

505-3-.68. School Nutrition Director Program

Discussion:

It is proposed that GaPSC 505-3-.68 School Nutrition Director Program dated May 15, 2014, be REPEALED and that a new rule with the same number and title be INITIATED. The new rule incorporates updated program content standards recommended by a GaPSC task force comprised of subject matter experts.

(1) Purpose. This rule states field-specific content standards for approving certification-only educator preparation programs that prepare individuals to serve as School Nutrition Directors in any school setting and supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule 505-3-.01, [Requirements and Standards for Approving Educator Preparation Providers and Educator Preparation Programs](#).

(2) Requirements.

- (a) A GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer this field as a certification-only program.
- (b) The program shall be planned by taking into consideration the candidate's previous graduate-level coursework that is equivalent to the content required coursework and related professional experience as a school nutrition director or coordinator.
- (c) This program shall consist of required graduate-level coursework in foods, nutrition, institutional management, basic financial management, procurement, leadership, nutrition education, and research as well as federal requirements governing school nutrition programs embedded in a master's degree program in a related field or in addition to a master's degree program in a related field.
- (d) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following state-developed standards:
 - 1. The program shall broaden candidates' knowledge in the areas of food, nutrition, and institutional management.
 - 2. The program shall prepare candidates to plan, design, implement, and evaluate school nutrition programs that align with the nutritional needs of students, help build healthy food habits, and prepare students for the classroom.
 - 3. The program shall prepare candidates to design, implement, and evaluate financial and operational practices for school nutrition programs that comply with federal guidelines related to food safety and sanitation, procurement and inventory management, and preparation and service of student meals.
 - 4. The program shall prepare candidates to effectively lead, manage, and supervise school nutrition staff while communicating responsibilities and goals of the school nutrition program to administrators, teachers, school board members, and other stakeholders.
 - 5. The program shall prepare candidates to promote and advocate for school nutrition programs, and to educate students, parents, and community stakeholders on the integral role of school nutrition in supporting student health and academic performance.
 - 6. The program shall prepare candidates to plan, implement, and promote nutrition education within schools and cafeterias.
 - 7. The program shall prepare candidates to design and deliver professional development and

training programs that support the continuous professional growth of school nutrition personnel.

8. The program shall prepare candidates to design, implement, and interpret monitoring and evaluation activities to assess program status and drive continuous improvement of the school nutrition program.
 9. The program shall prepare candidates to identify and interpret appropriate scientific research for the operation of the school nutrition program.
- (e) The program shall meet all applicable requirements specified in GaPSC [Rule 505-3-.01, Requirements and Standards for Approving Educator Preparation Providers and Educator Preparation Programs](#).

Authority O.C.G.A. § 20-2-200.