar, reading skills, writing, speech, theatre, and print or broadcast journalism. If an applicant does not have a course in each of the areas indicated, but meets all other admission requirements, then credit for that course(s) must be earned prior to program completion.	N/A		
(ii) General Science: An academic major in an area included in the sciences—e.g., biology, chemistry, Earth or space science, and physics—and at least one course in each of the other listed areas of general science. If an academic major is not on the official transcript, then the admission requirement shall be 32 semester hours of credit appropriate to general science including at least 19 semester hours of upper-division credit and at least one course in each of following areas: biology, chemistry, Earth or space science, and physics. If an applicant does not have a course in each of the areas indicated, but meets all other admission requirements, then credit for that course(s) must be earned prior to program completion.	N/A		

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(iii) General Social Studies: An academic major in an area included in the social studies—e.g., economics, geography, history, and political science—and at least one course in each of the other areas listed in the social studies. If an academic major is not on the official transcript, then the admission requirement shall be 32 semester hours of credit appropriate to the social studies with at least 19 semester hours of upper-division credit and at least one course in each of the following areas: economics, geography, history, and political science. If an applicant does not have a course in each of the areas indicated, but meets all other admission requirements, then credit for that course(s) must be earned prior to program completion.	N/A		
(iv) Career and Technical Education: At least 32 semester hours appropriate to the teaching field including at least 19 semester hours of upper-division credit.	N/A		
5. P-12 Programs: An academic major in the teaching field or, if an academic major is not on the official transcript, 32 semester hours of credit appropriate to the teaching field including at least 19 semester hours of upper-division credit.	N/A		

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(4) Curriculum of Alternative Class A Programs. A program in a given teaching field shall be designed to develop appropriate Class B teaching competencies. In addition, a program shall include:	• Graduate Catalog p. 75-77 • Alt A TEP Handbook p. 11	✓	
(a) <u>Teaching field</u> of at least one-third of the total number of graduate hours in the program.	• Graduate Catalog p. 77 • Program Checklists	✓	
English language arts, general science, and general social studies programs shall require at least one course in two areas within the broader field.	• Graduate Catalog p. 77 • Program Checklists	✓	
(b) <u>Alabama Quality Teaching Standards</u> in Rule 290-3-3-.03 and require study in the following areas: content knowledge; curriculum; methods of teaching; meeting the needs of diverse populations, including, but not limited to, students with special needs; literacy, including mathematics and technology; professionalism; and using assessment data to improve student learning.	• Program Checklists • Alt A AQTS	✓	
(c) <u>Methods course</u>. Each Class B and Alternative Class A teaching field shall be supported by at least one methods course specific to the teaching field or to the general area of the teaching field (e.g., science methods or social studies methods). Methods courses for specific teaching fields or for the general area of the teaching field shall not be combined with methods courses of other teaching fields or general areas (e.g., mathematics and biology).	• Graduate Catalog p. 77 • Program Checklists	✓	

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If the faculty members who teach methods courses have not had recent P-12 teaching experience that has provided knowledge of the trends and issues in the P-12 setting, then each methods course shall be team taught with a P-12 teacher who holds at least a valid master's-level certificate in an appropriate teaching field or shall be taught by that P-12 teacher. Additional information is provided in Rule 290-3-3-.02(4)(b). The requirement for Alternative Class A programs is effective for candidates admitted on or after August 1, 2011.	• P-12 Recency Forms	✓	
(d) <u>Five Core Propositions of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards</u>. Additional information is provided in Rule 290-3-3-.42(4)(c).	• ED 634	✓	
(e) <u>Technology proficiencies</u> specified in Rule 290-3-3-.42(4)(b).	• Class A Technology PAT	✓	
(f) <u>Field experiences</u> in a wide variety of school settings. The field experiences must comply with Rule 290-3-3-.02(6)(a) and (b).	• Alt A TEP Handbook p. 14	✓	
(g) <u>Internship</u>.	**XXX**	XXX	XXX
1. The internship in Alternative Class A programs shall be full-time in the schools for a full semester in the teaching field for which certification is sought and may include more than one classroom or grade level, with experiences of the intern progressing to the full responsibilities of the teacher for at least 20 full days including at least 10 consecutive days.	• Internship Handbook p. 12	✓	
2. The internship must comply with Rule 290-3-3-.02(6)(c) regarding dividing the internship.	• Internship Handbook p. 20	✓	

