The Evergreen State College

* Does your institution offer Pathway 2 for adding endorsements?

Yes, in many but not all endorsement areas we have approval for based on faculty strengths and interest/availability.

* What is your current geographic coverage area for this option?

Prefer to stay within 45 miles of campus, but have gone as far south (80 miles) to Kelso/Longview area and as far north as Granite Falls (110 miles). Mileage beyond 80 miles roundtrip from campus are assessed additional mileage charge for the observations.

* Does your institution currently offer Pathway 3 for adding endorsements?

We have PESB approval to offer pathway 3 endorsements, but have not taken on any new pathway 3 candidates the past 18 months. We have been still wrapping up a few applicants who began the process two years ago. We may be interested in offering pathway 3 options to new applicants again in the future if the budget cuts and staffing position lost over the past few years are restored by the college if the college’s budget improves. Current teacher preparation staff and faculty must prioritize their time to primarily serve current and prospective MiT students.

* What is your current geographic coverage area for this option?  Please indicate if this coverage is based on face-to-face and/or online options.

We have assisted candidates primarily in the Puget Sound region, but have worked with candidates throughout Western Washington. Most candidates have at least one face-to-face meeting with the certification officer, but some have done everything on-line. We (The Evergreen State College) do not offer on-line courses, but do accept on-line coursework from other accredited institutions.

* Would your institution be willing and able to expand your Pathway 2 to rural areas if you don't already?

We already have served some rural areas in the Olympia Peninsula area, but again, taking time to do face-to-face observations beyond 100 miles from campus would be difficult to accommodate because it takes a faculty member away from campus for a whole day. So not likely to expand beyond 200 miles roundtrip at this time.

* What might it take to do so?  The PESB is especially interested to know if our programs will hire and train folks to conduct the Pathway 2 observations in hard to reach places like the upper Okanogan.

Perhaps some retired teacher certification faculty already familiar with the PPA could conduct observations if PESB sponsored their travel expenses. Or perhaps they could conduct a training at a summer institute.

Not particularly in favor of non-certification programs (especially those unaffiliated with a teacher education program at a university) conducting pathway 2 observations. Often pathway 2 candidates need some coaching and mentoring to improve between the first and second observations. Current teacher education faculty with recent experience doing student teaching observations and familiarity with the PPA are the best choice.

* Please feel free to share any other ideas/strategies you have for meeting potential need around the state either individually or collectively, particularly in rural areas.