Program: EPLS: Social Foundations of Education M.A., Ph.D. Program
Rating: Additional Evaluation Required

This subtrack appears to be the weakest of the three EPLS tracks. Although the program appears to have some national reputation, the program draws few students per year, has modest selectivity characteristics and a long time to degree. The program has a strong diversity component. The PhD program has few applicants with only 10 in 2008-09. Currently, there are 27 doctoral students enrolled in a program offered by 4 FTE. The program's inability to offer potential students funding is problematic. Future evaluation will be able to observe the net positive effect of the additional funds on program viability. A majority of the PhD students have been fully employed in the field of education and choose to pursue the PhD on a part-time basis while remaining employed. This does increase the program's TTD which was 7.2 yrs for the 1996-01 entering cohort. Another 20% of entering students during this time period were still enrolled in fall 2009. The completion rate of 64% was somewhat lower than the discipline of education's average at 69%. There was not much delineation in the assessment narrative that distinguished the masters program from the PhD. The MA program also has few applicants, but the yield appears high because most students are from local/regional areas. In 2008-09 only 4 students were enrolled in the MA program. The Task Force recommends additional evaluation of the Social Foundations of Education graduate program.