

**SECTION V – USE OF ASSESSMENT RESULTS TO IMPROVE
CANDIDATE AND PROGRAM PERFORMANCE
KSC Post-Baccalaureate Special Education Certification Program (PB SPED)**

Data for Assessments 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 will be collected during the 2006-2007 academic year and reported in June 2007. At the time of this report the Keene State College Education Department is undergoing major curriculum revising as well as moving from a three-credit model to a four-credit model. In line with these revisions, the PB SPED program is undergoing a major curriculum revision in 2006-2007, and existing assessment tools were revised and improved in Spring and Summer 2006 to support this curriculum revision. A work sample methodology was also developed to work directly with the newly designed *Special Educator Portfolio* process.

The revised assessments are found in this report. These new assessments provide more thorough coverage of CEC Core Standards and will help guide our future program development. In the revised assessments, a strong attempt was made to align each of the new assessments to the CEC Core Standards.

The data from earlier assessments do not provide consistent and useful information for program development and are not directly aligned to CEC standards. Therefore, it was decided that the “old data” would not be included in this report; the exception is that data for grades in core content courses in the PB SPED Program (Assessment 2) are included.

1. Content knowledge

Based on preliminary grade data from the courses in the program, we find this area to be strong. As is evident in the coursework described in *Assessment 2, Grades for Core Courses*, we are pleased with this result. The courses cover a range of content knowledge through various activities, experiences, readings, and assessments. New assessment data in June 2007, from Assessment 1 (content portfolio assessment) in particular, will help to guide program improvements and shed additional light on the content knowledge of candidates in the PB SPED program. Data from Assessment 1 and other assessments will be examined in light of existing grade data to figure out ways to improve candidate performance and inform program development.

2. Professional and pedagogical knowledge, skill, and dispositions

Assessments that will be instituted in 2006-2007 will provide data to inform ways to improve candidate performance and program development. Of particular note is the revised *Assessment 4, Special Education Field Work Evaluation Tool*, which was reconfigured to directly assess CEC Core Standards with a reference to the Education Department’s Danielson Frameworks for Teaching. An Education Department unit assessment of candidate dispositions will be instituted in 2006-2007 and applied to all PB SPED candidates.

3. Student learning

The revised *Assessment 5, Formative Assessment and Instruction Work Sample*, will provide the program with important information about the impact on student learning.