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3. Entry and exit criteria shall be clearly identified for the internship.	• Alt A TEP Handbook p. 14-15 • Internship Handbook p. 12-16	✓	
(h) **<u>Survey of special education course</u>** if not previously completed.	• Graduate Catalog p. 77 • Program Checklists	✓	
(5) Requirements for Alternative Class A Certification. Readiness to serve as a teacher shall include:	XXX	XXX	XXX
(a) An official transcript from a regionally accredited institution documenting an earned master's degree.	• Alt A TEP Handbook	✓	
(b) Satisfactory completion of a State-approved program with a minimum GPA of 3.0 on all courses in the Alabama State Board of Education approved teacher education program.	• Graduate Catalog p. 34 • Alt A TEP Handbook	✓	
(c) Competence to teach students as demonstrated in an internship as described in Rule 290-3-3-.02(6)(a) and (c).	• Graduate Catalog p. 77 • Alt A TEP Handbook	✓	
(d) A passing score on a comprehensive assessment documenting mastery of the curriculum of the Alternative Class A program, which may include, but may not be limited to, an oral examination.	• Graduate Catalog p. 71 • Alt A TEP Handbook	✓	
(6) Testing for Alternative Class A Certification. Applicants for initial certification through the completion of an Alternative Class A program must meet the requirements of the Alabama Prospective Teacher Testing Program (APTTP).	• Graduate Catalog p. 76 • Alt A TEP Handbook	✓	

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Additional information is provided in Rule 290-3-3-.42(6).			
(7) Special Alternative Certificate.	XXX	XXX	XXX
(a) A Special Alternative Certificate (SAC) allows a superintendent or administrator to employ an applicant who is completing requirements for Class A certification in a teaching field through a State-approved Alternative Class A program at an Alabama institution. Additional information, including requirements and restrictions, is provided in Rule 290-3-2-.06.	• Alt A TEP Handbook	✓	
(b) Special provisions for holders of Special Alternative Certificates.	XXX	XXX	XXX
1. A teacher who is employed based on holding a valid Special Alternative Certificate for early childhood education (or early childhood special education) and is teaching above the kindergarten level may, at the discretion of the unit, complete a three semester hour practicum at the preschool and/or kindergarten level to meet the internship requirements applicable to the early childhood education program (or early childhood special education program). Similarly, a teacher who is employed based on holding a valid Special Alternative Certificate for early childhood education (or early childhood special education) and is teaching at the kindergarten level or below may, at the discretion of the unit, complete a three semester hour practicum in Grades 1, 2, and/or 3 to meet the internship requirements applicable to early childhood education (or early childhood special education) programs.	N/A		

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2. A teacher who is employed based on holding a valid Special Alternative Certificate for elementary education (or collaborative special education K-6) and is teaching at the lower elementary level (grades K, 1, 2, and/or 3) may, at the discretion of the unit, complete a three semester hour practicum at the upper elementary level (grades 4, 5, and/or 6) to meet the internship requirements applicable to the elementary education (or collaborative special education K-6) program. Similarly, a teacher who is employed based on holding a valid Special Alternative Certificate for elementary education (or collaborative special education K-6) and is teaching at the upper elementary level may, at the discretion of the unit, complete a three semester hour practicum at the lower elementary level to meet the internship requirements applicable to the elementary education (or collaborative special education K-6) program.	N/A		
3. A teacher who is employed based on holding a valid Special Alternative Certificate for a teaching field that spans Grades P-12 and is teaching at the elementary level (K-6) may, at the discretion of the unit, complete a three semester hour practicum at the secondary level (6-12) to meet the internship requirements applicable to the P-12 program. Similarly, a teacher who is employed based on holding a valid Special Alternative Certificate for a teaching field that spans Grades P-12 and is teaching at the secondary level (6-12) may, at the discretion of the unit, complete a three semester hour practicum at the elementary level to meet the internship requirements applicable to the P-12 program.	N/A		

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4. A teacher who is employed based on holding a valid Special Alternative Certificate for collaborative special education teacher (K-6) or (6-12) and who is enrolled in a collaborative special education program for both K-6 and 6-12 but whose employment is limited to the grade span for which certification is held may, at the discretion of the unit, complete a three semester hour practicum at the level for which certification is not held to meet the internship requirements applicable to both programs.	N/A		

Comments: