

Dear Student,

The Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) recently reviewed Rhode Island College's teacher certification programs and indicated that significant improvements are needed in order to meet the needs of today's youth, schools, and communities.

Please be assured, first and foremost, that **you will still be eligible to receive your teaching certification upon graduation.** Our teacher programs, while in need of improvement, have been approved for the next three years.

Two masters' level programs, Building Level Administrator and the School Counselor programs, were not renewed. These programs will need to address serious concerns prior to reapplying for approval. **Currently enrolled students will be eligible for certification upon completion.**

Early-childhood, elementary, and secondary education is changing rapidly, and RIC, like many schools, needs to rethink its programs to meet those demands. We stand ready to do whatever it takes as we work to reaffirm our role as a leading education school in Rhode Island.

Ensuring that our teaching graduates have the necessary skills for today's classroom is our top priority; we are collaborating closely with RIDE in all areas to deliver on this commitment. We value your input throughout this process.

Please feel free to reach out to Don Halquist, Dean, directly at FSEHD_Dean@ric.edu with additional questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Ronald Pitt
Vice President, Academic Affairs

Donald Halquist
Dean, Feinstein School of Education and Human Development