



## ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT

*An official record of actions taken by the AAQEP Accreditation Commission*

**St. Thomas Aquinas College**  
**Teacher Certification Programs**  
**Sparkill, NY**  
**June 2023**

### ACTION

Based on examination of the case record, including the program's self-study and the AAQEP review team's report, the AAQEP Accreditation Commission makes the following determination regarding the teacher certification programs at St. Thomas Aquinas College:

X	<b>ACCREDITATION</b> - The Accreditation Commission finds that the program meets all AAQEP standards and is accredited for a term of seven years.
	<b>ACCREDITATION WITH NOTE</b> - The Accreditation Commission finds that the program meets all AAQEP standards and is accredited for a term of seven years with the notations specified below.
	<b>INITIAL ACCREDITATION</b> - The Accreditation Commission finds that the program meets all AAQEP standards and is accredited for a nonrenewable term of five years.
	<b>INITIAL ACCREDITATION WITH NOTE</b> - The Accreditation Commission finds that the program meets all AAQEP standards and is accredited for a nonrenewable term of five years with the notations specified below.
	<b>PROBATIONARY ACCREDITATION</b> - The Accreditation Commission finds that the program meets all AAQEP standards and is accredited for a term of two years, but conditions specified below represent a potential threat to the provider's ability to meet one or more standards.
	<b>DO NOT ACCREDIT</b> - The Accreditation Commission finds that the program does not meet AAQEP standards and does not qualify for accreditation for reasons specified below.
	<b>DISCLAIMER OF DECISION</b> - The Accreditation Commission finds that the evidence available to it is insufficient to sustain an affirmative or adverse decision.

## TERM

The accreditation term takes effect immediately and lasts through **June 30, 2030**, or until St. Thomas Aquinas College ceases to be a member in good standing of AAQEP, whichever is earlier. Annual Reports are due by December 31 of each year, with the first report being due December 31, 2024. In addition, please refer to AAQEP's [substantive change policy](#) for guidance on program changes that must be reported.

## RATIONALE

The Commission evaluated the program's evidence for each AAQEP standard and determined that all four standards are met. St. Thomas Aquinas College prepares candidates to work effectively as professional educators and provides candidates with varied field experiences to ensure that they are able to adapt to working in a variety of contexts and to continue to grow professionally.

The School of Education maintains program quality by analyzing evidence of effectiveness continuously and making necessary revisions to benefit candidates and to meet the needs of local schools. It engages with stakeholders and partners to strengthen the P-20 education system.

## STANDARDS REPORT

The Commission has made the following determinations regarding the AAQEP standards based on its review of the program's outcomes, documentation of capacity, assessment system, quality control system, plans for development, and other evidence as reviewed and supplemented by the review team:

Standard	Met	Not Met
<b>1. Candidate/Completer Performance</b> - Program completers perform as professional educators with the capacity to support success for all students.	X	
<b>2. Completer Professional Competence and Growth</b> - Program completers adapt to working in a variety of contexts and grow as professionals.	X	
<b>3. Quality Program Practices</b> - The program has the capacity to ensure that its completers meet Standards 1 and 2.	X	
<b>4. Program Engagement in System Improvement</b> - Program practices strengthen the P-20 education system in light of local needs and in keeping with the program's mission.	X	

## CONCERNS AND CONDITIONS

*Concerns* are minor problems or shortcomings related to one or more aspects of a standard and must be addressed in the provider's next Annual Report(s). *Conditions* are more significant problems that threaten to undermine one or more of the standards and may result in a shorter accreditation term or require resolution before accreditation takes effect.

Standard	Notation	Remedy and timeline
	No concerns or conditions	

## SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION

This action for the St. Thomas Aquinas School of Education includes the following:

Degree or Certificate granted by the institution or organization	Initial/Professional Certificate granted by the New York State Education Department
<b><i>Programs that lead to initial teaching credentials</i></b>	
Bachelor of Science in Education, Early Childhood & Childhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dual Early Childhood (B-2, 1-6) and Childhood (1-6)</li> </ul>
Bachelor of Science in Education, Childhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Childhood (1-6)</li> </ul>
Bachelor of Science in Education, Childhood & Special Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dual Childhood (1-6) and Students with Disabilities (1-6)</li> </ul>
Bachelor of Arts, English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English Language Arts (7-12)</li> </ul>
Bachelor of Science, Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mathematics (7-12)</li> </ul>
Bachelor of Science, Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biology (7-12)</li> <li>Chemistry (7-12)</li> </ul>
Bachelor of Science, Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social Studies (7-12)</li> </ul>
Bachelor of Arts, Spanish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spanish (7-12)</li> </ul>
Bachelor of Arts, Art Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visual Art (K-12)</li> </ul>
Master of Science in Teaching, Childhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Childhood (1-6)</li> </ul>
Master of Science in Teaching, Childhood & Special Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dual Childhood (1-6) and Students with Disabilities (1-6)</li> </ul>
Master of Science in Teaching, Adolescence Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biology (7-12)</li> <li>Chemistry (7-12)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earth Science (7-12)</li> <li>• English (7-12)</li> <li>• Mathematics (7-12)</li> <li>• Physics (7-12)</li> <li>• Social Studies (7-12)</li> <li>• Spanish (7-12)</li> </ul>
Master of Science in Teaching, Adolescence & Special Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dual Biology (7-12) and Students with Disabilities (7-12)</li> <li>• Dual Chemistry (7-12) and Students with Disabilities</li> <li>• Dual Earth Science (7-12) and Students with Disabilities (7-12)</li> <li>• Dual English (7-12) and Students with Disabilities (7-12)</li> <li>• Dual Mathematics (7-12) and Students with Disabilities (7-12)</li> <li>• Dual Physics (7-12) and Students with Disabilities (7-12)</li> <li>• Dual Social Studies (7-12) and Students with Disabilities (7-12)</li> <li>• Dual Spanish (7-12) and Students with Disabilities (7-12)</li> </ul>
Master of Science in Teaching, Art Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual Art (K-12)</li> </ul>
Master of Science in Teaching, Art Education & Special Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dual Visual Art (K-12) and Students with Disabilities (1-6)</li> <li>• Dual Visual Art (K-12) and Students with Disabilities (7-12)</li> </ul>
<b><i>Programs that lead to additional or advanced credentials</i></b>	
Master of Science in Education, Literacy Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literacy (B-6)</li> <li>• Literacy (5-12)</li> </ul>
Master of Science in Education, Special Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students with Disabilities (1-6)</li> <li>• Students with Disabilities (7-12)</li> </ul>
Post-Master's, Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literacy (B-6)</li> <li>• Literacy (5-12)</li> </ul>
Post-Master's, Special Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students with Disabilities (1-6)</li> <li>• Students with Disabilities (7-12)</li> </ul>
Post-Master's/Advanced Certificate, Autism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorsement for Severe and Multiple Disabilities</li> </ul>

<b><i>Programs that lead to credentials for other school professionals or to no specific credential</i></b>	
n/a	n/a

*NOTE: Accreditation actions are based on examination of the case record, including the provider's self-study and the AAQEP review team's report. Decisions are the sole responsibility of the AAQEP Accreditation Commission and may not be modified by staff or quality assurance reviewers.*